



SHORELINE



News and Views from Charmouth

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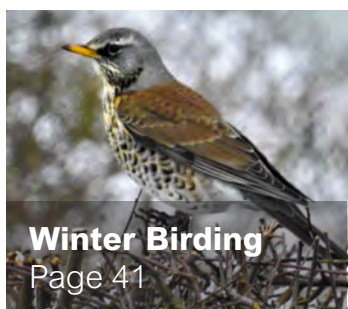
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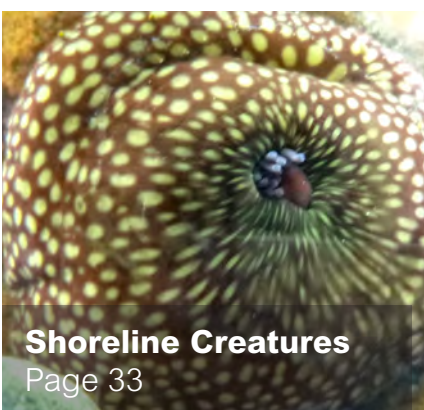
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Editorial

World peace can be achieved when, in each person, the power of love replaces the love of power.

Sri Chinmoy

It seems a fitting end to Shoreline's 10th Anniversary year that this should be the biggest issue ever – all 56 pages of it! Thanks go to our ever-increasing number of contributors for their wonderfully diverse articles on local history and palaeontology, parish news, reviews of village events, updates on our thriving youth organisations as well as health and well-being, poetry and even chicken husbandry.

After they conducted special services for Remembrance Sunday, we sadly bade farewell to Team Rector and Vicar, the Revds Stephen and Jane Skinner, who have moved to a new benefice in North Devon, where Jane will become the Team Rector of nine parishes. Stephen has religiously contributed to Shoreline since its inception and we shall miss his lively and well-written articles. See his valediction on page 10. We send our very best wishes to them both for the future.

With a new chairman and an enthusiastic committee, plans are afoot to hopefully reopen the Junior Youth

Club, which had its funding unceremoniously cut by Dorset County Council, thus forcing its closure two years ago. What is needed – as always – is more volunteers and increased funding, so do read Pete Wild's article on page 26 to see how you can help make this a reality for the young people of Charmouth.

When we moved to Charmouth 15 years ago, there was a flourishing theatre group, Charmouth Companions, which put on pantomimes and plays every year under the able direction of Mike Whatmore, aided by his wife Barbara, wardrobe mistress extraordinaire, and many others. They were all such wonderful community productions, the pantos involving up to 50 villagers, with ages ranging from 8 to 80. I even trod the boards in a couple myself! It would be really lovely to resurrect the company and maybe stage a show sometime next year. There must be a lot of talented newcomers to the village who would love to get involved... if so, email: editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

We're pleased to announce our second Photographic Competition with the theme Charmouth's Shoreline in Winter. All the details are on page 13 and the deadline is Friday 1st March 2019.

On behalf of the Shoreline team, I wish all our readers, contributors and advertisers a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Harmonious 2019.

Jane

THE SHORELINE TEAM

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

Poppy badge photo courtesy of Golden Cap Magazine.

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

Shoreline 2019

SPRING ISSUE – Deadline 4th March, in the shops 1st April.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

11th November 2018

After a short service at the war memorial, the uniformed groups, representatives of organizations and parish councillors paraded down to the church to a wonderful service with over 300 attending. Stephen was quite overwhelmed by a full church on his last Sunday as Rector. The church was beautifully decorated with the most lovely flower arrangements created by Helen Stebbings. We had an exhibition of memorabilia from WW1 on display which was kindly loaned by villagers. A beautiful picture was on display which showed the soldiers going up to heaven as



soldiers, then becoming angels, over a field of poppies. We thank everyone for their contributions.

Yvonne Bell, a Christian vestment designer and artist, came in on Saturday to hang the new banners, which depict "The Beatitudes". She was invited by Stephen at the service to explain how she created these beautiful panels. He then dedicated them. Alison Taylor read the passage from Matthew 5 verses 1-12.

Stephen was able to say goodbye outside to many of the villagers, and he wrote in the register of services that it had been a privilege to minister and serve in this beautiful village of Charmouth for nearly 10 years.

Pauline Berridge Churchwarden

Parish Council News



The Parish Council recently managed an application for Section 106 funds from West Dorset District Council. Under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended, contributions can be sought from developers towards the costs of providing community and social infrastructure.

Some of these funds will be used to facilitate Parish Council projects including a path in the newer part of the cemetery to enable easier access; low level lighting in the playing field to improve safety for the groups who use it in the evenings and an electricity supply to the Napoleonic Lookout at the Foreshore, now used by the National Coastwatch Institute. Other amounts have been awarded to individual organisations within the Parish to progress projects of their own.

The Council has recently significantly improved the playground at the Playing Field in Barrs Lane with the addition of several new pieces of equipment for the younger members of the community. A small grant from Section 106 funds was received towards this from West Dorset District Council.

The Parish Council facilitated the very successful 'Beach Live' programme which was broadcast on BBC4 over three evenings in July. Luckily the weather held and we're sure you will agree that the event showcased Charmouth beautifully.

Finally, the Parish Council is still short of two Councillors and we would love to hear from anyone who is at all interested in bringing their specific skills to serve the community. It is an ideal time to join as, with elections next May, the next six months could be a good trial period! Please pop in and have a chat or 'corner' any of the current Councillors who will tell you how rewarding it is!



Charmouth Parish Council
www.charmouth.com



Charmouth Pharmacy

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care for our community.

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holiday essentials in store*

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Charmouth Library Health Talks - Cancer For Men by Men

Just squeezing in before the Shoreline deadline, I can comment on what proved to be one of our most instructive and enjoyable talks in the series. If you were not there, you might find it hard to believe that a topic so grim could also have much light relief. Four men who had had four different types of Cancer talked to an all-male group about their symptoms, treatment, side effects and results. For me, what was most instructive were their replies to the question 'What, with the benefit of hindsight, might you have done differently.' Some answers were what you might expect: predominantly seeing doctors sooner. Others stressed using everything within your means to ensure that the medical profession examined your case thoroughly, particularly pressing hard if there were possible delays. What I found very enlightening was the emphasis they placed upon spouses and partners and their need for support, particularly as they too had been very seriously affected. Three of the speakers came from 'Living Tree', a Bridport-based charity with over 300 members, which exists to support patients and families through and beyond the very arduous times. Were I affected by Cancer, I would see them as an exceedingly useful source of information and support.

Bob Hughes

Choir Shine for Hospice



On the evening of 23rd July 2018, St. Andrew's Church saw another wonderful performance by the Charmouth and Bridport Rock and Pop Choir, under the superb musical directorship of Edward Jacobs.

A packed venue was treated to some of the choir's standard repertoire, such as 'I Have a Song to Sing', 'The Sound of Silence' and 'My Heart Will Go On', but in addition, some new songs were added to the programme. 'California Dreamin' was very well received, as were 'Both Sides Now', 'Downtown' and a new version of 'I Can See Clearly Now'. A little variety was added, with a lovely solo by Maria Beazley and some ballroom dancing by Richard and Kathy Fereday. Hilda and James Clemas who, together with Edward Jacobs, make up the popular group known as 'Trichord', played an important part too, with James assisting Edward with the musical accompaniment and Hilda singing. Her version of Whitney Houston's 'Saving All My Love for You' was especially memorable.

All in all, it was a lovely evening. The choir obviously enjoyed performing and the audience caught the mood and applauded each number enthusiastically. As a result of this concert, more than £500 was donated to Weldmar Hospicecare. This included over £200 raised by the raffle, the prizes for which were sourced by the members of the choir.

The choir's next performance will be their ever-popular Christmas Concert on MONDAY 10th DECEMBER at St. Andrew's Church, starting at 7.30pm. Doors will open at 7.00pm. Tickets available from Fortnam, Smith & Banwell or from Jan Coleman on 01297 561625.

Lynne Butler

Letters

WELL DONE JO!

Picked up summer Shoreline the other day on a day trip to Charmouth and I've just read Jo Seaman's piece, 'Beyond the Seas for Life'. It was very intriguing. Well done Jo! Hopefully I will be in the area in time for the next Shoreline; a really interesting read. I wish we had a Shoreline here in Hanham, Bristol.

Janet Palmer

OVER AND OVER AGAIN

Thank you so much for your most welcomed letter, together with the summer issue of Shoreline, which was eagerly awaited. I am so looking forward to spending future holidays in Charmouth – in reading Shoreline I feel a part of the community – I read it over and over again and always find the articles so interesting and informative.

Annette Falkinder, Newark

SUCH GOOD EVENTS

Congratulations to Changing Spaces of Charmouth for putting on such good events in the last month. The Bournemouth Symphony Quintet were outstanding, as was Kate Adie, giving insight into her life and work as a journalist over many years. We were lucky to have had her here considering the number of life-threatening situations she has experienced. This is why St Andrew's Church should be saved, as it has wonderful acoustics as well as being a place of worship.

Bob Hatch

Healthy Homes Dorset

Warming up Dorset!

Do you struggle to keep your home warm or worry how you will afford your energy bills this winter?

Contact Healthy Homes Dorset for free, impartial advice about keeping your home warm, using your heating system, understanding your energy bills and making energy saving improvements – if you're eligible for loft or cavity wall insulation it will be free! We will also register you for power cut support, a handy service to be on if you experience a power cut in your area. Our advice can be given through home visits as well as over the phone. Fire safety alarm and appliance checks can also be organised in partnership with Fire and Rescue for eligible residents.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from speaking to a trained energy advisor, then get in touch.

Call **0300 003 7023**

email **help@healthyhomesdorset.org.uk**

Web **www.healthyhomesdorset.org.uk**

Healthy Homes Dorset is a service provided by Dorset County Council, funded by Public Health Dorset and managed by the Centre for Sustainable Energy in partnership with Evolve Home Energy Solutions.

PLASTIC FREE CHARMOUTH SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

Freeing Charmouth of Plastic!

News! The 'Plastic Free Charmouth' campaign has arrived. You may already know about this from Facebook, or you may have taken part in their first Beach Clean which happened on 21st October in collaboration with the Heritage Coast Centre. It was a beautiful day, and a fantastic 38 people took part collecting both rubbish and nurdles. You may even have visited the PFC stall at the Coast Centre during the Art and Craft Fayre in November.

The 'Plastic Free' initiative was started by Surfers Against Sewage and villages and towns around the country are joining in. SAS provides a very comprehensive 'help' package, with lots of ideas. With targets to achieve, especially for businesses, Charmouth is hoping to gain the 'Plastic Free' accreditation. But not just businesses, all of us can do something to cut down, cut out, some of our plastic use. Hopefully making the village single-use plastic free as part of a national movement should be a draw for visitors, as well as good for the community that cares for its village.

To find out more about 'Plastic Free Charmouth' contact Jo Naylor-Saunders on 07966-056459

Eden Thomson

A successful Chilli Sale on a Hot Summer's Day

During August, my wife Rita and I held a sale of chilli plants and pot plants to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Research.

In early spring, windowsills full of pots with soggy bottoms became the norm as the seeds were germinating, much to Rita's irritation! To my delight (as this was my first attempt), many did germinate and then came Summer when they were ordered outside, no longer allowed in the house. They got really cold sometimes and I feared for their welfare, they were always on my mind. Then came the realisation – what on earth were we going to do with 120 chilli plants? Luckily I had a eureka moment – we could raise some money for MCR, to help people with the many ongoing problems this awful disease brings.

With wonderful support from local traders in Charmouth, prizes were donated for a great tombola to run alongside the plant sale. Thank you to the following: Charmouth Bakery, Charmouth Fish and Chip Shop, Seadown Caravan Park, Nisa Stores, The George, Charmouth Post Office, the Pharmacy, Morgans, Roy and Jan's dad, Alf and David and all our generous holidaymakers.

A result of this generosity and the kind support of our neighbours allowed us to raise £455.00 for this very worthy cause.

On a personal level, it was such an eye opener for Rita and myself to hear from the Macmillan staff about the ongoing impact cancer has on so many people.

Graham and Rita Jordan

Charmouth and Wooton Fitzpaine Conservatives

Tricky times writing something when just a day seems to be such a long time in politics. As I write, I am pleased to see Theresa May hanging in. My only surprise would be that any politician would genuinely want to take over at this stage of the negotiations with the European Union. Better to wait until it's over and then claim that had they been Prime Minister, it would have been so much smoother, with a far better outcome for Great Britain.

As a Branch, we seem to fundraise with food: a Barbecue in June, Cream Tea in September, followed by a Christmas Lunch and maybe a big breakfast in early February. Our events are friendly and inclusive, with all welcome, even those who are not particularly Conservative. For details give me a call 560487.

Bob Hughes *Treasurer*



One of the Events of 2018

This summer, Jan and Roger celebrated their 70th birthdays. Jan masterminded an amazing day for a large group of family and friends in a friend's beautiful garden. The weather was glorious and the afternoon began with afternoon tea, provided by the Weldmar committee, with the odd glass or bottle of prosecco to wash it down. The music was provided by Clive Smith and his Arcadia Jazzband, in great style. This was followed by Pimms and a change of music, to Richard Fereday singing Frank Sinatra songs. Then supper arrived in the form of the fish and chip van, a brilliant idea on Jan's part. Another change in music style to Steve, who does a great Neil Diamond tribute. The evening continued with dancing and much merriment, partly fuelled by the odd glass or two, poured very ably by Andy and Chris. The reason for this account of the fantastic party is that Jan and Rog asked that no presents were given, instead donations to the Weldmar Hospice would be appreciated. The wonderful sum amounted to more than £600. So a very big thank you to Jan and Rog for their generosity in providing us with a fantastic day.

Kathy Fereday & the Weldmar Committee



Digital Champions Ready with Free Help

It's that time of year when many people get a new gadget or are given a computer, phone or tablet by a family member or friend. But devices don't always come with instructions and friends may not have the time or patience to sit with someone who is getting to grips with new technology.

Never fear. . . Digital Champion volunteers can show you how to use a range of technology to access the internet safely to save money, keep in touch with friends and more. All their help is free. Sessions are held at Bridport Library and other locations across the county.

If you or someone you know could use some friendly one-to-one advice and support getting online, call Dorset County Council on 01305 221048 and they will match you with a Digital Champion. Alternatively, if you are passionate about the benefits of being online, have good IT and mentoring skills, bags of patience and want to give something back to your community, please visit www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/superfast to find out more about volunteering as a Digital Champion.

We would love Charmouth to be the first community library in Dorset to have a Digital Champion.



Colin Wood, *Marketing & Communications Officer*

Superfast Dorset, Dorset County Council
Tel: 01305 228825
Email: colin.wood@dorsetcc.gov.uk

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.



Next Stage of Charmouth's Neighbourhood Plan

Before we give you an update on where we are with the Neighbourhood Plan (NHP), just a short recap on some of the activities we've carried out to date:-

- Agreed on the vision for Charmouth's Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) as being:-
 - To further enhance Charmouth as a friendly, vibrant community
 - To protect its unique qualities, including its natural beauty, local history and Jurassic coastline
 - To maintain its ability to be self-sustaining by supporting retail units, local businesses and amenities in the village
 - To keep its village feel but encourage a small affordable housing development, particularly for families
 - To continue to attract tourists and visitors and offer good facilities but avoid being over-commercial
 - To meet the everyday needs of our residents
- Carried out a comprehensive village survey, analysed and published the results.
- Sent out to Service Providers in the village a questionnaire about their business and community service and analysed the results.
- Engaged with professional bodies for advice or for reports e.g. housing needs analysis.
- Held four Open Forums with residents, as we have progressed.
- Discussed housing policy proposals with WDDC and Charmouth Parish Council.
- Worked with WDDC to issue a Strategic Environment Assessment Screening Report. The purpose of this report is to determine whether or not the NHP requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This is currently with the statutory consultees.
- Formulated a structure for the NHP having reviewed a number of other NHPs.
- And having done that.....

We have identified key themes and priorities and are now busy writing proposals and policies, which will form the main structure of the NHP. These policies are based upon the evidence gathered through our surveys, consultations, professional studies and other sources, reflecting your views.

We are in Stage 2 of formulating the NHP; this is a critical stage in development, ensuring our policies are based on solid evidence and conform with WDDC's Local Plan and other statutory policies and documents. See diagram below.



The structure of our NHP will broadly follow these main themes:

- Built Environment – Assets and Amenities
- Natural Environment
- Business, Employment & Tourism
- Housing
- Village Improvement Projects

Each policy will have to be preceded with details of aims, rationale and evidence that support the policy.

To give you a few examples..... there is good support within the village to allow a small number of well-designed, affordable houses to be built for local people. A housing development on a large scale will not be supported since, apart from the fact that there are no obviously available sites, it would have an adverse effect on the village openness, character, natural and heritage assets.

Therefore, we are not intending to allocate sites but would support an appropriate small rural exception site coming forward. These are small sites used for affordable housing in perpetuity where sites would not normally be used for housing.

Another example, where we have strong views from villagers, is on the natural environment and maintaining and protecting its wildlife and natural habitat. A policy could be included so that all housing development proposals should enhance biodiversity and contribute to wildlife and habitat.

So, we want the NHP to reflect a balance between encouraging small new housing development(s) whilst protecting Charmouth's natural beauty, historical assets and village character. This is one of our principal aims.

There are many other policies that are currently in development, reflecting our Vision, as above.

So if you would like to hear more, then please come along to the Open Forum at 10.30am on Saturday 5th January 2019 at St Andrew's Hall, where we can expand on these draft policies and you can have your say!

Please be assured there will be a period of formal consultation with residents of Charmouth on the draft Plan; we have to follow a thorough process laid down by law. Once the NHP is 'made', it will become part of the statutory Development Plan used to determine planning applications in Charmouth. This is its main purpose.

If you would like to find out more about Charmouth's NHP please go to the Parish Council's website:- www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk or, should you like to make contact, then please email us on: charmouthneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com.

We are always looking for volunteers to help, so if you would like to get involved and make a difference to the neighbourhood please contact us on tel. 07594653341.

Andy Bateman
Chair of Neighbourhood Planning Committee



Charmouth Events Committee

We have had a challenging few months. The August Party in the Park had to be cancelled as one of the few rainy days this summer was on that day and then the Fireworks at the Beach on November was called off because of rain and gale force winds. However, the committee has been very busy organising additional events:

Jane Tipper finally managed to get Moviola to come and show some films in St. Andrew's Community Hall after months of trying, and the first two were very successful, with combined attendances of over 230. This more than covered costs and has encouraged us to put on more in the New Year to follow the November and December films.

Maggie Wiscombe has persuaded Artsreach Dorset to put on a wide-ranging number of events which have included a children's story boat, a concert and a comedy star of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Aply helped by Penny Collins, these have all gone well and Maggie is looking at other events for 2019.

Despite the cancellation of the Party in the Park, The Events Committee still managed to raise enough money to help several organisations.

Charmouth Events Committee 2018 donations

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Charmouth Primary School PTA | £100 |
| Charmouth Explorer Scouts | £100+ |
| Charmouth Beaver Scouts | £100 |
| Charmouth Guides | £100 |
| Charmouth Cubs | £100 |
| Charmouth Scout Group | £100 |
| Charmouth Brownies | £100 |
| Charmouth Youth Club | £100 |
| After school club | £100+ |
| Charmouth Cherubs | £100+ |
| In the Band | £73 |
| Charmouth Village People | £200 |
| Charmouth Rainbows | £100 |
| Community Hall Lunch Group | £100 |
| Charmouth Senior Citizens Lunch Fund | £25 |
| Charmouth Village Hall | £100 |

Special thanks are due to the St Andrew's Community Hall Committee, Changing Spaces and Charmouth Primary School for helping to stage the events, also to Morgans, the Post Office, Charmouth Pharmacy and Charmouth Stores for selling tickets.

We are still looking for a couple more committee members so that we can continue to widen the scope of our events. Contact Phil Tritton for more details email: phil.tritton@gmail.com



Charmouth Traders

New lamp post Christmas lights have been sourced this year as the old ones were reaching the end of their lives. As usual, lights and Christmas trees are also outside the shops in the village. Charmouth Traders raises money for the Christmas lights through the advertisements on the Charmouth website and also through sales of the Charmouth Calendar.



The 2019 calendar is on sale now - an ideal Christmas gift!

Collection boxes to raise money for next year's lights are in most village outlets. The more we raise the better they will be!

We are also working with Charmouth Parish Council to update The Charmouth Guide.

Another project being investigated, working with the Events Committee, is whether a late September folk festival might be feasible.

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 flailing 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 2019 are:

- *Working with Charmouth Parish Council to revamp the Charmouth Guide*
- *Developing the Charmouth website to highlight activities and events in a better way*
- *Setting up an 'alert' system to inform each other and the police of shoplifting, counterfeit notes, travellers and antisocial behaviour in the village*
- *Sponsoring a "Charmouth Old Village" free booklet to be available by Easter 2019*
- *Improving Charmouth's 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

Charmouth Website

Over a quarter of a million pages on our website are looked at each year. Figures are up 10% this year and we are looking to further improve the site to give more prominence to village events and activities. This should be achieved by the New Year.

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 – mid-October 2018 vs last year and these are really encouraging. Three things to bear in mind when interpreting these:

- *David Attenborough's Sea Dragon programme gave us some extra traffic over January/February*
- *The poor Easter depressed traffic to several pages as fewer people came to Charmouth*
- *The good weather over the summer more than made up for this*
- *The main findings are:*
 - *The number of pages viewed grew by a staggering 10% to 217946*
 - *75,000 accommodation pages were viewed (up 13%)*
 - *Almost 27,500 views for 'Where to eat and drink' (the only sector to decline – down 3%)*
 - *Nearly 30,000 views of the Charmouth beach page (up 13%)*
 - *Over 25,000 looked at activities (up a staggering 41%)*
 - *Shops gained 28% to reach 15,000*
 - *Events gained a massive 80% to more than 6,000*

So many positive trends to build upon.

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

Phil Tritton



Golden Cap Team Of Churches

St. Mary's, Catherston Leweston, Charmouth

St. Mary's is a small but beautiful church once attached to the manor house nearby and which overlooks the Jurassic Coast. It is one of the Golden Cap team of churches.

It is an outstanding example of the designs of the architect J. L. Pearson and was built on a former church site in 1857. It is one of only two churches in Dorset which has an oak roof and pews. The exterior is of the finest flint work found in Dorset.

The Parish of Catherston Leweston has only 28 houses from which we draw our congregation, so as you can imagine there are few of us but we do get some members from Charmouth. Our church seems full with 15 or so people, whereas they would be lost in a big church. We had 30 at our recent harvest service and last Christmas Day we were full and had to provide extra seating. Our regular church services are on the second and fourth Sundays in the month.

Last Christmas we held a Nativity Festival with 31 different sets on view and we are planning to repeat it again this year. We have a talented 13 year old artist who held an exhibition of her art, supported by other children from her school.

We are blessed with a Friends group who hold funds which have kindly been given to St Mary's for maintaining the fabric of the church. In the last three years, we have had to replace part of the roof and the floor joists under the south pews. We are in the process of having the west window restored.

A warm welcome awaits whoever comes to St. Mary's. With God's guidance, you will be that person.

Bob Hatch, Churchwarden

Charmouth Local History Society

A very successful talk and AGM in October was attended by more than 80 members who thoroughly enjoyed another fascinating and entertaining walk through Charmouth's history by Neil Mattingly and Bill Burn. Two more talks are planned for 2019 as well as the next edition of The Village Echo which will be out in April.

Our big project at the moment is 'Charmouth Old Village, where 30 of Charmouth's interesting buildings have been included in a booklet and poster. Many of these also have famous people associated with them. The booklets will be distributed free of charge next April. We are looking at the feasibility of putting up 'blue plaques' on some of these buildings as well.

Nick Shannon

Furniture maker and restorer

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Call for quotes on handmade kitchens, tables, shelving, furniture for house and garden, shepherds huts and much more....using environmentally friendly timber.

News from St. Andrew's Church

A Valedictory from Revds. Stephen & Jane Skinner

It is very kind of the Editors of Shoreline to invite us to write a 'Goodbye and Thanks' before we leave this lovely area on 14th November. I have written an update of 'News from St Andrew's Church' for Shoreline for every issue since it started publication, without fail! Thank you for accepting my amateur prose, and usually including a suitable photograph.



I have been Team Rector of the 12 Golden Cap team Churches (including Charmouth) for nearly 10 years – the longest any clergyman has survived in decades! As I have said to many – I would not have remained here so long (18 months beyond normal retirement age) if I had not essentially enjoyed my time here! I have immensely enjoyed the beauty of this special piece of God's handiwork – from the coastline up into the 'wilds' of the Marshwood Vale. I have enjoyed participating in many special events in the area – although it is a source of sadness that lack of time restricted my attendance at all too many events. I have been involved especially in the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre – both on the front desk and assisting in the schedule of fossil hunting walks. I have attended many coffee mornings for various charities and meals at the Community Hall and local pubs and cafes. Until recently, I took regular assemblies in Charmouth Primary School. This has given me hugely enjoyable opportunities to meet local people and build a network of friends around the village and beyond.

Naturally, much of my time has been devoted to ministering at St. Andrew's Church – I have tried my utmost to be present to lead and preach here at least once a month, as well as conducting christenings, weddings and funerals. Sadly, the number of such services in the church has significantly declined in recent years, despite our attempts to tailor the services to your needs. But this is part of the national trend of secularisation, which presents a huge future challenge to Christianity in the UK. Numbers at our services declined for a while, but have picked up again in the last year or two, due to faithful Christian people moving into the village. Visitor numbers have increased somewhat, in part due to the closure of the United Reformed Church.

You will know of the huge challenges facing St. Andrew's church building; notably the very poor condition of the tower. Following the crisis meeting open to all villagers three (or was it four) years ago, we formed the Changing Spaces Project,

with its outstanding team of volunteers. This continues to meet, and will shortly have some new officers, to continue utilising the £370,000 Erskine Mutton Grant to restore the church externally and internally. Most of you will be aware that we were unsuccessful in our Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund – but far from 'throwing in the towel' the team are redoubling their efforts to gain alternative sources of funding. Also, the magnificent and really well supported programme of concerts, talks and 'Free eXchange cafe' will continue, with fresh leadership. We have had some really joyous occasions in the church – such

as the Swing Band Nights and Elvis Tribute Concerts (when people actually did dance around the building!). I hope that you will now regard St. Andrew's as a superb venue that can be used for a wide variety of events to bless the village and our visitors.

Finally, some very special thanks to Pauline Berridge – who has been an outstandingly faithful Churchwarden throughout my time here. I am so grateful that Pauline has supported us in her prayers over the years. Special thanks also to Ted Whatmore – who has been the St. Andrew's other churchwarden for most of my time here and, although officially retired, continues to look after the church with the utmost vigilance. There are many other members of St. Andrew's that I want to thank for providing excellent food and drink, using their skills as treasurer, care of the church building, musical service on organ and piano, and plenty of advice as PCC members!

So, as I move with Revd. Jane to Hartland in new ministry, I pray God's blessing upon you all.

Revd. Stephen Skinner

Christmas Services at St. Andrew's Church

16th December, 6.30pm - Village Carol Service (no 9:30am service that day)

24th December, 3pm - Crib Service for young and old

24th December, 11pm - Christmas Communion

Pauline Berridge

Changing Spaces Events

Edward Jacobs at St. Andrew's Church

Most people know what to expect from an Edward Jacobs concert and 93 members of a record audience at St. Andrew's on 31st July were not disappointed.

Edward played a variety of piano pieces from classical composers to modern day musicals, much to the delight of the

audience. At the end of the concert he received a standing ovation.

When Liz Sansom first conceived of the idea of the Charmouth Lunchtime Concerts and mentioned it to Edward, without a moment's hesitation he said "I'll do one for you" and this was what we all experienced on the day. Such is Edward's generosity that he contributed his time free of charge to support the Changing Spaces activities which raise funds towards the renovation of St. Andrew's.

Thanks are due to Mary and Malcolm McNair for providing the refreshments before the concert started.

Roger Sansom





Lunchtime Concerts in St. Andrew's

27th February 2018 was cold. Very cold. Until the snow arrived the following day, it had been the coldest day of the winter, yet 67 hardy souls braved the weather to support the first concert of a new venture for Charmouth – a regular series of Lunchtime Classical Concerts along the lines of the Axminster Lunchtime Concerts. There was to be no charge for the entertainment or the refreshments, which preceded it. The idea of the concerts was to generate an audience, not necessarily as a fund raiser. But donations from the generous and appreciative members of the audience were such that the Changing Spaces Team received a valuable contribution for the future renovation project for St. Andrew's.

When Liz Sansom, a newcomer to the village, arranged this experimental concert, the object was to discover whether there was sufficient interest in appreciating classical music performed in the soaring acoustics of St. Andrew's. Such was the response that a further six concerts were organised for 2018. But back to the beginning. Liz has been a member of a string quartet in Poole who regularly got together at one or another of their homes to perform, just for their own pleasure. In February it was the turn of Liz, who by then was spending most of her time in Charmouth, to host the quartet. The rest of the quartet were very willing to travel to Charmouth and it was suggested to them that they might like to perform in St. Andrew's to experience the acoustic qualities very different

to their own homes. "Oh, and by the way, there may be one or two people to listen to the music!"

In April, the first of the regular series of Lunchtime Concerts took place when Tony Mercer, the organist at St. Andrew's, gave an organ and piano recital. Tony played a number of pieces on the organ and also two pieces by Scott Joplin on the piano. Following Tony, in May, local resident Richard Fereday gave a rousing performance of Frank Sinatra's best-known hit songs. Well, perhaps not a 'classical' concert but very certainly a 'classic' concert, very well received by an increasing and loyal audience.

With the season going from strength to strength with yet another record audience, local resident Maria Beazley provided Charmouth with a 'Music from Russia' concert. Maria sang a number of Russian folk songs, accompanied by Jane Gibson at the piano. Jane also teamed up with Robert Coleridge to play a number of Russian piano duets. Their performances resulted in a standing ovation at the end of the concert. In July, Edward Jacobs, well known to Charmouth residents, played a variety of piano pieces from classical composers to modern day musicals, much to the delight of the audience, who rewarded him with the second standing ovation of the season from the audience of more than 90. The August concert saw Kat Kerry singing and Phil Kerry playing Jazz numbers through the ages and songs from musical theatre. An unexpected bonus came when Phil played some delightful saxophone solos. September saw the final Lunchtime Concert for the season and the audience welcomed back Jane Gibson and Robert Coleridge, playing piano duets by Edvard Grieg, Percy Grainger, Thea Musgrave and Georges Bizet. Thus the first season of Lunchtime Classical Concerts in Charmouth came to an end but, such was the popularity of these concerts which managed to find a new slot in the busy Charmouth calendar, that the 2019 season is already being planned.

Roger Sansom

Members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra perform at St. Andrew's.

The acoustic quality of St. Andrew's Church, unique within the village, was demonstrated to its very best effect on Friday 19th October when the first professional classical concert was held.

Charmouth was very fortunate to be able to host a string quintet from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Resonate Strings, who played a varied programme of well-known and less well-known classical works by composers including Bach, Vivaldi, Borodin, Brahms, Elgar and Scott Joplin – in other words, something for everybody. We were very pleased to welcome the members of the quintet who were: Penny Tweed - first violin, Vicky Berry - second violin, Judith Preston - viola, Kate Keats - 'cello and Andy Baker on double bass.

The event was organised within the village by the St. Andrew's Changing Spaces team and the Charmouth Events Committee, thanks to the latter's membership of Artsreach. Charmouth Events Committee put on events for the local community with any profits raised being donated back to voluntary organisations within Charmouth Village. The Changing Spaces team's main objective is to restore the church to its former glory, not only as a place of worship, but also as an inclusive community space for exhibitions and concerts of various forms.

An audience of just over 100 were spellbound by the cathedral-like sound that we all experienced and rewarded

the performers with a standing ovation at the end. Many of the members of the audience remarked on the desirability of renovating the church for performances like they had just heard. Even the members of the quintet remarked on how good the acoustics were and how they enjoyed performing at St. Andrew's. They expressed the hope that they would be able to return for another concert in the future. And so say all of us!

Roger Sansom

AN EVENING WITH KATE ADIE

On Thursday 2nd November, over 160 people packed the church to hear the delightful Kate Adie recount fascinating stories about her experiences as Chief News Correspondent of the BBC, reporting from war zones all around the world. She is now a regular presenter of Radio 4's weekly programme 'From Our Own Correspondent' and the best-selling author of several books.

Kate very generously waived her fee, which resulted in Changing Spaces raising £1730.00 towards making St. Andrew's a place for all the community to use and enjoy.



Jane Morrow

Charmouth Bowls Club

We have just finished another summer of fun in the sun. Despite being worried at the start of the year because of low membership numbers, we have had several new members and visitors from the camp sites who have enjoyed the facilities and atmosphere.

We are a friendly club and offer a relaxed environment with no restrictions on dress, as long as flat-soled shoes are used on the green. We offer a free try and training and even provide the bowls. Our members come from as far afield as Bridport and near Honiton, as well as village talent.

Over winter we play short mat bowls at St. Andrew's Hall on Tuesday afternoons. This is a lot less physical than the outdoor bowls but just as skilful, while requiring a deft touch. Our roll-ups in the summer are Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2pm and short mat is Tuesday from 2pm. We look forward to seeing visitors even if it is just occasionally.

Contact Mike on 01297 560484 for more information.

Charmouth Circle of Friends

We would like to thank Karen, Alison, and Rick for all their hard work and big thanks to all the people who supported the Breakfast Club over the past four years at Bridge Road. With a saddened heart, we have regrettably had to close due to the lack of volunteers.

R. Hankinson

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO LOVES READING BUT IS UNABLE TO GET TO THEIR LOCAL LIBRARY?

They may be entitled to use the Home Library Service, which can organise the delivery of library books to their home by volunteers for free.

For more details speak to your local library or contact Royal Voluntary Service on 01305 236 666, email dorsetwiltshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk or visit www.dorsetforyou.com/libraries

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Dorset County Council

Charmouth Village People

Thank You Charmouth for Such a Warm Welcome

I arrived in early July and have been invited round to neighbours for several coffees and cakes. I have attended the local History Society meeting and have already been on two trips with Charmouth Village People. I did say that I was not going to get 'roped' into committees or groups, BUT, after coffee and cake with Jan Gale, I find myself the new Secretary for the Charmouth Village People!

The first trip I went on was to the House of Marbles and on to the new Exeter Ikea. This was very enjoyable and I quickly met lots of new people, and the sweet bag went around the coach at least twice. Towards the end of summer, we took another trip on the canal from Exeter. The boat looked a little small and basic, but it was fine. As it was a warm autumn day, we sailed down to a lovely pub for lunch, meandering back to the coach via a farm shop and a cream tea. Whilst on the coach, we had a lively chat about possible future trips, and I had two pages of suggestions before we arrived back in Charmouth. Decision made; we are off again on 3rd December to Winchester Christmas Market. I am really looking forward to this; no driving or parking hassles. People are also going for different reasons. Some are going to see the city and cathedral, and others for the Christmas goodies.

We also hold fun activities on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month between 2 - 4 p.m. There is a creative writing group called Pop Up Writers, who meet on 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays. On Fridays, there is a social meet-up open to all, for a chat and coffee from 2 p.m. in the Bank House Cafe. If you would like to come on a trip or learn more about the other group activities, drop into the Cafe on a Friday or contact Jan Gale on 07460 707294. Happy Christmas from Us All to You All.

Judith Howells, Secretary

Closure of Morecombelake Post Office

Normally this magazine does not extend its influence over the village of Morcombelake, but in this case we make an exception. An end of an era is upon us, as Martin Legg is to retire, and Morcombelake Post Office closes its doors on 23rd November 2018 for good. There have been efforts to move the Morcombelake Post Office to another premises in the village, but so far to no avail.

Martin was appointed at the end of March 1980 and has been a hardworking and dedicated sub-postmaster for 38 years. I am sure however that retirement will not cut his workload, as he loves early mornings and will continue to make his newspaper deliveries. We must therefore send Martin and his wife Gillian our very best wishes for a pleasant, restful and fulfilled retirement. Your friends, neighbours and customers will miss you both.

Steve Pile

Please Support Shoreline's Advertisers

It's That Time of Year

It was about a hundred years ago, give or take...well, the last century, certainly. OK! OK!, if you want to be pedantic, the late 90s, Christmas 1999 to be absolutely precise. 10.27 pm by the pub clock, with Dennis Bearpark behind the bar and heavy rain outside.

I remember it sooo well. Sitting in the Royal Oak, having a bit of a chat with my mate Richard Stirk over a pint, after some meeting or another; no longer sure which, there were so many in those days. After about the third, fourth or umpteenth pint, Richard said, rather slowly and carefully as I recall, "I've always fancied putting on a pantomime".

Quick as a flash...couldn't stop it... the mouth went from nought to sixty in two seconds flat.

"Good idea" it said... "I'll write one".

"Ere 'ere 'ere" said the brain, which was still trying, through an alcoholic haze, to find the clutch pedal before carefully selecting first gear. "Old on a bleedin minute will yer!". "Great!" said Richard... "Can we make it all about Charmouth?"

"No probs at all" said the mouth, accelerating almost out of sight.

Brain had by now managed to find reverse with a clashing and grinding of gears.

"Lets' slow down 'ere". it slurred "Ave we really fort this through?"

"Be fun" said mouth, no longer paying any attention to reality.

"Not only that" said Richard, "It 'll be good for the village and I think everyone will want to join in and help".

Brain was slowly finding forward gear and inching its way towards the inevitable.

It thought "It'll be a lotta work. We'll need a stage, lights, costumes, music, scenery and eaven forbid.. 'undreds an' 'undreds of people."

Richard took a long, slow pull on his beer "'S'all right!" he said. "I'll volunteer to be stage manager, I've always fancied meself

designing and building sets"

"And I'll direct as well" said the mouth now completely and utterly out of control.

Next morning, I awoke asking myself, "What on earth have I done? It was slowly really beginning to dawn on me just how much was involved.



Mike Davies and Richard Stirk in 'Heaven's Above'.

And so it all began.... a process started by a few too many pints... an-out-of-control mouth and an idea by an enthusiastic friend one dark and stormy night with nothing on the telly.

A process that was to keep me, my wife Barbara, Richard Stirk and many others involved and up to our necks at times for quite a few years to come.

Over the next 10 or 12 years., I burned the midnight oil writing several pantomimes,

plays, street plays, shows and created new characters or reinvented and adapted old characters. It became a labour of love, though at times some of the characters took on a mind of their own whilst I was writing their dialogue. Directions would change as a result of a character speaking a line while I was writing, which in turn changed the direction of the play. For instance, in 'Sleeping Beauty' when the king asked to see his daughter, the queen said that she had no idea where she was. I never intended that but it happened and a different slant developed. This occurred a number of times and as a result often a new character would be born and fill out the story line. IT WAS FUN... AFTER ALL.

I no longer write pantomimes or indeed other plays and shows. But I certainly don't regret having had the opportunity to do so. I still write little sonnets (pretentious) and indeed amuse myself sometimes with short articles such as this.

If you, the reader out there, have any aspirations whatsoever to try your hand at creative writing, be it a play, a show, a book or a poem. .. don't hesitate, give it a go.

WHO KNOWS WHERE IT COULD LEAD... Madness very likely, but you could be the richer for it.

Mike Whatmore

LYME BAY
DEVON ENGLAND



LYMEBAYWINERY.CO.UK

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Charmouth's Shoreline in Winter

Winter in Charmouth is never a time to put your camera away. The season offers a myriad of photographic opportunities, from beautiful sunrises and sunsets, to seas that can be flat calm one minute and stormy the next, and from ever-surprising weather to our ever-changing beaches and tides. Shoreline is pleased to announce its second Photographic Competition. With the theme Charmouth's Shoreline in Winter, we invite readers to capture their own magical moments.

There will be two classes: adults and children 16 years and under. We will print the winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd photographs in both classes in the spring issue. The overall winner of the adults' class will receive a voucher from Lyme Bay Winery for two bottles of their appropriately named 'Shoreline' wine: a wine for seafood; well balanced and refreshing with complex layers. There will also be a 1st prize for the children's class. Please submit a maximum of three photos per person, which may be digital images or photographic prints. Email digital images to editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk with an email heading of Charmouth's Shoreline in Winter or send printed photos (with your name and address in pencil on the reverse of each) to the Editor at the address on page 3. If you live outside Charmouth, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for the return of your prints.

The deadline for receipt of entries is Friday 1st March 2019. So get snapping and good luck!

Charmouth Central Library and Internet Cafe

A View from the Library

Did you attend any of the free talks provided by the library during the last three months? We followed a health initiative by Health England to give authoritative talks on some of the illnesses and health concerns experienced especially by older people.

Our local chemist, Guang Yang, presented the first talk, telling us about the services provided by pharmacies, particularly our own. The talk was greatly appreciated and relevant to the audience who were nearly all customers of his! The sequence of talks running through the summer covered mental health, first aid, dementia awareness and coping with cancer. We had full attendances for all the talks and have been thanked for providing a useful public service.

The summer also saw a makeover in the library garden. Our gardening team was determined to make some improvements during the summer's good weather and all the flower beds were weeded, upgraded and optimised. Now, the holidaymakers have gone and the village has become its usual quiet self. The garden provides a lovely environment on warm dry days. Any villager or visitor is free to come in, sit down and enjoy the quiet and sensuous surroundings.

If you happen to be organising indoor pursuits as the weather gets colder, consider a visit to the library. A big jigsaw is usually on the go - a massive panorama of Lyme or some rustic Devonian scene will be painstakingly built up, typically taking three weeks to complete. For organised groups of up to



about 16 people we have a bookable room, our Servery, which offers refreshments and toilet facilities. For most groups, you'd pay less than a pound per person per session. Pop in or phone us on 01297 560640 to leave a message for Kim.

Thanks to the hard work of the team that managed to hold on to our library and open it as a Community venture, we are here for the long haul, offering an ongoing service for Charmouth folk. Kids will have opportunities to do their homework in peace, look things up, and borrow serious books and books of choice. For their elders, the library is often a cheerful social hub!

One final word though. All this is possible only through concerted community effort. If you can spare some time to help us (library volunteering particularly), send us some good quality books for resale, or support us financially through the Friends of Charmouth Library group. We would be delighted to hear from you.



Christmas Opening

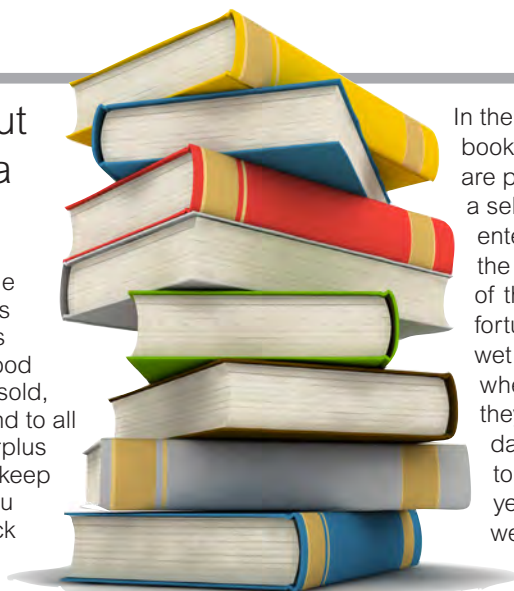
We are hoping to be open on most days after Christmas. We should be open on the morning of Christmas Eve and as normal after Christmas, excepting New Year's Day. Please check the Charmouth Notice Board for any last minute changes.

Russell Telfer
Chairman



The End of the Book... but a Happy Ending... with a Sequel Next Year!

Book sales at the Charmouth Fish Bar came to an end on 1st November. Visitor numbers dwindled, the Fish Bar opened fewer hours and the damp weather conditions aren't good for books to be stored outside. Overall we sold, thanks to Sue and Martin and their staff, and to all our supporters who have donated their surplus paperbacks, £500 worth of books. Please keep them coming, in ones, twos, or in bulk if you have a clear-out. We have been invited back next year and are hoping the sequel will be bigger and better than the original.



In the meantime, if you are looking for books to read over Christmas, there are plenty in the Library, together with a selection of DVDs, to keep you entertained. Our summer sales at the foreshore, by kind permission of the Parish Council, had mixed fortunes. We managed to pick two wet days, one scorchingly hot day when few people stopped to buy as they raced for the beach, and one day when it was just right. We hope to be back on the foreshore next year; just hoping we get the right weather.

Bob Hughes

Charmouth Primary School



As always, life at Charmouth Primary School has been busy and exciting since the last issue of *Shoreline*. The second part of the summer term included our football team winning the Kenway Cup, a trip to Cheddar Gorge for Dolphins class, a trip to Weymouth Sealife Centre for Seahorse and Starfish classes, a celebration day for the 25th anniversary of the new school building (including exploring maps and images of Charmouth and a local walk), our summer term production, an Ofsted inspection, sports day, the Charmouth Challenge, turkey chicks hatching in classrooms, the year 5 and 6 residential trip and a falconry visit – all on top of our usual day-to-day teaching and learning!

Our production was 'Mermaids Vs Pirates' and the preparation involved staff, children and parents. The children performed brilliantly for their three performances, with the Ofsted inspector being in the audience for part of one! The amazing backdrop featured Charmouth village and an incredible underwater scene – all thanks to talented parents who volunteered and led the design and creation.

During the summer term, we had incubators in two classes with turkey eggs. There was huge excitement as they hatched and the chicks started to grow. The chicks loved the attention and would become very noisy if the children left the room!

PTA contributions helped fund the school trips that children took last year. The children really enjoy the visits but also are able to enrich their learning. Their fundraising also paid for a falconry day, during which every child was able to hold one of the beautiful birds that came to visit; some of the teachers couldn't resist and also had a go!

During the heat in July, the PTA organised and ran the Charmouth Challenge. We had a huge number of participants and had a really successful fundraising day. The Challenge could not have happened without the volunteers who organised the event, the volunteers who helped on the day and the generous sponsors – we thank them all for their commitment and dedication. We also would like to thank all residents of the village as the event impacts the whole village.

The summer break gave staff some time to prepare for the excitement of the new school year and start making changes within the school. We have moved books from the corridors and some from the classrooms to make one of the rooms a library, known as the Lobster Room, which we are continuing to organise in order to be able to fully utilise. We also moved the musical instruments and donated computers to a room to create a new work space for classes; this room is now known as the Octopus Room.

As you walk past the school, you may have noticed that our pond area was completely overhauled over the summer so

we now have a beautiful ornamental pond area to use. This project was only possible due to the generous donation from Charmouth Stores and a group of parents who gave up their time to clear the area. Thank you!

Every child visited the beach twice in the first two weeks of the school year; this included taking part in a beach clean. Just one piece of rubbish collected by each child led to a whole box of rubbish being removed from the beach.

We explored ideas for a new school motto during the summer term but finally found our new motto after a fantastic staff training day where staff were inspired by Dr. Andy Cope. Our new motto is 'Choose to be Positive' and we are encouraging every member of the school community to have a positive outlook on all that they do.

Our whole school learning topic during the first half of the autumn term was 'Marvellous Me'. This was a great topic to start the year with 12 new children in year groups other than reception, new staff, a new positive behaviour policy and changes to the layout of classrooms. During the topic children made links across the curriculum which were shared in an Open Assembly with examples of learning from English, Science, PSHE, Geography, Computing as well as home learning. The home learning that took place was fantastic, with much of it displayed in the corridor for all to celebrate. We were also able to make links to all that we have and share this at Harvest with donations collected for the Lyme Forward food bank.

This half-term, our whole school topic is 'Celebration and Commemoration'. Learning this term is linked closely to the 100th anniversary of World War I as well as different religious festivals, particularly those focused around light. We are looking forward to our Christmas Fair, Carol Service and another Open Assembly to celebrate learning.

We also recently joined the West Dorset Schools Collaboration. This is a group of schools working together on a voluntary basis to share expertise and resources for the best of the children at all the schools. We have already benefitted from a joint INSET day with Dr. Andy Cope, doctor of happiness and are now working on a lesson study project across the schools.

We are very fortunate to have a large amount of support from the whole community and are very grateful. We are always happy to hear from members of the community who would like to volunteer, who have a special interest they are willing to share with the children or if there is anything we can be involved with across the community.

Laura Cornish,
Headteacher



The Tommy and Street Poppies



This year Ben Perry and I got together to raise funds for two ideas of ours which we thought would allow Charmouth to celebrate the centenary of the ending of WW1. Firstly, having seen a six-foot Tommy on television, we wanted to get our own and for Remembrance fortnight we needed funds for street poppies around the village. The poppies would be for The Poppy Appeal. The Tommy, a six-foot aluminium outline of a soldier is from the charity Remembered. There But Not There is the 2018 Armistice project for that charity. Remembered has three simple but significant aims:



To Commemorate the Fallen through highlighting the sacrifices made. The 2018 Armistice Project, There But Not There, will be the Centenary Commemoration for the end of the First World War.

To Educate all generations, particularly today's younger generation, born nearly 100 years after the outbreak of WW1, to understand what led to the slaughter of 888,246 British and Commonwealth men.

To help Heal those suffering from the hidden wounds of post-traumatic stress disorder and other lasting legacies of combat, by raising funds for our beneficiary charities. Today, the mental health taboo of Post-Traumatic Stress, or 'shell shock' as it was known in the Great War, is being broken and Remembered aims to play a significant role in helping build better futures for veterans and those suffering from mental illness.

For the Street Poppies, we needed to cover The Street and Lower Sea Lane, so as much money as possible was needed. We had to raise £775 for a six foot aluminium outline of a Tommy, £58 for a plaque and as much as possible to get as many poppies as possible. We then had to find somewhere for Tommy to be placed. Within eight weeks Charmouth residents and friends had donated enough for both of our ideas. Then, in the middle of summer, Byemead Residential Home contacted me with the great news that they wanted to donate their summer fête money to our fund raising. They raised an amazing £700 to go to The Poppy Appeal, which got our total to £1550. So in total Charmouth raised an amazing £2382.75.

Looking back at how quickly the funds came in, with lots of support from Charmouth, Ben and I are quite proud and we think Charmouth looks great now the poppies are up. We would like to thank Lisa Tuck and Dave Humphrey from the Parish Council who spent a lot of time with our idea of Tommy and especially working on the garden area in Lower Sea Lane where he stands -There But Not There. A huge thank you to everyone at Byemead. We would really like to thank all who spent their spare time placing the poppies up on the posts. But most of all we thank you - each and every one of the Charmouth residents and friends who gave so generously. At the end of the day we can sleep safely in our beds because of so many. Lest we forget.

Linda Bearpark



Charmouth Weather 2018

Hottest Day: 29.6°C 2nd July

Coldest Day: -5.9°C 28th Feb

Wettest Day: 30mm 12th August

Total precipitation: 660mm (to 31st Oct)

Windiest Day: 13mph average (all day) 14th March /
Strongest Gust 47mph 13th Feb

It has been a memorable year for weather so far (up to 31st Oct). The last few days of February 2018 saw temperatures in Charmouth plummet, reaching a remarkable (for Charmouth) -5.9°C on the 28th. Temperatures stayed below freezing all day, averaging -3°C. The next day, 1st March, it snowed heavily onto the frozen ground and several inches of snow soon accumulated creating magical but treacherous scenes.

On 2nd March the unusual phenomenon of freezing rain coated everything with a layer of ice, even the snow had a crunchy top layer that cracked as you walked on it. But the next day a rapid thaw set in and by 4th March the snow had all gone, only to return on the 17th March for three more days.

Surprisingly, in June we had no rainfall at all and only 44mm fell in July, compared to 136mm for the same two months in 2017. The 2nd July was our hottest day of the year at 29.6°C. Our rainiest day was 12th August when a thundery storm deposited 30mm of much needed water on our gardens. The three summer months of June to August averaged a very pleasant 17°C making it the sort of hazy warm summer we seem to remember fondly from our childhoods. I wonder what autumn and winter will bring?

| 2018 | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-----------|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| Max °C | 12 | 12 | 13 | 21 | 26 | 27 | 30 | 27 | 22 | 21 | | |
| Min °C | -1 | -6 | -5 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 7 | 3 | -2 | | |
| Av °C | 6 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 17 | 14 | 11 | | |
| Precip mm | 105 | 56 | 157 | 101 | 29 | 1 | 44 | 65 | 45 | 57 | | |

Bill Burn

From the Charmouth Practice



Reversing Diabetes

Over the last year I have had the pleasure of the company of six or seven intrepid explorers, all patients of The Charmouth Practice with type 2 diabetes who wanted to discuss and share their journey in reducing the effects of diabetes by using diet. I want to thank them all for their fascinating insights and contributions.

We met together to talk about their challenges, shared our favourite slow carb recipes, enjoyed food tastings and provided mutual support. Two of the group no longer have HbA1c or blood sugariness readings in the diabetic range and are not on any medication and all have achieved significant weight loss

and/or reduction in their diabetic medications and symptoms. More people were unable to join the meetings but have achieved impressive improvements in their blood tests and metabolic health and have achieved remission of their diabetes by changes in their diet. Hilary Joyce kindly offered to share her experiences with Shoreline readers below.

The group continues as a wider forum with plans for meetings over diabetic friendly meals and snacks in the Courtyard Café in Lyme, thanks to the baking skills of Laura Joyce whose tea we enjoyed together in October. We also have cookery demonstrations and workshops planned with Tony Gibbons of the Friendly Food Club starting on 23rd November in the Community Hall club room and continuing in 2019.

If you are a patient of the Charmouth Practice and wish to be kept informed of these events, please leave your email or contact details at reception at the Charmouth Practice or send it to me at balanceofbodyfood@gmail.com and I will add you to the mailing list.

I believe together, we can turn around diabetes!

Dr Sue Beckers



GOOD MOOD and FOOD Clinic
balanceofbodyfood@gmail.com

How I Turned Round Diabetes

I have dieted successfully for the past forty years - and then put the weight back on again! However, at 71, no motivation has been as strong as the possibility of losing a limb or going blind through diabetes. After two diabetic years with some alarmingly fast, developing symptoms, I decided to take myself in hand. I cleared much from my diary so that I could concentrate on the project and started with an HA1c score of 54. After ten months and five stone lighter, I now score 46 which, while still pre-diabetic, is officially two below diabetes.

It is all due to new dietary research and thinking passed on by Dr Sue Beckers to her Good Mood and Food group which I joined a little reluctantly, not wanting to be identified by a condition! However, it has proved very supportive with detailed and fascinating information from Dr Sue about how carbohydrates work in the body and how you can tweak your diet to achieve your correct weight. The samples and recipes we swap are good too!

What was really unexpected, however, was the changes that weight loss has brought. Although still pretty healthy and physically active running a small farm, I had not realised how much my weight hampered me. Tying up shoe laces, bending over and walking upstairs now are as if I was twenty - well, not quite, but almost! I have more energy, more staying power, can stand much longer and, touch wood, have not had any indigestion or recurring back problems. Also diabetic neurological symptoms such as tingling fingers and toes disappeared with the first two stones I lost.

What's more, many people have said how well I look which is most encouraging and certainly how I feel. Having taken off several stone, I can now see that the even lower recommended weight is correct. Originally I thought it was far too low, not having weighed that low for several decades but I still have obvious fat and therefore have another stone to go

So, this is how I did it...

1. Each day, take a teaspoonful of food away from your plate until you have significantly reduced your portions

2. Step on the scales morning and evening and compensate immediately if you overdo things

3. Give up sweets; as a chocoholic, I expected this to be difficult, but after the first week, it wasn't. Pay for petrol at the pump so you don't walk past the sweets!

4. Forget cake and biscuits unless they are diabetic-friendly but spoil yourself sometimes - just birthdays, special occasions - like we used to

5. Reduce alcohol, give up if possible, forget fizzy drinks - no way are they healthy

6. Review breakfast - bacon and eggs is healthier than sugar-drenched cereals

7. Choose your favourite carbohydrate, eg potatoes, pasta, bread or rice. Eat it once a week and cut out the others - mine is mashed potato on fish pie. Substitute bulk with vegetables. White cabbage goes well with almost everything - flavour with caraway seeds. Cheesy scrambled eggs are delicious on steamed leeks. Addicted to bread? Make your own with a diabetic friendly recipe. Eat larger portions of soup and most vegetables, not too much fruit

8. Limit daily carbohydrate intake to 20-50 grams per day. To calculate, look on packets and use a glycemic index book. Deduct fibre from the carb intake. Take advice on eating low GI and GL food.

9. Eat butter - yes, really! - and more fat which sates your hunger - the previous advice on low fat is misleading

10. ...And finally, join the Good Mood and Food Group which will boost your enthusiasm

Some of the above looks well-nigh impossible but it is normal for me now. After all, the alternative is not worth giving an eye or a leg for, is it!

Hilary Joyce

Charmouth Village People's Day out on the Exeter Canal

19th September



This was another trip organised by Jan Gale which, after the others we have been on promised to be extremely interesting. We were all a bit apprehensive to begin with, as we'd had rain and the sky threatened more. We managed to get on the coach without getting wet and luckily (Jan says it's the weather fairy looking after us!) we didn't get wet at all.

The journey was quite a long one - we were going to Exeter, to the Double Locks. To be honest I had never heard of them, so it made the trip much more interesting. The sun had come out by then and we really enjoyed the slow cruise along the canal, up to the gastro pub. It was interesting to see how we went through the swing bridges, something which many of us had not done before. It's a good job we had a very fit and agile young man to do it all. Nice to watch too.

The pub was very busy - more so when we all arrived, as there were 29 of us. The food was delicious with a varied menu, with something to suit all of us. After leaving and cruising back down the canal to catch the coach, we travelled on to Chard to Barleymow's Farm Shop. We enjoyed it, of course, as we had a scrumptious cream tea. Amazingly, while we were travelling home, it rained, but we were snug as a bug in the coach. It couldn't have worked out better. We arrived home at about 5.15pm and guess what, it wasn't raining. Thank you Jan for another lovely trip.

Margie Wade

Wootton Fitzpaine Film Club

Launched in September 2018, Wootton Fitzpaine Film Club is held in the village hall in the centre of our historic village, just 1 mile from Charmouth.

There is a film showing on the last Thursday of each month (except December) throughout the winter months. Refreshments are available during the break, we have oil-fired central heating for those cold winter evenings and, on film nights, the bar in the adjoining Social Club is open to non-members.

The hall, which is a beautiful Arts and Crafts listed building, has a large car park at the rear, is accessible to those in wheelchairs and has a disabled person's toilet.

For further details of the films that are planned and the dates for showings, please visit the Events page of Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall web site: <https://www.wootton-fitzpaine.co.uk/>

Liz Daros



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE**

'Have a go' at being an on-call firefighter in Charmouth and Lyme Regis

Firefighters in Charmouth and Lyme Regis are looking for some new recruits. Throughout November and December they are giving you the chance to 'have a go' at becoming an on-call firefighter. Fire crews will be at Marine Parade in Lyme Regis from 11am-2pm on Sunday 2nd December. If that wasn't enough, crews at both stations train on a Monday night every week from 7pm, so you can pop along to the station and find out what being on-call is all about.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service needs new on-call recruits to provide fire cover at locations across West Dorset, but particularly in Charmouth and Lyme Regis. Contracted hours can vary, but on-call personnel usually make themselves available for between 48 and 120 hours per week. Between them, each fire station team will provide cover for weekdays, evenings, nights and weekends.

Watch Manager at Charmouth, Graham Hunt said: "The easiest way to see if being a firefighter is for you to come along, have a chat with the crew and try your hand at different things. There will be opportunity to try on breathing apparatus, climb a ladder, assemble some of the vital equipment needed and do the national firefighter selection test for carrying equipment." He added: "On-call firefighters receive the same training and development as wholtime colleagues, and we 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 to be in a position to help people."

In order 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 but can't attend this event, visit www.dwfire.org.uk/be-one-of-us

As well as being available to chat about being an on-call firefighter, they will also be offering fire safety advice and accepting requests for Safe & Well visits.

**For further information, please contact:
Emily Cheeseman, Senior Communications Officer
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service**

emily.cheeseman@dwfire.org.uk

M. 07785 307272 | @DWFireRescue | Facebook.com/DWFire

www.dwfire.org.uk

BYMEAD HOUSE

All the staff at Bymead House would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who attended and participated in our Summer Garden Party in July. We were able to raise £700 towards the Charmouth Poppy Appeal which was a great result!

In the months leading up to Christmas we held events for Halloween and Bonfire Night – it was lovely to see children from the village come to Bymead for Trick or Treat. We would especially like to thank the little girl who generously gave sweets to our residents and staff!

We have a varied line-up of activities and entertainment in the run up to Christmas, including a trip to Beer to see the Christmas lights, Christmas Carols by the Brownies and a visit from the Mountjoy Handbell Ringers. We will be hosting a performance of Aladdin by a pantomime company on Saturday 15th December at 2p.m. This will be followed by a lovely Christmas themed afternoon tea.

Our annual Christmas Buffet will be held on Friday 21st December from 5p.m. onwards with festive music and entertainment. We would like to invite all the friends and relatives of Bymead to attend these events and join us in our festivities.

Finally, Bymead House would like to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our residents, families, friends and staff.

Amy Blacklock

Phone a Friend

Three widows of a certain age in this village have a very good system, which other little groups might wish to copy. Having had a cup of tea to bring them round in the morning, they send a GM (good morning) to each other just to say they are safe and haven't died in the night! The deadline (please excuse the pun) is 9.30 am, by which time one or the other get in touch by telephone. This regime is quite successful as long as the technology works properly or all the power lines are not down after a storm! Of course they realise that one could have a fall or something equally hilarious during the day when in the house, in the garden, or even when driving, when one supposes there are other people around to pick up the pieces. At present, they are quite active and do actually talk to each other when they meet.

Charmouth Village People member

These ladies do this every morning for reassurance and in friendship. It's a great expression of independence and community in our village and it could be copied. If you begin a Phone a Friend network with your neighbours, please let Shoreline know. No names need to be mentioned in the article, but it will reaffirm the importance of looking out for your neighbour or friend who will, in turn, look out for you.



A BIG well done to Luke Bearpark for raising an amazing £2000.42 for this years BBC Children in Need

ILLUSIVE

It's official. According to the World Happiness Report put out by the UN, measured by various different criteria, Finland has now taken over from Norway as the happiest country to live in. So if you want to be happy, it's easy. Move to Finland.

I grew up in Bournemouth. The primary school I attended was close to the over-cliff. Just around the corner was a large hotel. As I cycled to school I would often see the hotel owner, or possibly manager, travelling in a large chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce. What struck me was that despite being so wealthy he always looked so miserable. Even at that young age, I realised that money and possessions don't add up to happiness. They bring comfort and security, but many have all they want and still aren't happy. In fact, as a general rule of thumb, the more you have, the more you want. Are the Finnish really happier than everyone else?

For some, happiness is the grandchildren – despite the fact that we are usually quite glad to hand them back to their parents. For others, happiness is going on holiday to warmer climes. For some, happiness is an evening glass of a favourite wine. For yet others, happiness is chocolate. According to one fridge sticker, the reason we must conserve the earth is that it is the only planet in our solar system that has chocolate!

Living abroad, I would often have to travel by public transport. It

wasn't very comfortable. On long journeys, as I got on the bus, I would look around at the other passengers. In a largely non-Christian country, experience had taught me that I could often spot a fellow Christian simply by their face. There was a difference. Their face would reflect an inner joy and peace that others just didn't have. If I saw anyone who I thought might be a Christian I would sit by them and start a conversation. If my surmise was right and the person was a Christian, there was an immediate rapport and the journey would pass pleasantly and quickly. Where does this inner happiness and contentment come from?

Most of us have discovered that we need other people. It is people, not things that bring happiness. The trouble is that friendships can suddenly turn sour. It is easy to become very disillusioned when people let us down or say and do unkind things. Sometimes those who mean most to us pass on, leaving a gaping hole of sadness and loneliness in our lives. But there is one person who is always there for us and will never let us down. Before he left, Jesus promised his followers a peace and a joy that others just don't know. This inner peace and happiness come from a personal relationship with Jesus. There's no need to move to Finland.

Ian Bevington

For many years Ian and Rachel were Christian workers with a minority people group in SE Asia. Besides medical work and teaching literacy, they also taught from the Bible.

A History of The George Inn, Charmouth

Charmouth is very fortunate in having today one of the oldest continuously run inns in the country. As with the many buildings in the village that I have researched over the years for Shoreline, it has a remarkable history stretching back to the Middle Ages when the village was owned by the monks of Forde Abbey.

TO BE Peremptorily SOLD BY AUCTION,
By Mr GEORGE KNIGHT,
On the Premises, on FRIDAY, the 23rd day of NOVEMBER
instant, at Five o'clock in the Evening for the residue of a long
Term of Years absolute,
ALL that Capital or well-accustomed INN or
TAVERN, called the *George Inn*, with the MESSAGE
or DWELLING-HOUSE, COFFAGE, STABLES, OUT-
HOUSES, GARDEN, and ORCHARD behind the same, eligibly
situated in Charmouth aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. JOHN
LOVE.
For view of the same apply to Mr. LOVE, on the Premises; and
further particulars may be obtained from Mr. J. A. DAY, solicitor,
Bridport, Dorset; who has several SUMS of MONEY ready TO
BE ADVANCED, on approved Securities.
Dated 12th November, 1838.

Advertisement dated November 1838 detailing The George Inn, then owned by John Love, which was about to be sold at auction to John Norman.

Its name is a clue to its origins, for an even older inn at Norton St. Phillips in Somerset bears the same name dating back to the 14th century. Our inn may well be contemporary, as in 1295 the Abbot created a borough here and The Street was divided into half-acre plots stretching back on both sides. The ancient north wall still stands today with many of the boundary walls of the plots surviving. This had been the case with The George and the 1841 Tithe map reveals a plot slightly over half an acre. The name given to the inn is again very historic and derives from our patron Saint St. George and not the later Kings of England. I am quite confident that it was originally a guest house or inn at the side of an ancient Roman road that linked Dorchester and Exeter, where travellers would receive hospitality. It was listed of historical interest in 1952, after being thoroughly surveyed as follows:

Hotel, formerly coaching inn. C17, C18 and later, with C16 roof-core. Stone walls, rendered, slate roof with gable ends. 4 stacks; 3 of brick, one rendered. 2 on the ridge: at left-hand gable and towards the right-hand end; 2 near front wall eaves. 2 storeys. 6 windows: 2 are stone mullioned (left-hand ground, and first) of 4 lights with ovolo-moulds. Rest are wooden sashes with glazing bars, 2 tripartite towards the right-hand end. Projecting porch and canted bay window over in bay 2. Wooden porch with lateral benches, weather-boarded bay with sashes, a pyramidal slate roof over. Entrance to former coaching yard at the right-hand end. Interior: ground left: open fireplace with straight-chamfered stone jambs with straight-chamfered wooden lintel over. C17 or earlier. Mid-chamfered beams with tongue stops. Upstairs: similar, mid-chamfered beams. Accommodation in small rooms off the back wall corridor. Low small doors, probably C18

conversion. Former cruck construction visible (2 trusses), probably C16.

Their dating of the building based on the roof timbers as the 16th century (1500-1600) would confirm its ownership and construction by the monks. It was their last Abbott, Thomas Charde, who spent considerable money on remodelling Forde Abbey and Charmouth. It was his brother who was Steward at that time and he lived in the Abbots House opposite, which still bears the initials T.C. above its doorway. The fine building that was to be The George, may well have replaced an earlier one on the site dating back to the founding of the borough in 1295. It was to remain in the ownership of the Abbott until the dissolution of Forde in 1539 under the instructions of King Henry VIII. The sequestration was carried out by Sir William Petre who was to ultimately own the village. In 1564 he carried out a thorough survey of his purchase, which can still be seen today in the Devon Record Office. It lists all the tenants and provides some descriptions of the properties. The most interesting is that of the Steward's house as being the **"fairest house in the town and built by the last abbot of Forde"**. This was later to be known as 'The Queens Armes', but today as 'The Abbots House'. It is difficult to pinpoint 'The George Inn' precisely, although I feel confident that it was leased by a member of the Limbry family who was prominent at that time and appears on the early records of 'Fountain Inn', the other hostelry at the top of the village.



Harry Pryer Snr. with his family in 1874, left to right: Giles Pryer, Harry Jr., Harry William Pryer Snr., Emma, Anne, Ellen, Leah (Harry's Wife).

I have been very fortunate to locate in the Wiltshire Record Office a magnificent indenture relating to The George Inn dating back to 1704. For some reason, it was lodged there by Ushers, a brewery that later owned the property. It is not often that you can go back that far so precisely, and it was to be a catalyst to its earlier history. For it records that in that year it was in the tenure of Richard Darke, but a Robert Shute had previously been the tenant. I was to find that over the centuries there were two paths to track down - that of the owner and that of the tenant, as it was rare for someone to be both. The ownership was usually a wealthy family or brewery. The further you go back in time, the more difficult it is to locate records, and this was the case

with Robert Shute. It did help in the belief that the Limbry family owned it as there was a Court case in 1682 where there is a reference to a meeting at **"Mr Robert Shute's House being of the Fountaine in Charmouth"**. The parish records are helpful in that they show that he and his wife were to have three children baptised in the Church - Benjamin (1665), Joseph (1665) and Martha (1667). This would take his time as landlord of The George to the mid-17th century and he may well have been there on a historic night in September 1651 when King Charles II stayed for one night at 'The Queens Armes' opposite, on his abortive attempt to leave these shores for France. It is astonishing to think that the village may well have had four hostleries at this time, with the Queens Armes, Rose and Crown and Fountain Inn, as well as The George. Its position on the main coaching road between Dorchester and Exeter would explain why there were so many inns. The early document from 1702 records that the next tenant after Shute was Richard Darke. Again, the only clues we have to this gentleman's time in Charmouth are in the Parish Records. He married Sarah Sanger in Charmouth in 1705 and they were to have two sons - Edward in 1706 and Richard the following year, who was to later marry Mary Massey in 1726. In the Dorset Record Office at Dorchester is an incomplete series of Ale House Returns for the county which are very useful in tracking down landlords of inns over the years. It does show Richard Darke as the landlord of the Ship Inn (Coach and Horses) in 1714 and records James Dober at The George Inn. It is this gentleman who paid £60 in 1702 to John Burrridge for a 1000-year lease and a rent of **"one Penny at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, only if the same lawfully demanded."**



The earliest photograph yet found of The George Inn as it looked in 1880 when Harry William Pryer was the landlord.

John Burrridge (1651-1733), who had previously owned The George Inn, was a member of the famous family of merchants who lived in Lyme Regis. Their fortunes had been made as owners of ships trading goods around the world. They are more infamously remembered today though as slave traders making the vast journeys across the Atlantic from Africa to the West Indies. John and his brother Robert Burrridge bought considerable properties with their wealth, including Hogchester Farm near Charmouth and the Fountain Inn (now Charmouth House). John had been

Mayor of Lyme Regis three times and their Member of Parliament in 1689-1695 and 1701-1710. In 1702 he found himself in financial difficulties and had to sell a number of properties including The George. By 1710 his position had improved and his nephew, John Burridge took over his seat in Parliament. He died in 1733 aged 82 and is buried in Lyme parish, which has a large memorial stone to him in their entrance today. In his Will, he left most of his property, including The Fountain Inn, to his brother Robert and nephew, John.



Mr. & Mrs. French outside The George Inn with their family and assistants in 1907.

James Dober is recorded in the 1702 Indenture as coming originally from Stratton and lately from Dorchester. The parish records reveal that he was married to Jane and they had two children - Frances in 1705 and James in 1708. His name appears on the 1714 Ale House Lists for Dorset and again in 1723 with John Goreing for the Fountain Inn and Richard Darke for the Ship Inn (Coach and Horses). On his death in 1725 he was buried in Charmouth Parish Church and his Will preserved in the Dorset Record Office describes him as an Inn-holder. The witnesses to this were Samuel Symes and George Browne, who had previously acted as a guarantor on the Ale House lists and was a brewer, whose business was ultimately bought by Palmers. James Dober left his inn to his wife and son, James, who sold it to William Raymond, whose name appears on the Ale House list for 1730. The parish records show that he and his wife Elizabeth had a daughter, Elizabeth, in 1730 and a son, William, in 1733. His life was cut short when his burial was recorded in 1735. The George was then bought by the village blacksmith, Samuel Burrow, who lived and worked from a house where 1-3 Hillside was later built. It was described as that **"Messuage, Tenement or Inn called or commonly known by the name of The George Inn and the curtilage, backside, garden and orchard to the same"**. He went on to purchase other properties in Charmouth including The Elms, The Rose and Crown and Langmoor. Unfortunately, he was to get into financial difficulties and by 1743 had to mortgage them to the wealthy Walter Oke, who lived at Axmouth. The Poor Rates for 1754 detail Samuel Burrows as the owner of 'The George' with his other purchases. Eventually, the loan was foreclosed, and Walter Oke became the new owner of The George Inn and the other properties in 1757. He was to die just three years later, and his wife Frances inherited his

large estate. Her name appears on the Land Tax and Poor Rate lists that have survived for the village, as the owner of The George until 1793 when it was bought by Thomas Morgan. There was a survey of the village in 1783, produced for the Lord of the Manor, Francis Phipps Henvill by James Upjohn. The map that went with it has sadly been lost, but its record book was copied by the famous historian, Reginald Pavey, and describes The George as being owned by Frances Oke and containing 2 roods 4 perches, just over half an acre and the size of the original burgage plot dating back to the 14th century. The Land Tax provides some information about her tenants for in 1761, John Diment was renting it and in 1787, Samuel Gosling was paying £1-3-9d on it. The Poor Rates lists describe it as an inn rated at 4s with a house in the garden at 9d.



A group of cyclists set off from The George in 1911.

Thomas Morgan with his wife Mary had four children: Thomas, George, John and Sarah. His wife died in 1805 and he passed on the following year. His will records that he left just £20, to be divided between his children and two grandchildren, Thomas and Charles. His daughter, Sarah, born in 1770, had married Richard Hawkins and it is he who is shown as the landlord at The George Inn on the death of his father-in-law. The Rate books reveal that the inn and orchard were valued at 4s and the house in the garden at 9d, which was let to Charles Gale. I could find little in the Parish Records about the Hawkins, apart from the fact that they had a daughter, Mary Eliza Hawkins, who in 1818 married John Love who was aged 21, in Charmouth. There is another record that has survived which shows that in the year 1821 he was applying for a license for The George and again the Bridport brewer, George Browne, was acting as Surety. He died the following year and it was his son-in-law, John Love, aged 25, who took over The George Inn. He was a butcher who lived and ran his business from a building that disappeared in 1861 when it was bought by trustees of the church and demolished to widen the churchyard at the front. There was a pound next to it where cattle were kept, which also went and was moved to the junction of Old Lyme Hill and Old Lyme Road. He appears as a butcher on the Jury Lists for the village, although in 1838 he described himself as an inn holder. He and Mary had a son, John, who was baptised in 1820. The Tax records reveal that he was to rent the inn initially to John Buknoll, but then to Robert Mills who was

its landlord until his death in 1835. John Love returned to running the inn for a while but then decided to sell it at auction and the advertisement appeared in the local paper as follows:

"All that Capital or well-accustomed Inn or Tavern, called The George Inn, with the Messuage or Dwelling House, Cottage, Stables, Outhouses, Garden and Orchard behind the same, eligibly situated in Charmouth aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. Love".



A group of villagers stand under the arch commemorating the Coronation of King George V in 1911.

John's reason for selling may well have been based on his health, as he was to die just four years later in 1842 aged just 48. The successful bidder at the auction was John Evony Norman (1788-1880) whose family were brewers in Crewkerne. The George was from then on to be a tied house to a series of breweries until recently. Later documents refer to its ownership as that of Norman & Co. or Crewkerne Brewery. They were to let it to William Vallens, who was a builder and had moved to the village in 1830 to build its road tunnel, which was opened two years later. The Dorset Chronicle reported, "that when the tunnel was opened a sumptuous dinner was provided at The George Inn of which a large and respectable party partook". The day was concluded with much hilarity and good humour. The Charmouth Band was in attendance during the evening". William and his family were to live in Charmouth for a considerable time and in 1841 their details appear in the Census at The George Inn. William was aged 41 in that year and had originated from Uploaders, near Bridport, and wife, Sarah, aged 34 was born in Thorncombe. In the same year, a Tithe Map was drawn up for the village showing that no. 43, with just over half an acre of garden and orchard, was owned by Norman & Co, with George Vallens as its tenant. It also shows that he personally owned the neighbouring plot, no. 41, with three adjacent cottages (Firlands). They appear as tenants until 1855 when Benjamin Sanson is shown in the Post Office Directory for that year. He was only there briefly, as the 1861 Census has James Love aged 39 and his wife Jane aged 38 as landlords of The George. He is described as a butcher as well as inn keeper, and no doubt his wife ran the inn. The Post Office Directory for 1865 has Edward Love as running the inn. There is another change in tenancy, when in 1871 Eli Cox appeared in the Census for the year. He was aged 32 and living with Leah Sweetland, aged 26 who

is described as a barmaid with a two-month-old son. He was not there for long and three years later Harry William Pryer took on the lease.



Billy Gear stands proudly in front of one of his taxis outside the garage he operated from the rear of The George in 1925.

Harry was the son of the builder and mason, Giles, who lived at Stanley House and operated from a yard and field on the corner of The Street and Lower Sea Lane. He was aged 37 and married to Leah, aged 36, when the next census appeared in 1881 and was described as a Builder and Monumental Mason. His wife may well have run the inn whilst he carried on his other work. A photograph of him with his father, son and wife exists, taken in 1870, which is shown here. He was to become very successful and built a number of houses in the village including Pryer Villas and Stanley House, as well as carving memorials for the church. It is in the year 1880 that a photograph was taken of the village looking up from The George. It shows the sign for the inn is on the wall rather high above the roof and the side windows were blocked in at that time.



View of The George after the war when it was owned by Arnold & Hancock of Wiveliscombe.

James Phelps next took on the tenancy of The George with his wife Merina and family in 1885. He described himself as hotel proprietor and farmer in the subsequent Census. In 1899 Joseph Henry Wetherell became the new landlord and appeared in the Census for that year as aged 33 and his wife Emma as aged 30, with a two-year-old son, Donald. He was only there briefly before John French and his family took over the lease. We are fortunate that they took a superb photograph of themselves and their staff outside the inn, which has survived for posterity. The view of the inn is not too different from today, although the massive George Hotel sign is no longer supported from the roof, although the bracket is still there. The 1911 Census is very detailed and was filled in by the occupiers. It shows John Phippen French, aged 65, living with his wife Elizabeth, aged 61, and their two daughters. He described himself as a licensed victualler and his family assisted him in the business. He was to

prosper and later bought Bruton House (now Waterhead) and a marine cottage in Lower Sea Lane at auction in 1907.

Collectors of postcards will be very familiar with the view looking up The Street with The George Hotel on the left and the Queens Armes opposite, which proved very popular with photographers over the years. Some of the best were produced by Samuel Hansford in 1911 when the village was festooned with flowers to commemorate the Coronation of King George V in that year. They show a massive arch covered with branches and Union Jacks crossing The Street by its entrance. In 1915 John French moved to his house in Lower Sea Lane and The George Hotel, as it was now called, was taken over by Sidney and Clara Rattenbury. There is a wonderful photograph taken outside the Royal Oak on Remembrance Day in 1925, which includes Reg Rattenbury standing next to Billy Gear, who at that time was running his motor car business from the former stables at the rear of The George. A photograph was taken of him with his mechanics outside the inn with their automobiles and a sign hangs above the entrance, showing W.A. Gear - Cars for Hire. The Rattenburys retired to Marine View and passed the business on to Frederick and Lionel White in 1925. They were there for just three years before it was taken over by Harry and Ada Frances Stork, who ran The George Hotel for a decade before selling it in 1937 to Edward and Edith Hunter, members of the local fishing family. They ran the business through the war and it was not until 1952 that they retired, and John and Amelia Parkins took on the lease. The hotel was in their hands for nearly a decade and there is a wonderful photograph of them outside the entrance with their impressive car.



Mr. & Mrs. Parkin, landlords of The George, stand proudly in front of their car.

In January 1954 the front of the inn was replastered and a mullion window, east of the porch, was discovered, which had been bricked up. W.J. Mills was doing the work and he noted that the porch was built of brick and that it was evident that it was not part of the original inn. In the days when coaches stopped there the room over the porch provided a waiting room for visitors. Also, since it was near the coast, it was a convenient lookout for smugglers to spot the approach of excisemen or press gangs for the Navy. The window of this room which looks down the street, appeared after 1880 and does not appear in the early photographs. It was in 1961 that Osborne and Gwendoline White took over from

the Parkins. Then followed a number of tenants who were there briefly, including Edward & Mary Evans (1968 -72), Christopher & Angela Greenwood (1972-76) and David & Diane Boalch (1976-81). I have gained this information from the Electoral Rolls at the Dorset Record Office and a study of the succeeding years for those interested would bring it up to date.



A group of locals propping up the bar in the 1950s.

The ownership of The George Inn from 1848 when it was auctioned by John Love to the present has changed very few times. In that year it was bought by John Evomy Norman, who ran what was known as the Lower Brewery in Crewkerne. He later partnered George Hillbourne Jolliffe and it was renamed Crewkerne Old Brewery and expanded with the acquisition, and had a number of tied houses including The George in Charmouth. In 1880 it was known as Jolliffe, Norman and Templeman or Crewkerne Old Brewery and became a limited company - Crewkerne United Breweries Ltd. It was taken over by Arnold and Hancock Ltd, Wiveliscombe, Somerset in 1938 and was wound up in 1949. It, in turn, was acquired by Ushers Wiltshire Brewery Ltd, Trowbridge in 1955 with its 262 outlets and brewing ceased in 1960. They merged with Watneys and eventually ceased trading in 1999 and The George Inn was one of their former hosteleries that returned to private ownership.

I find it astonishing that today we can still enter through the door of an ancient inn that has changed little over at least five centuries and has witnessed so many important chapters in the village's past. When it was originally built, the landlords would have been the monastery at Forde, offering hospitality and no doubt their own brewed beer. It is a tradition that the landlord still offers today both to villagers and visitors - and long may it continue!

If you wish to find out more about The George Inn, please go to my website, https://www.freshford.com/charmouth_home.htm

Neil Mattingly



Mr. & Mrs. Casewell, owners of The George in 2000.

Charmouth Gardeners' Summer Show



Charmouth Gardeners' Village Show was held on 11th August 2018. The day was a great success with 600 exhibits and wonderful displays in both halls. Each year seems to bring new entrants, which was particularly remarkable this year, as gardeners had to cope with the unusual weather pattern. As always, the Gardeners' committee wish to thank the many people who help to make the day the joyful occasion it always seems to be. Many hands make light work and that is certainly the case when organising such a busy two-day event. May the sun shine and help to make our gardens fruitful (and if baking or handicrafts is 'your thing' - then happy results to all ladies and men). We hope to see you all next year.

Membership of Charmouth Gardeners is not obligatory when joining in the Show, although our annual membership fee is only £5 with lots of advantages and advance information on visits and speaker dates.

For more membership information, please contact 01297 561076 or 561625.

Pauline Bonner, *Show Secretary*

Prize and Trophy List – 2018

RHS Banksian Medal – Highest Points/Prize Certificates/Money

Ron Dampier

RHS Award of Merit for Young Exhibitors

Isla Hendry

Diploma in Horticulture – Worthy Exhibit in Horticulture Sections

Leslie Kitcher

Grace Laker Cup – Highest Points for Fruit & Vegetables

Ron Dampier

Poppleton Cup – Best Floral Exhibit

Sue Brunner

Wyn Durbridge Bowl – Best Vase Garden Flowers/Shrubs

Sandy Hinton

BD (Best Dahlia) Founders Trophy

Liz Payne

Joe Tisshaw Trophy – Best in Sweet Pea class

Diana Burn

Rose Vase Trophy – Best Specimen Rose

Diana Burn

Rose Cup – Best in Rose classes

Sheila Samuel

Stan Durbridge Bowl – Best Pot Plant

Sue Brunner

Marcel Clouzy Cup – Best Exhibit in Floral Arrangement

Sandy Hinton

Thalatta Cup – Best in Handicrafts

Jan Coleman

Children's Cup

Scott Hare

George Cup – Best Exhibit in Fruit & Vegetables

Ron Dampier

Clouzy Cup – Best in Home Produce

Margaret Sage

The Horton Cup – Highest Aggregate points in Home Produce

Mary Davis

Mattingly Pudding Plate – Best in class 82 – A Special Fruit Tart

Sandra Shaw

Norah Kidd Trophy – Highest Points in Photographic

Vicki Dunstan

Cup for Best Photograph

Rob Davis

Charmouth Gardeners' – Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 17th January 2019 – 2.30pm - Village Hall, Wesley Close: Jim & Mary MacDonald will speak on 'Growing Sweet Peas for Exhibition and Pleasure' – Also a chance to buy award winning Sweet Pea seeds.

Thursday 21st February 2019 – 2.30pm - Village Hall, Wesley Close: AGM – Followed by an amusing and informative talk by Mr. Francis Burroughs on his father's horticultural career (starting as a gardener's boy on a large estate just after WW1)...Plus an opportunity to renew subscription for 2019/20.

Thursday 21st March – 2.30pm - Village Hall, Wesley Close: Brian Pettit, a worldwide nature photographer will give an illustrated talk on 'The Wildlife of the Jurassic Coast'. Paid up members may collect their membership card for 2019 -2012, detailing all future programmes.Plus, an opportunity to renew subscription for 2018-2019.

All speaker dates are free of charge and we welcome non-member visitors. Refreshments available (nominal charge).

A Tale of Two Villages

It was the best of roads it was worst of roads. It was the age of wisdom in building the Charmouth bypass; it was the age of foolishness in revoking the order to build the Chideock bypass!!

I hope you will forgive my (slight) adaptation of Charles Dickens' opening lines from his classic novel "A Tale of Two Cities".

In my story the 'Cities' are, of course, not London and Paris but rather the Dorset villages of Charmouth and Chideock. The backdrop is not the French Revolution but rather the benefits to Charmouth arising from their bypass against the continuing frustration experienced in Chideock by the lack of a bypass. And the road is, of course, that major 'strategic' highway, and only South Coast transport artery the A35. And believe it or not the adequacy of this road through Chideock was first questioned over a century ago and an alternative route bypassing the village considered.

Unbelievable now with its Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 16,070 vehicles (David Peacock for Dorset CPRE (London Inn traffic 1986-2016)) to think that a few horse and carts and the first motorised vehicles could have warranted any such consideration. Nowadays it is a very different story with the road having changed little in some 70 – 80 years but the nature of the users and the economic importance of that road having increased beyond the imagination of any 1930s road planner.

So let us compare the two villages of Charmouth and Chideock.

Charmouth is larger than Chideock with its current population of around 1,350 against that of Chideock's approximately 550. Charmouth always was a larger community with more shops and commerce, more visitors and with that long narrow slightly winding and distinctly hilly main street. So in the second part of the 1900s with increasing pressure from tourism and goods traffic travelling between the south coast ports the infrastructure planners first started to consider a Charmouth bypass.

Freshford.com report on their website that "At one time the busy main A35 road went through Charmouth with its cars, lorries and caravans. In the summer it became so congested that the police would block the entrance to Lower Sea Lane after 10.30am as the car parks would be full by then. The steep hills would catch out lorries who would have to brake suddenly. There were a number of serious accidents, many of which were recorded by Mike Davis who always had a camera loaded with film in the Pharmacy. This record in the form of an album was given to Linda Chalker (the then Minister of Transport) and was instrumental in the village eventually getting a bypass which was opened in July 1990".

How similar Chideock is to this day with regular traffic incidents causing chaos to the A35 and the country lanes surrounding Chideock. Last December there were three serious accidents within the space of 10 days, and throughout this year there have been incidents causing 'gridlock' in and around Chideock adding countless hours to journey times and having economic implications to the hauliers through disruption of their delivery schedules.

Charmouth reaction to the prospect of a bypass was predictable and very similar to current day Chideock reactions. Delight from some, horror from others!! The objections were voiced "It will close our businesses", and "We shall lose all that passing trade". Worries that were to be proved unfounded as local businesses flourished, the tourists didn't just 'by-pass' Charmouth and were still drawn in to enjoy its unique charms and suddenly, indeed overnight, with the opening of that short by-pass there were no more horrible traffic jams through the heart

of Charmouth. There were no more severance issues and residents and holiday makers alike were able to safely cross the main street without having to wait for a gap in the incessant lines of vehicles.

How Chideock envies Charmouth with its bypass, made all the more poignant by the fact that in 1994 following a Public Enquiry, Chideock was also given permission for a bypass. Sadly that permission was never to be turned into reality and was revoked in 1997. The bypass and all the relief that would have accompanied it were 'So near, and yet so far'.

Yet so much of the Inspector's conclusions from that Public Enquiry are still true today, in particular when he described the condition of the A35 between Chideock and Morecombelake as not fit for purpose. In the past 24 years no upgrades have been made, leaving this section in a condition of 24 years older and even less fit for purpose.

The Inspector also commented:

• I am in no doubt that all sections of the road are seriously substandard and inadequate. (108.4)

• In particular, I take the view that the road does not offer pedestrians, motorists or other road users the level of safety or facility which they may reasonably expect. (108.5)

In Chideock unfortunately we still have to suffer from the excessive traffic, the safety issues, large stretches where there is no pavement, air pollution levels similar to that found in major cities, and the damage being caused to some wonderful Grade II listed buildings located only a few feet from 40tonne juggernauts thundering between the ports of Plymouth and Southampton along the only south coast east – west trunk road.

One Chideock resident sums up the situation very well when he says "How I enjoy the bus trip to Lyme Regis, when we come off the bypass and drive through Charmouth with its pubs, cafes, bakery, fish and chip shop, and small shops selling all sorts of things. I think how lucky are the residents of Charmouth to enjoy such an array of local shops and businesses on an uncrowded and quiet road, where one can sit outside and watch the world go by over a cup of coffee. Charmouth is a village where you know your local doctor and where, if necessary, you can walk to your local chemist for your prescription. I suspect that many Charmouth residents fear the frequent traffic disruption through Chideock when travelling to Bridport or Dorchester and no doubt think "Glad I don't live in Chideock".

Or the thoughts of another local resident remembering pre-bypass Charmouth with "the fear of runaway lorries" and of "the silence in the village on the day the bypass opened". He also felt that local businesses had benefitted from the bypass partly because before the bypass there had been double yellow lines down the main street making parking for shopping more difficult.

The A35 through Chideock was designed for the horse and cart, and today nobody would consider building such a road through a village main street closely lined with homes where the only access is via hills of 12% and 15% gradients. Yet this is precisely the current status of Chideock except that the road no longer carries horse and cart but now carries some 5.8 million vehicles a year. Of this, between 4% and 10% are 44 tonnes trucks and this number is growing due to the increase in container activity between Southampton, Poole and Plymouth. All trucks on this route travel through Chideock and some struggle to climb those steep hills going west and east.



Photo reputedly from the 1920s – incredibly only a few years before the first Chideock Bypass was considered.



Photo (almost the same view) is, of course, much more recent!! Taken May 2017

But this is not solely about Chideock, for the A35 has suffered from years of underinvestment despite it being designated as a 'Strategic Highway'. It has been downgraded to low priority, with money only being spent when absolutely necessary. Yet for Dorset, East Devon and the southwest peninsula it is a lifeline both commercially by connecting the ports of southern England, and economically by servicing tourism which is now the major industry in West Dorset and with visitor numbers steadily growing.

The A35 is a road blighted almost incessantly with disruption due to roadworks, incidents and accidents. It is simply not possible to carry out roadworks during the day at any time of year without causing large traffic delays. Part of this problem is that there are no alternative routes in the area suitable to take 'A Road' traffic and as traffic growth continues so will the problem of maintenance and road closures. For Chideock (like Charmouth 30 years previously) a bypass would provide a relief valve to this section of the A35 providing safer and more reliable journey times; enabling all of the Emergency Services far better access and removing the need to direct traffic via the A303.

Again (as with Charmouth 30 years ago) the traffic is the major cause of all the other problems faced by the village residents. Remove the traffic and all the other problems go away. Highway England's "Road to Growth" shows that the AADT flow for the A35 Honiton to Ringwood exceeds 20,000 vehicles, the same as parts of the A27, A14 and A303. It also records 50K to 100K hours of delay for the A35 Bridport to Honiton, the same as A303, A31, A27 and M20. These areas already have bypasses and dual carriageways so surely Chideock should also be considered for similar improvements.

So what of public opinion within Chideock? Naturally enough (as with Charmouth 30 years ago) there are those who feel it would adversely affect the businesses within the village. This is a concern not borne out by the Charmouth experience where all businesses flourished with no adverse effects arising from the bypass. In fact it would appear that trade has actually improved and there is certainly no evidence that tourism has diminished.

Within Chideock there have been several attempts in the last 30 years to determine village opinion on what is undoubtedly a 'hot topic' amongst residents. Since 1978 there have been 6 formal village surveys / polls with every one returning an overwhelming majority in favour of a bypass.

But Chideock residents do not only want a bypass for their benefit, although one would undoubtedly improve village life immensely, rather believing that all users of the A35 would benefit immensely from the construction of a village bypass. After all it is true that the A35 provides a transport corridor vital to the continuing economic development of this region and of the West Country as a whole. The A35 extends 97 miles from Honiton to Southampton and apart from a few isolated exceptions (such as the Charmouth bypass) remains a single track road with many pinch-points. However the case that Chideock makes very strongly is that for relatively small investment offering extremely good value for money Highways England could remove one such pinch-point leading to improved journey times for tourists; locals and business purposes alike and help to conserve the beauty of one of West Dorset's most picturesque villages.

If you feel that you would like to know more about the Chideock bypass and perhaps support the cause then please visit our website at www.chideockbypass.co.uk where much current and historical information is readily available as well as a small and informal survey of opinion for a bypass.

Returning to my initial "Dickensian" theme some commentators have suggested that in the broadest sense, at the end of his novel Dickens foresaw, following the French Revolution, a resurrected social order arising from the ashes of the old one. Perhaps Highways England might consider the huge benefits offered to the A35 and its surrounding populations by making those overdue investments in genuinely making the A35 a 'South Coast Highway' truly fit for purpose arising from the ashes of the current road.

George Dunn

Cohousing and Community Land Trusts - a different approach to housing today.

Affordable housing (or rather, the lack of it) is getting a lot of attention in the press today. Here in West Dorset, on the beautiful Jurassic Coast especially, house prices have been pushed constantly upwards, mainly due to the desirability of living close to the sea for those who have good retirement pensions or who are able to afford a second home for holidays. Charmouth, Lyme Regis and Bridport are all suffering from a lack of affordable housing and young families starting out on the housing ladder are finding it increasingly difficult to be able to put down roots in a town or village they grew up in and love.

In Bridport, around ten years ago, a group of local people came together to talk about how they might be able to get homes built for people on low incomes and keep those properties affordable for future generations. Their solution was to form a **Community Land Trust** in order to keep the homes that they planned to build safe from speculative purchasers. The freehold of the land they bought for development is asset locked, which means that 20% of the equity of the properties is always kept in the hands of the CLT. Homes can be bought more cheaply at 80% of open market value, but they can only ever be sold at 80% and this keeps them cheaper for generations to come.

Lyme Regis CLT recently got national attention when it built 15 affordable homes for rent on Garmans Field. Next summer **Bridport Cohousing CLT** will build 53 all affordable ecohomes with access to a common house and shared amenity land, for leasehold purchase, or for rent, on a site next to the Community Hospital in North Allington, Bridport.

Why is cohousing different? All the members become shareholders when they join - they collectively own the freehold of the land that the houses will be built on, and they collectively manage and run the whole enterprise, which includes a common house - an extra shared amenity building - and a large area of shared land for gardening and recreation. While cohousing developments are designed to encourage community, residents still have their own private home and garden and are able to choose how much they engage in order to find the right balance between their privacy and the community.

More details can be found on their website
www.bridportcohousing.org.uk

Community-led developments are becoming more and more popular as people start to realise that the only way to change a system that is not working for everybody is to do it yourself. Community land trusts are a good way for providing much needed affordable housing, both in large towns and cities, and small rural areas. There is plenty of information available for groups wanting to explore the possibilities and new government funding available to encourage start up groups. See www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk

Lin Scrannage

CHARMOUTH YOUTH CLUB

Charmouth Youth Club is starting an exciting new phase and you can help shape its future!

You may have noticed more activity at the Youth Club building on Wesley Close recently after a couple of years of quieter times. The regular drop in youth club nights stopped when Dorset County Council closed nearly all youth clubs and centres in 2016, effectively removing youth workers and also the day to day funding. Luckily, here in Charmouth the building is owned by the community and held in trust for the children and young people of the village and so for the last two years the dedicated committee has kept the building open by hiring it out to local groups and for children's parties and other events.

This has just about covered the running costs of the site and along with some donations from the Parish Council, Charmouth Events and from Jackie and Katy's table top sale we have managed to make a few improvements here and there. We are most grateful for any assistance and this is where you come in!

We really want to open the youth club again for its drop in nights but we need help from the community. Eventually we want to reinstate the qualified youth workers who will be supported by a team of volunteers. Here are some things you could do that could help us achieve our plan:

1. Donate or help us raise funds. We are a charity so we can receive donations. You could also help us run a fundraising event or run one yourself. We are open to suggestions and can provide help before and during the event.
2. Give your expertise. We are trying to make the Youth Club look great inside and out. A couple of local tradespeople have offered free time to help us but more are always needed. If you have experience in painting and decorating, electrics, carpentry or would help us clearing or deep cleaning, please get in touch. We hope to arrange a few weekends when several of us can all work together.
3. Hire the club. Spread the word, the Youth Club is available for hire! It has a sports hall which is marked out as a basketball and badminton court but is great for other ball games and physical activities. It is also used as a space for parties and events. There is a back room which is perfect for small groups, meetings or band rehearsals and also a kitchen space for making a cuppa or preparing food. There is a pool table and TV as well.
4. Join the Trustees. We have recently expanded the committee but are always interested to hear from anyone

who can add their expertise or experience particularly around youth and community work or fundraising.

5. Volunteer. You can apply to become a regular volunteer to help run our Youth Club nights once they start again. Due to the nature of this, there are checks and training that you would need to go through but this work can be rewarding and exciting.
6. Become a sponsor. We have recently been approached by a local business owner, Louise Thresher, who has volunteered to help us coordinate a sponsor scheme. Having local businesses or individuals pledging regular annual funds could instantly secure the future of the Youth Club and help us improve what's on offer to the local young people.



So come on Charmouth people, you are wonderful at getting behind causes and making the community work together for great results!

We have a dedicated space where young people can get together, play, plan and execute some of their ideas so please contact me if you can help in any way.



Pete Wild, Chair of Trustees - Charmouth Youth Club

01297 560030, 07949 923834 or peter@thebeachrooms.co.uk

Youth Club Hire

Please contact Polly on 01297 560030 or 07890 629117. You can also email on charmouthyouthclub@gmail.com

Hire fee is £15 for a 4/5 hour session or £25 for a whole day.

Last minute one hour bookings can be made on bad weather days for £5 per hour.

New Logo

We are very pleased to reveal our new logo, which has been created to celebrate the new developments at Charmouth Youth Club.

Ruben Wild, aged 13 has designed it from his original drawing along with help from professional graphic designer and website builder Surya Osborne from Just So Media.

We hope it reflects our values of enabling all young people of whatever background, and whoever they choose to be, to enjoy their place in this small community in a growing modern world.

Pete Wild





Spicy and Fruity Slow-roasted Shoulder of Lamb

A great dish for a dinner party or family Christmas meal, as you can prepare it the day before, pop it in the fridge and just bring back to room temperature before putting into the oven, leaving it to fill the house with the wonderful aromatic smells whilst you have a long soak before your guests arrive!

I double up the spice mix, and freeze half of it, ready to use another day.

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 4 hours

Total time: 4 hours 20 minutes

1 shoulder of lamb

INGREDIENTS:

4 red onions, peeled and quartered
4 garlic cloves, peeled and chopped
2 tsp ground cumin
2 tsp ground coriander
1/2 tsp ground turmeric
1/2 tsp chilli flakes
4 anchovy fillets, drained and chopped
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tsp ground black pepper
50g unsalted butter
150ml dry white wine
1tbsp redcurrant jelly
12 prunes

METHOD:

1. Blitz together garlic, spices, anchovy, lemon juice and butter to a rough paste.
2. Pat the lamb dry and score the skin. Place into a large roasting tin.
3. Spread the paste over the lamb skin and rub in well. Leave for 30 minutes to marinade
4. Cover loosely with foil and

cook gas Mark 3 /160 C for 1 hour. Remove from oven and baste with any juices in the tin.

5. Mix together the wine and redcurrant jelly with 100ml boiling water and pour around the lamb. Spread the prunes and quartered red onions around the tin.
 6. Cover the lamb with double foil and seal well.
 7. Return to the oven gas Mark 2 /150C for approximately 3 hours, basting once.
 8. Remove from the oven and put the lamb onto a hot dish and keep covered. Put the onions and prunes into an ovenproof dish and pop back into the oven.
 9. Remove the fat from the remaining juices which are poured into a pan and reduced for a lovely sauce.
 10. To serve, shred the lamb and place on a bed of the onion and prunes. Pour over the juices.
 11. To complement the dish, serve with a selection of green vegetables and cauliflower 'mash'.
- Tip: When you have removed the lamb, red onion and prunes from the roasting pan, place several ice cubes into the pan to absorb some of the fat. Remove and discard, taking care not to put the fat down the sink!

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For further details or to arrange a visit please contact the Registered Manager Amy Blacklock on 01297 560620.

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Friday 28th December 9.00 - 7.00
Saturday 29th December 8.30 - 1.30
Back to normal opening hours Thursday 3rd January

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Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



Once again, we have had our busiest year and we haven't reached the end yet! So far this year we have seen over 139,000 people through the door by the end of October. All our events in the summer were fully booked and on three separate days in August we saw over 2,000 people in the Centre. It is safe to say that our extra member of staff this year was needed. We must say a huge thank you to all our volunteers who were on the front line with many of our visitors.

It has been an exceptional year, with the Attenborough Sea Dragon arriving and we are happy to announce Chris Moore will be keeping it on display with us for another year! Local artist Darrell Wakelam came in July to help re-create the missing head of the Sea Dragon. The Junior Rangers and members of the public helped shape the dragon's head over a day and the finished skull will go on display over this winter.

The BBC4 'Beach Live' programme no doubt also brought in a lot of new visitors to the village. We saw about 43,000 visitors to the Centre in August alone. I think Charmouth is now firmly on the map for fossil hunting!

We have tried some new and successful Citizen Science Projects this year, so we are looking to schedule more of these for next year. We are really hoping to get more people in the Charmouth community involved, as all the surveying goes towards research for organisations such as the Marine Conservation Society and Natural History Museum, so keep a look out on our website calendar and social media for these events. We also joined forces with Plastic Free Charmouth to

do a beach clean in October, which was well attended with 38 people, some coming from as far as Plymouth!

We said goodbye to two of our long-serving volunteers in October. Stephen Skinner who has served 10 years with us and Pauline Berridge who has been with us a whopping 32 years! Stephen is off to pastures new, so we wish him all the best. We will still see Pauline about the village, but we wish to thank both for all their hard work and support over the years.

We have a book signing at the Centre on Saturday 1st December 11am-1pm. This is your chance to meet authors Steve Snowball and Craig Chivers who will be on hand to answer any questions and sign copies of their new book 'A Guide to Fossil Collecting on the West Dorset Coast'. All the authors' profits will go towards our Charity.

We are now going into our off-peak months, whereby the Centre will open Friday-Mondays. During the week we will be renovating the Centre, making new displays and working on our schools' programme. We are happy to announce the appointment of a fourth warden this winter, Anna Holbrook, who will be developing the schools' programme alongside Sophie Thomas.

The Centre will shut down from Monday 17th December to Boxing Day and New Year's Day to Saturday 5th January. The Centre will open between Boxing Day and New Year's Eve at reduced opening times of 10.30am-3.30pm. Fossil walks will not be running over the Christmas period. (All our opening times and closures will be on our website events calendar.)

Ali Ferris, Deputy Senior Warden

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.



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L to R: Ros Cole, Pauline Berridge & Phil Davidson

My Farewell to Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre

The day came, which was on Friday 26th October, when I was going to the Centre at 1:30-4:30PM for my last session on the desk, after volunteering there for more than 32 years. The afternoon had just started when Phil walked in holding a big bouquet of flowers for me, which was such a lovely surprise. I was on duty with Ros Cole, so a picture was taken of the three of us together. It became a busy afternoon with many families, and others coming in, with good sales. Just after 4pm some friends started to come in, and I was so happy to see them, not thinking anything about the fact they were there to give me a good send-off. We had cake, and I was given a lovely card made by Bill Burn (which I plan to frame), with so many kind messages written by the volunteers. There were more pictures taken, then that was it!! Finished!! I shall be around for any talks and events at the Centre, so will see the friends from time to time.

Let me go back now to my memories of 1986, when the Centre was opened to receive visitors, and needed volunteers behind the desk. I can only recall three other ladies who were there: Pat Stapleton (still living in the village) and Edna Smith (they were on the Parish Council), and Pat Davy. It was all very basic, and we couldn't open much, especially in the winter months because it was very cold in the building. Richard Edmonds was our first Warden, who stayed with us for 11 years. I remember his office was small but cluttered with fossils, papers, so much so that he couldn't move. They put a small fish tank on a table with a sign 'There are 10 objects in here; can you spot them?' This is all I can say about the early years.

So the years rolled by with the forming of the working party, new displays were made, murals painted, the desk moved a few times, the theatre built, cabinets bought to show the exciting finds. So much hard work has been done through the years to make it an attractive place to visit. I have met and worked with so many Wardens, permanent and seasonal, seeing them come and go (too many to name). After we obtained the HLF grant, the wonderful education room was added.

It has been a very happy time in my life being a volunteer, and a privilege to be part of the Heritage Coast Centre. As one of the messages on the card said 'how many people I must have greeted and talked to in all these years.' The Centre, in my opinion, is one of the best Heritage centres, certainly in the south of England. We have a great team of wardens headed by Phil and the Sea Dragon display that has brought in so many visitors. The highlight was two years ago when I felt proud to be part of the presentation of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. What an achievement for our Centre. It can only go from strength to strength to make us all feel proud of such a wonderful place to visit on this beautiful Jurassic Coast in our village of Charmouth. I wish you all the best for the future.

Pauline Berridge

Ammonites – Depth Control

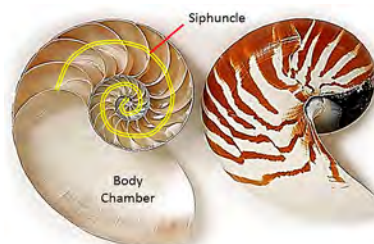
How did Ammonites change their depth in the sea?

The Nautilus is our model for Ammonites

The chambered Nautilus lives along the slopes of coral reefs in the tropical Indo-Pacific region. In the day it moves to deeper waters (>200m) to avoid predators. At night it ascends to the coral reefs (<100m) to hunt for prey.

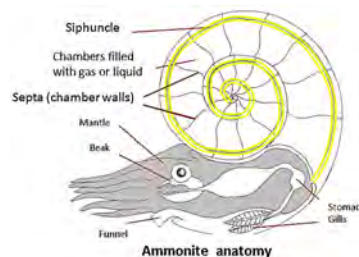


Nautilus lives in the Body Chamber, the most recent in a series of chambers which form as it grows. The chambers are connected by a tube (the **siphuncle**) which contains an extension of the body tissues.

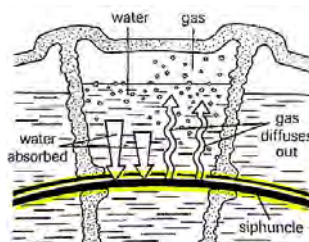


The Siphuncle is central in Nautilus (above & right) but in Ammonites it lies at the edge of the chambers (top right).

The Siphuncle has a semi-permeable membrane which allows gas and water to cross - but not salts, sugars & proteins. Chambers are filled initially with sea water.



Nautilus modifies the acidity and salt content of the blood within the siphuncle – creating an osmotic gradient whereby water is absorbed into the blood, thus reducing the pressure within the chamber and causing gas to diffuse out of the blood



into the chamber. This increases the buoyancy of the shell which then rises slowly.

We must assume Ammonites did the same.

Geoff Townson: www.geofftownson.co.uk

Shoreline creatures



Sea Anemones

Found in pools of water among rocks in the zone covered by sea at high tide, but uncovered at low tide, sea anemones can be seen as some of the more attractive creatures of the littoral zone. Being flower-shaped, sea anemones are named after the well-known and pretty garden plant. They have interesting descriptive names such as beadlet, strawberry, snake-locks, daisy and trumpet. The first three are common in rock pools along the local coastline.

As members of the Phylum Cnidaria, sea anemones belong to a group of soft-bodied invertebrates in the class Anthozoa, order Actinaria. They are related to other soft-bodied animals such as jelly-fish and corals, although the latter secrete hard structures in which colonies of coral polyps live, providing wonderful habitats for many other marine creatures.

Seen at low tide, beadlet anemones are about 3cm tall when contracted but can extend to about 7cm when under water, and are about 6cm across. With about 200 tentacles which can extend to 2cm in length, snake-locks anemones are larger and can reach up to 10cm but often look fairly squat.

Despite the absence of a hard, internal skeleton these interesting marine invertebrates have a fairly consistent cylindrical shape. The body is soft and fleshy; it consists of a base which can adhere to a hard surface, a column-like stalk with a circle of unbranched tentacles surrounding a central mouth at the top. Being flexible, they can bend, stretch, 'buckle' or contract down to a small pyramid; such movements are controlled by complex sets of muscles. Although usually sessile, sea anemones may crawl from one surface to another in response to currents, light, availability of food or even rival anemones. If really irritated, they can 'barge' another anemone off its rock. Some species can swim to a certain extent.

Having no hard parts in their bodies, anemones have hydrostatic skeletons; their shape is maintained by the pressure of fluid inside the body contained within membranes. Due to this lack of hard parts, the potential for fossilisation of anemones is extremely limited.

Most sea anemones are solitary and attach to hard surfaces such as rocks, shells or sometimes broad seaweeds. A small

number are 'parasitic' with the base firmly glued to another organism such as the shell of a hermit crab, which provides free transport. A few species can partially burrow into soft sediment with their tentacles protruding from the surface. With effective camouflage, they can prey on smaller animals. The sea anemones found in Charmouth and the local area are generally of the solitary type and found in rock pools, on the underside of rocks or in crevices.

All sea anemones are carnivorous, catching prey with their tentacles. They feed on small fish, mussels, worms, small crustaceans and zooplankton. The method used for catching prey is interesting as it involves specially adapted cells on the tentacles. If a prey animal touches a sensory area, it can cause a specialised cell to 'fire' a harpoon-like structure which passes into the prey and injects poison. The prey is unlikely to escape this assault! Many tentacles guide the prey into the mouth and digestion takes place. If touched by a human hand, some people may experience a sting which, for most, is just a minor irritant.

Sea anemones can be food for some kinds of fish, sea slugs and some marine gastropods (snails). However, with few predators, they can live for a long time – in captivity for 60 – 80 years! In some countries, species such as snake-locks are a delicacy for human, but it is unlikely you will find them in a local restaurant here.

To reproduce, one anemone can simply divide into two separate individuals over a period of about four days. However, sexual reproduction can occur when a fertilized egg develops into a larva which is dispersed in the plankton; it will eventually settle and grow into a polyp.

Sea anemones can be kept well in captivity and examples can be found in the tanks at the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. Here you can see beadlet anemones which, when contracted, have a small circle of 24 bright blue spots ('beadlets') outside the area of tentacles. The body is generally red, brown or greenish but one of the species is red with cream-coloured spots, known as the strawberry anemone. Snake-locks anemones can also be seen in the tank and have successfully produced at least 20 offspring. Fully grown snake-locks have about 150-170 tentacles which are 5-12 cm in length and wave around but cannot be fully retracted; these anemones are usually greenish or greyish, sometimes with fluorescent purple tips. Do enjoy watching the sea anemones in the marine tanks at the CHCC; all creatures kept there are returned to areas of rock pools at the end of the season.

Rosalind Cole



Photos: Rosalind Cole

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Beach Live: Jurassic Coast Revealed

Between 17th and 19th July, Charmouth beach played host to three live one-hour episodes of BBC's 'Beach Live: Jurassic Coast Revealed'. With Golden Cap as a glorious backdrop, the programmes aimed to inspire audiences to learn more about the Jurassic Coast, the 95-mile World Heritage site that is world-famous for its geology and its fossils. The presenter, historian Dan Snow, teamed up with natural history experts Lucy Cooke and Niall Strawson to explore subjects as wide-ranging as molluscs, shipwrecks and fossils. Amongst the resident experts were Dr. Anjana Khatwa of the Jurassic Coast Trust team, who explained the geology of the Jurassic Coast; Nigel Clarke, who talked about the many shipwrecks in Lyme Bay; and in the 'Discovery Centre' (Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre), fossil hunter Chris Moore and Niall Strawson discussed fossils, including Lizzie Hingley's large spiny ammonite. Charmouth's Scelidosaurus, the best preserved dinosaur in the UK, which had previously been seen on 'Fossil Detectives' (2002) and 'Dinosaur Britain' (2015), was also featured and paleontologist Dr. David Norman explained how it lived and which creatures might have hunted it. Residents and visitors gathered enthusiastically on the beach to watch the filming and groups of local people were spectators in the 'Discovery Centre' on each of the three nights, whilst viewers across the country were invited to submit photographs and ask questions about their beach finds. The aim of the programme was to ensure that people never view a beach in the same way again.



Credit: Pauline Ferrick-Squibb/Lulworth Estate

'Beach Live' Resident Expert Geologist

Dr. Anjana Khatwa, Earth Scientist, is Programme Manager for Learning at the Jurassic Coast Trust in Bridport. Her television appearances have included 'Treasures of the Earth: Metals' and 'Fossil Detectives', part of which was filmed in Charmouth. In BBC4's three-part series 'Beach Live', she was given the role of Resident Expert Geologist and was filmed live at Charmouth beach and Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre (tagged the 'Discovery Centre') between 17th and 19th July. She also appeared live on BBC's Breakfast television and the 'One Show' on the opening day of 'Beach Live'. She generously found time to talk between shoots and this is what she told me:

"Two or three months ago I received a phone call from the producers of Voltage TV after they saw a showreel I had produced for the BBC's Natural History Unit. It was a wonderful surprise to be asked to work on 'Beach Live' and an honour to talk about the Jurassic Coast to a wide audience on such a prestigious production. I'm supporting the presenters, Dan Snow, Lucy Cooke and Niall Strawson, with their narrations and stories by helping them to understand the context of the wildlife, social history and fossils they discuss on the programme. For a geologist like me, some of those stories get missed out. I am thoroughly enjoying meeting amazing people and being in an environment that celebrates this incredible coastline and allows me to have a platform to show my enthusiasm. You can see it in my face, can't you... Give me a rock and I'm happy! I live and breathe earth sciences. I woke up at 05.30am to be on BBC Breakfast.

At eight years of age I wanted to be an astronaut, but I knew that wasn't going to happen, so I changed my focus to rocks and fossils. From the age of 10, I collected rocks and decided to study science. It's been an enormous privilege to have come from Slough, where I was born and grew up, and travel across the world with my career. Now I'm on the Jurassic Coast, one of the best places in the world to study, research and communicate my love for geology. I've always been passionate about science communication, but after having a family

and moving house I thought my involvement with television presenting was over. When I got a call to appear on 'Beach Live', it was such a surprise. What it has actually done is to renew my passion for more television work like this.

Essentially, the Jurassic Coast is a geological marvel and a strong brand, which 'Beach Live' will present in a really beautiful light. The UNESCO World Heritage Jurassic Coast showcases 185 million years of geological history and is uniquely special because of its rocks, fossils and landforms. In addition, the programme aims to reveal and showcase some surprising interrelated elements. Niall Strawson and I will be out on a boat and we'll retrace the steps that I took in 'Fossil Detectives'. Charmouth is especially in the limelight in the third programme, when they focus on the Scelidosaurus and the role it has played in the understanding of fossils in the Blue Lias clays and shales. Now here's a real puzzle. Why did a land-based dinosaur that ate plants end up packed right at the level of the marine sediment? The programme will reveal that story. Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre is in a unique position of having a replica of David Sole's Scelidosaurus [the original is in Bristol Museum], which was featured in the BBC's 'Fossil Detectives' series, and Chris Moore's Ichthyosaurus from BBC1's recent 'Attenborough's Sea Dragon' documentary. They are two unique specimens for people to come and see, then they can go straight onto the beach to discover their own fossils. You don't need a chisel or a hammer; your eyes are the best tool and there's no one to say that you couldn't find the next really gigantic specimen.

The Jurassic Coast Trust is a fantastic outward-looking local charity that plays a part in celebrating the heritage of this beautiful coastline now and for the future so that we can pass on the legacy to the next generation and the generation after that. We have a 15-year record of an extraordinarily successful educational programme and are always looking for people to support us and spread that love about rocks, fossils and landforms to others they meet. Since the Jurassic Coast Trust moved to Bridport and took on charitable status, it has entered a new era. I feel an immense sense of creative freedom; almost as if someone has fired a cannon; my ideas don't stop! It's a gift for someone like me: a scientist at heart but also a creative person who is passionate about helping others to enjoy and appreciate this incredible site. I love the opportunity to explore learning in all its forms, with children and adults from all walks of life.

One of the key aspects that the Jurassic Coast Trust really champions is out of season tourism. The beach is so busy during the summer, but the unique selling point is that the best time to look for fossils is during the less busy winter months. People come here from all over the world to experience walking in the footsteps of Mary Anning and Henry de la Beche."

Lesley Dunlop

The Jurassic Coast Trust is now based at Mountfield, Rax Lane, Bridport DT6 3JP (phone: 01308 807000).

Reading the Rocks

Lizzie Hingley, owner of Stonebarrow Fossils, has become one of the dedicated fossil hunters based on the Jurassic Coast. In July she was featured on the third and final programme of 'Beach Live', discussing with wildlife presenter and biologist Niall Strawson the spiny *Apoderoceras ammonite* she discovered on Charmouth beach. You can see this spectacular specimen, which she meticulously prepared, at the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. She has loaned it to the centre as an example of one of the more unusual ammonites from the area.

A philosophy-focused Fine Art graduate of the University of Brighton, Lizzie designed and created display props for leading London stores and gift shops before setting up her own freelance business in 2013, when she could count the Natural History Museum and the Houses of Parliament amongst her clients. Her exciting and colourful artwork is also available online and through the Evergreen Art Café in Daventry.

Lizzie splits her time between Charmouth, where she hunts specimens and Oxfordshire, where she has a fossil preparation workshop. She goes searching on the beach when it's stormy and the tides are high. Here's her story:

"I've been coming to Charmouth since I was five or six. Walking on Monmouth beach with my mum when I was 10, I was lucky enough to find the very end of an ichthyosaur jaw, which really sparked my interest in fossils. I began selling (mainly small pyritised) ammonites after completing my degree when I began to run out of room to house my growing collection. My life changed dramatically when I lost both my partner and mother within a short period. Needing to turn attention to other things, I invested in professional preparation equipment and focused on learning about the fossil-bearing rocks and how to prepare

them. My practical art background helps in the presentation of the specimens I prepare.

I find and prepare most of the fossils I work on, but I also prepare fossils for other people. Having worked outside for the first year. I then set up a workshop in Oxfordshire and I'm planning to open another locally in the near future.

I'm one of a small band of local fossil hunters scouring the beach. We work for ourselves, but help each other when there's something too big to haul off the beach. I haven't yet found anything too large or too difficult to recover – there's always a way! I have always been very interested in fossils and it's exciting to be working full-time in this interesting subject. It's a continuous learning process – you never know what you're going to find next trip. It was especially exciting to be part of the 'Beach Live' TV series."

Lizzie is also a leader with the UK Association of Fossil Hunters, which the largest amateur group of its type in the UK and open for anyone to join.

Lesley Dunlop



The 'Beach Live' team positions Lizzie's 15" *Apoderoceras ammonite*



Lizzie Hingley and Niall Strawson on 'Beach Live'



Charmouth's Scelidosaurus (the 'Charmouth Dinosaur') and the Utah Connection

In planning our recent trip to the US Midwest to see the magnificent National and State Parks, Bob factored in several fossil and dinosaur-related locations. One was to the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm in southwestern Utah. In 2000, during levelling work on his property, landowner Dr. Sheldon Johnson uncovered a thick layer of sandstone rock. Closer inspection of this rock layer revealed a track of three-dimensional dinosaur footprints on its surface. That track was one of hundreds that were later found nearby, made by dinosaurs and other creatures nearly 200 million years ago in what was then the shore of an early Jurassic lake. Dr. Johnson and his wife subsequently donated the tracks and made arrangements for the land on which they lay to be cared for by the City of St. George. In 2005, a major donation and matching grants supported the construction of a museum directly over the site where these trace fossils were discovered. In 2016, a

boardwalk was built, enabling visitors to walk above the trackways and view the ripple-marked surfaces that bear evidence of dinosaurs walking, running, squatting and wading, as well as marks left behind by their dragging tails. The inclusion of many dinosaur bones, fish and other fossils make a visit to the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site a must if you are in Utah. But before we even entered the museum, we spotted a large sign on the outside that took our breath away. It announced that within its doors was a *Scelidosaurus*, described as 'the only *Scelidosaurus* in the Americas'! Once inside, it all became clear. Their specimen was, in fact, a duplicate of our own dinosaur cast displayed at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, taken from the original specimen which has been described as the most complete dinosaur so far found in Britain. I asked David Sole, the collector who discovered it, to explain how the replica found its way to Utah:

"This all began in September 2010 with an email from Professor Jerry Harris from St. George, Utah, sent on behalf of his local museum to the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre asking if it was possible to obtain a copy of the *Scelidosaurus* cast displayed there. The Centre's Phil Davidson gave him my contact details and this resulted in Jerry writing to me, explaining his interest in obtaining such a cast. He told me about their amazing site at Johnson Farm near St. George which contained hundreds of dinosaur tracks in Lower Jurassic rocks of about the same age as the cliffs at Charmouth where the *Scelidosaurus* was found. I must admit I rather liked the idea of at least a cast of a UK dinosaur being featured at a museum in the USA, where such huge numbers of superb dinosaurs have been found over the years, in contrast to the tiny number of near complete specimens in the UK. Also, of course - an exciting thought - it is possible that a Lower Jurassic *Scelidosaurus* (or similar animal) might have left its footprints in ➤


that Lower Jurassic footprint site in the USA all those millions of years ago! As it happened, I did have a cast available at that time; its purchase was soon agreed and it was despatched to St. George at the end of the year. I was, and remain, very pleased that it found such a good home!

The original specimen is on display at Bristol City Museum, to which it is currently on loan. My hope is to bring it back to Dorset one day (preferably to West Dorset) where it could join other outstanding 'Jurassic Coast' fossils in a much-needed new museum, situated close to where the majority of such fossils have been found if possible, and of a standard worthy of this coast's World Heritage status."

I also asked Andrew Milner, Site Paleontologist/Curator at the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm for his comments:


"We were extremely fortunate to have donor Jinks Dabney forward the money so that we could purchase the Scelidosaurus replica from David Sole. Paleontologist, Dr. Jerry Harris from Dixie State University here in St. George, made all the arrangements to complete the deal, so a big thanks to him as well! There are several reasons why this Scelidosaurus replica is so important for our museum. First of all, it is an Early Jurassic dinosaur, although slightly younger than our track site at the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site (204-198 million years old from the Moenave Formation). It is strongly agreed upon that Scelidosaurus, or a closely related dinosaur, produced a dinosaur track type called Moyaenisauropus, and we have many examples of Moyaenisauropus in the overlying Kayenta Formation and Navajo Sandstone (195-180 million years old). Having the only example of Scelidosaurus in the Americas, where only fragmentary remains have been found, is great for visitors to see and visualise what kinds of animals were walking around southern Utah during the Early Jurassic! It's really important for paleontologists as well!"

Lesley Dunlop



The Bare Bones

Scelidosaurus harrisonii
(skeh-LIH-doh-SAWR-us HAIR-ih-SOH-nee-eye, "Harrison's limb reptile")



© John Sibbick; used with permission

Who: Discovered by geologist James Harrison in 1858
Why: Named for its strong hind limb bones
When: Lived during the Early Jurassic (about 194 million years ago)
Where: All fossils of this plant-eater have been found near Charmouth and Lyme Regis on the southwestern coast of England.

The first specimen of *Scelidosaurus* was discovered near Charmouth, England. Beach cliffs in this area expose 185-200 million-year-old rocks deposited in an ancient shallow ocean. Since 1858, about a dozen other specimens of *Scelidosaurus* have been found, all from this same area in southwestern England. The newest discovery, found in 2000, is the most complete and best specimen yet. The replica you see in this exhibit is of this new specimen.

February 2000 was also when St. George resident and retired optometrist Dr. Sheldon Johnson discovered the fossil footprints seen in this museum!

Animal or Plant?

Volunteers and staff at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre are sometimes asked whether a find is animal or plant in origin.

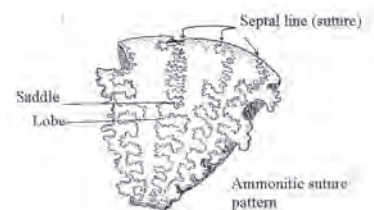
This piece of limestone from Charmouth beach shows an intriguing squiggly pattern which has a plant-like growth pattern – well worth picking up and puzzling over!



Viewing this sample from one end reveals the cross-section of part of a large ammonite. The chambers and chamber walls (septa) are sometimes revealed if an ammonite is sliced open



The septa can be very corrugated where they join the shell (increasing the overall strength). It is these septal lines or sutures which can have a plant-like pattern, as below and in the Charmouth sample.



Geoff Townson: www.geofftownson.co.uk



Those Were the (Fossiling) Days



Ray in 1951

Ray Jennings was an enthusiastic and highly successful fossil collector, preparator and exhibitor, who made regular visits to Charmouth beach from the early 1960s until the late 1970s from his home in Hampshire. Most weekends year-round, and on occasional weekdays when his gardening work allowed, Ray drove to Charmouth, sometimes before dawn, to spend time doing what he loved. Armed with a hammer and guidance from local worthy Barney Hansford, owner of Charmouth Fossil & Country Life Exhibition, Ray recorded in his diaries notes of his early forays and truly impressive ammonite fossil finds.



Wife Peggy's fossil exhibition in Lymington, early 1970s

Ray's daughter, Cherry Barlow, kindly gave me access to one of his five-year diaries (1965-1969), from which I've extracted a few eye-opening entries from the days when very few fossil collectors were to be found on the beach.

19 Mar 1966 – Filming with Olly Kite. [Ray, his wife Peggy, also a keen collector, and children Cherry and Tim subsequently appeared in an episode of 'Kite's Country' on Southern TV. Oliver Kite, a popular broadcaster and naturalist of the 1960s, looked on whilst they searched for fossils on Charmouth beach.]

3 Sep 1966 – Charmouth at 6.30am. Collected 26 *Asteroceras Obtusums*.

10 Sep 1966 – Black Ven all day. Collected 8 *Obtusums*, 10 *Promicroceras Planicostas* and 1 *Microderoceras Birchi* 7" diameter, white.

15 Dec 1966 – Collected 1 large *Obtusum* in situ, Stonebarrow.

28 Dec 1966 – Black Ven. Found large fish [*Dapedium*] in *Septarian* nodule.

28 Feb 1967 – 19'6" tide. Storm force winds. Tide height about 25-27'.

5 May 1967 – Collected several *Promicroceras Planicostas*, *Obtusums* and 1 *Amioceras*.

31 Jan 1968 – Black Ven. Collected a very large *Asteroceras* in woodstone, 17½" in diameter. Sold through Sotheby's; in a gallery in Switzerland.

20 Dec 1968 – Gales and high tides.

Collected 27 *Asteroceras*.

6 Jan 1969 – Collected 6 *Asteroceras*.

8 Jan 1969 – Collected 14 *Asteroceras* and 6 *Arnioceras*.

11 Jan 1969 – Collected 9 *Asteroceras* and 2 *Arnioceras*.

In the late 1970s, Ray and Peggy decided to sell some of their best



Ray with fossil preparator Andy Cowap at Shoreline's hugely successful Meet the Charmouth Fossil Hunters event in 2010

specimens at Sotheby's in London. A number ended up in the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C., a source of pride for Ray. The funds helped to support Ray's later passion of renovating period houses.

Interestingly, several diary entries relate to Brigadier Guy Bomford, who Ray Jennings accompanied in his search for fossils in Dorset. Brigadier Bomford, OBE, was involved in the Survey of India between 1921 and 1948, was Director of Survey, South East Asia Command (1945/1946), and author of the scholarly book 'Geodesy' (coincidentally in our book collection, from Bob's student days). The Brigadier was also a keen collector of ammonites and found a new species, subsequently named *Parkinsonia bomfordi*.

Lesley Dunlop

Further information on Ray Jennings and other early and contemporary fossil hunters may be found in the Shoreline publication 'The Fossil Hunters of Charmouth and Charmouth Fossil Guide', available for £3 from Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre.

Is a Nurdle Always a Nurdle?

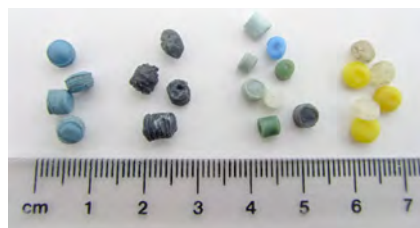
In the last Shoreline, I promised to tell you more about these small plastic pellets we find on the beach, following my sorting effort in May.

I sorted about 6000 pellets so that hopefully gives a good picture of what we find on the beach and the proportions of each type. Once all the oddities are removed (e.g. angular fragments, beads, dolls' eyes, tiny spheres which could be BB gun pellets or ball bearings) the vast remainder can be split into 4 fairly obvious types, although they do vary in shape and size, as well as colour, with even the largest being less than about 3mm.

- i) The most obvious pellets found here in Charmouth are the 'blues', which occupy about one third by volume of the total found. Neatly cylindrical with a convex top and bottom, they have slightly rough, wrinkled sides, and the colour is often faded.
- ii) The next third by volume are black or grey, more irregularly shaped though still roughly cylindrical, and well wrinkled and pitted.

The (ii) type are definitely biobeads, which are used in water treatment plants. Aerobic bacteria which are used to help purify water will attach to the biobeads, with their wrinkled surface offering more area for attachment than if they were smooth. These pellets are known to be used by South

West Water in some of their treatment plants, though not at Charmouth. Due to them also being wrinkled and of a softer plastic it seems likely that pellet type (i) are also biobeads, although not recognised by SWW.



- iii) The remainder are made of very rigid smooth plastic, tend to be a bit smaller, and come in a wide variety of colours, or may be clear. The majority of these are cylindrical, but a few (iv) are disc or lentil shaped. Pellet types (iii) and (iv) would appear to be the true 'nurdles' which are pre-production industry plastic i.e. will be made into plastic objects.

But why do we find them here on Charmouth beach? The main location where they are to be found is along the strandline by the river. They are not found up-river, and very few are found on the beach itself. So somehow they all float into the river mouth from the sea.

Eden Thomson



BALANCING RAGWORT CONTROL AND WILDFLOWER MANAGEMENT ON THE A35 IN WEST DORSET

August 2018

Authors: Julian Strong, Highways England and John Calder, Landowner adjacent to the A35 in Charmouth, Dorset

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out how Highways England is working with representatives of the local community at Charmouth, est Dorset, Plantlife and with the Dorset Wildlife Trust, to improve the control of some problematic ragwort growth while enhancing the other wildflowers that

are already present in the verges at that locality.

2. THE SITUATION

2.1 Highways England has responsibilities under the Weeds Act 1959 and DEFRA Code of Practice to control the spread of ragwort and other injurious and noxious weeds. At the same time, Highways England is keen to manage road verges to benefit wild flowers and other nature.

2.2 Dorset Wildlife Trust have confirmed through a species survey that a strong species mix is already present (with a dozen Dorset Notable species found) in the A35 verges at Charmouth. Designation as a Site of Nature conservation Interest (SNCI) is a possible consideration, and the local community at Charmouth have expressed a strong desire to see these verges managed to enhance the wild flower population.

2.3 Meanwhile, there is a high density of ragwort in some parts of the site and all parties are open to the thought that there must be a way to reduce the risk of ragwort spreading to neighbouring agricultural land that does not restrict the development of the more favourable wild flower species.

3. THE APPROACH

3.1 The cutting regime will be upgraded to match that recommended

in the Plantlife Verge Management Guide. This proposes one cut in the season (around the middle of July for our region). It also suggests removing cut material which will also be evaluated.

3.2 Variations in the prescription for controlling ragwort will be explored, in recognition of the ragwort population in the Charmouth verges. Herbicides will not be included in the trials.

3.3 A probable outcome would be to establish a two-tier ongoing verge management regime. One standard operating practice would apply to most of the network where ragwort is not problematic and where ambitions for species diversity are modest. Elsewhere, a site-specific operating practice would be developed in recognition of the specific conditions prevailing at (or planned for) each site.

3.4 The success of this trial will be measured at the one and two year stage which will determine, whether the ragwort is being effectively controlled, if wildflowers have flourished and whether the approach has proved to be a value for money investment. The success of the project will require ongoing good engagement between Highways England, the local community, Plantlife, Dorset Wildlife Trust, and potentially other interested parties.

New Wildflower Meadow at Hogchester

Greetings from Hogchester. Autumn was the time for sowing wildflower meadows and I'm pleased to report that we have sown another strip of meadow along the public footpath that leads from the cemetery onto Hogchester. We had some leftover seed from Stonebarrow and Thorn Farm harvesting two years ago, so we have simply hand-sown this into the current pasture after roughing it up with the chain harrow (thanks to Mike White for getting that done). It will take a few years to establish and we are planning to enhance it by planting in wildflower plugs next year. Something for the walkers to enjoy.

Also along the public footpath is a large 14-acre field that we are going to re-wild. The diggers came last month to create a network of ponds that should bring in the insects and everything else that likes to feast on them. We shall dig, watch and simply wait for nature to do its thing there.

Rob Powell



ANGEL ARCHITECTURE



Angel Architecture is a specialist architectural and historic buildings consultancy run by Kim Sankey and based in an appropriate period setting at The Court in Charmouth. "Caring for old buildings is a fascinating privilege," says Kim. "I like finding sympathetic and realistic solutions so that owners can enjoy their properties while conserving them for future generations."

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Extra care is needed with listed buildings to ensure that work does not compromise their special historic interest. Listed building consent is required for altering and extending a listed building in any way that affects its special interest, or for the demolition of any part of it, regardless of age. Listing includes the whole of the building, not just the exterior, plus any object fixed to it. Most work to a listed building will require consent from the local authority. Kim can help owners navigate this tricky area and achieve a beneficial outcome for them and for the building's historic value.

Sara Hudston



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Poetry Corner

FROM MY WINDOW

By Michael Clarke

It's beginning to rain, it can't, it's Christmas Eve.

The glass in my window has droplets of tears from a passing cloud and now the little drops have changed to arrows of rain, driven on to a dark lawn.

Oh how my childhood imagination promised such Christmas magic, but now, my dream is fading fast. My eyes are drawn to the horizon o'er the sea, where an endless black cloud trails a giant white lace curtain of Christmas snow onto a salty sea. That was my promised Christmas dream, now so far away, whilst colourful lights in our downstairs window glow so brightly, only to fade its glory onto a dark wet earth outside.

Father Christmas will be here tonight, but, no sparkling snow, no twinkling stars against a dark blue sky. No jingle bells across a dreamlike scene, no pine-shaped trees glowing, with silver cloaks, just dark green planes to break a childhood dream.

And so, all I see are moving drops upon a weeping window frame, and my boyhood dream sinks into a memory.

"Ah Well, maybe, just maybe, Next Year."

THE SPACE RACE

By Peter Crowter

If you have no garage and park on The Street,
You find that with others you have to compete.
You come back with the car and there is no space.
And you have to drive round to look for a place.

I drop off my wife just outside our front door,
There'll be a space somewhere, though where I'm not sure.

So then I set off for a little tour round,
'Cause somewhere to park up I hope will be found.

I drive down to the lights, that is where I turn round,
But no long term parking down there can be found.

Then back up I go and down Higher Sea Lane,
Nothing down there, well now this is a pain.

Back on The Street now and left up the hill,
I look on the right but spaces there's nil.
Up past the bus stop that's the last resort,
Much more of this and I'll have to abort.

If I have to leave it in some dodgy place,
I watch from my window and wait for a space.
I used to see clearly but now that's not true,
'Cause bushes have grown and they now block my view.

Our parking space one day the council cut short,
Now starts at the Stone House and down to The Court.
But it's not exclusive and there just for us,
If there are no spaces, we can't make a fuss.

In Fields of Blood

By Jane Bean

The fallen will rise from beneath your crimson cloak –

Symbol of Remembrance and Hope.

Lying deep in the soil, hidden, unbidden,

There's nothing to spoil your

Sleep. Years pass. Decades creep.

You slumber, waiting... waiting for the

Call. To the

Burst, the

Heave, the

Whistle and scream,

The shake,

The flash, the

Plough of a

Thousand grenades.

Earth swells. Mud dries and cracks. Finger-like

Fissures form. You rise tall where others have

Fallen – a pall, a shroud, a cloudy

Sea of blood. You toss your heads and

The fallen are borne aloft on your crimson cloak –

Symbol of Remembrance and Hope.



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Charmouth Winter Birding Update

What a super-hot and dry summer we've all enjoyed in Charmouth this year. But now the seasons have changed, the nights are far longer and the night-time temperatures have plummeted to an average of 3 degrees C and winter is upon us. The long hot summer of 2018 wiped away the memory of some of the coldest weather seen on this coast when the 'beast from the east' came calling eight months ago in March. I marvel at how adaptable and resilient the birds are as they cope with these seasonal extremes of weather. The reality for birdlife is that for the next few months they must endure and cope with short winter days when the maximum average daytime temperature is as low as 8 degrees C and the hours of sunshine per day have fallen from their peak of 7.5hrs in July to less than 2.5hrs in December.



Stonebarrow Hill, March 2018

Continuing on the theme started in the last edition of Shoreline, I'm going to describe a walk at Charmouth sea front and the birds you may encounter on the slopes above East and West beaches. When you venture out, don't forget your binoculars - they really are a boon to help you enjoy our local birdlife! This winter walk has inclines and covers rough ground, so it goes without saying that stout shoes and suitable warm clothing for the expected weather conditions are a must.

Seafront Walk: Starting at the beach car park head, over towards the footbridge in the direction of Stonebarrow Hill. Near the river you will find Black-headed Gulls and Herring Gulls both in their winter plumage - the former showing a dark spot behind the eye (rather than their brownish hood), the latter showing dark streaks on the head (rather than the brilliant white of full summer plumage). Mallard ducks and possibly Mute Swans

should be swimming in the river or loafing on the bank. Look out for smaller birds as you ascend to the benches above East Beach. A few Linnets and Meadow Pipits and one or two Stonechats all spend the winter in this area. Look up for the possibility of seeing a Kestrel or a Raven or, if you are extremely lucky, a dashing Peregrine Falcon. Return to the footbridge and now walk towards the Heritage Centre. Pied Wagtails and Rock Pipits are present in this area. Rock Pipits feed around the Heritage Centre and are much more confiding than the Meadow Pipits you may have been lucky enough to see in the fields. Both are typical 'little brown jobs'! Don't forget to look out over the beach at low tide. In the coldest of last winter's weather, Lapwing and Golden Plover could be found - a very unusual sighting for our busy Charmouth beach.

Walk up to the grassy area behind the beach huts. If you're doing this walk in March, you may be lucky to find an early Wheatear which is always a joy to see and a reminder that spring is not too far away. Standing above West beach, look over towards Stonebarrow; I wonder, does it look like this, bedecked in snow, as it did last March?

Now look south and west towards Lyme Regis and scan the shoreline and rocks below. Oystercatchers like these rocks. They are uncovered at low tide and the birds can be seen probing the nooks and fissures for molluscs with their strong, orange coloured, carrot-like bills. Further out to sea, particularly if it's rough weather, you may see Gannets. Their huge size and massive black-tipped white wings make them unmistakable and easy to separate, being twice the size of the ubiquitous gulls. If you're lucky, you will see one pause and dive steeply to catch a fish. If it's rough weather, check the sandy beach. You may be lucky enough to see a Little Gull (as I was on 4th November) taking a short respite from the gale. If it's calm on the day of your walk, have a close look over a 'flat' sea towards Church Cliff, Lyme Regis. On some days two or three Great Crested Grebes can be seen diving for small fish in the sheltered bay.

Continue the walk along the path which leads up behind the gardens of the houses on Higher Sea Lane, passing through areas of unimproved rough grass, hawthorn scrub and brambles. The track is well used and can be a little muddy but the effort is worth it as there are several vantage points overlooking

the wide expanse of Lyme Bay. It was from one such viewpoint that I watched in awe last March as literally thousands of Redwings, Fieldfares and Starlings and hundreds of Lapwings and Golden Plover, fled westwards past our village in a mass exodus as the freezing weather and snow closed in behind them and shut off their usual feeding grounds in the east of the country.

Fieldfares and Redwings, are a possible but I would say unusual visitors here, but who knows? If the weather turns cold they will come into gardens to feed on fallen apples or cotoneaster berries. It should be much easier to find a small flock of Goldfinches and House Sparrows or maybe a Stonechat, which are commonly seen on this part of the walk.



Fieldfare - Higher Sea Lane gardens



Redwings and Fieldfares take shelter from the snow - West cliff, Charmouth, March 2018

I hope this has given a taste of what might be expected on a winter's day walk on the seafront of our beautiful village. Happy Winter Birding!

Richard Phillips

Blog: www.charmouthbirding.blogspot.co.uk Twitter: @CharmouthBirder

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Charmouth Scout News



Charmouth Scouts Enjoy Jurassic Jamboree

Eighteen Scouts from 1st Charmouth joined 1,500 others from around the world to take part in a week-long Jurassic Jamboree camp at Kingston Maurward College during August. Here they were able to spend seven days completing a very wide variety of activities on and off-site. As part of their role within the Jamboree, 1st Charmouth offered to 'host' a contingent of 10 German Scouts, who camped and ate with them in their sub-camp. This added a truly international dimension to the whole Scout jamboree experience.

One of the key activities was a day trip to Brownsea Island to see the site where Lord Robert Baden Powell held the very first Scout Camp in 1907. As this was where Scouting all started, it seemed an appropriate place for the Charmouth Scouts to invest three new members into their Troop. Another day was spent on a 'Monopoly-Run' type activity, in which teams had to take pictures of key landmarks in both Dorchester and Weymouth. In addition to planning their route, each team had to consult their bus timetable to ensure they got around the course and back to the campsite before their allotted deadline.

Other activities included; riding a zip wire; climbing 'Jacob's Ladder' in the rain; crate staking; laser-tag; indoor caving; archery and shelter building. During the week after the Jamboree, the German Scouts based themselves in the 1st Charmouth HQ and put on a traditional Swabian Banquet to thank the Scout Group for all its help.

11 - 15, the team had to enter the Mixed Age category, but swept to victory by completing a total of 71 complete laps (142 lengths) in a 55-minute time period. On arrival at the pool, the five-strong team was asked if a lone swimmer could join them. As Scouts like to 'do a good turn every day', they instantly agreed and he turned out to be a very useful addition to the team. Three of the team came from 'swimming family Harding' - Harvey, Minnie and Frank, while the others were Lucy Mackenney and Lily Chapman, plus Bengy.



Scouts Develop Artificial Intelligence

As part of their Digital Maker Activity Badge, members of the 1st Charmouth have been busy building a four-strong team of robots. Assembled from kits, these have now been glued together, vividly decorated and set to work. In addition to greeting individual members by name, each of the four Scout Patrols has also programmed their robots to perform some novel tasks. These included displaying a range of smiley faces and singing 'Ode to Joy', which is part of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

Buying the robots was the brainchild of Assistant Scout Leader, John Smith, who also masterminded their construction and programming. "I was keen for the Scouts to work on a meaningful project as part of their badge. My research indicated these BinaryBots would be complex enough to offer the Scouts a real challenge. They all took to the task with relish, and some were soon digging around in the software to see what other interesting functions their 'creation' could undertake. We will now let the Scouts 'adopt' a robot for a few weeks so they can really put them through their paces."

"As we do not have WiFi in our HQ, we approached the Newlands Holiday Park about using their links and we were delighted they let the Scouts come along and log into their IT facilities."

Kevin Payne, Group Scout Leader



Mixed Scout Team Wins Bridport Lions Swimarathon

A team comprising Charmouth Explorer Scouts and Scouts won first prize in the recent Bridport Lions Swimarathon for completing the most laps of the pool. As their ages spanned

Explorer Scouts Serve Up a Big Breakfast for a Big Expedition

To raise money for the expedition to Kenya next year, three Explorer Scouts from the Charmouth Seagulls Unit served up a Big Breakfast last Saturday in the Community Hall.



Altogether the three of them - Megan and Sean Harvey and Alex Moorey, provided bacon, sausages and eggs to over 60 attendees - with a vegetarian option also on the menu.

The three servers were ably helped by fellow Explorer Luke Pemberton, complete with his apron, while Melanie Harvey (Explorer Scout Leader), her husband Paul and daughter Bethan cooked all the food.

Sean, Megan and Alex are three of the five Explorer Scouts from the Charmouth Seagulls Unit who are off to Kenya next year. Each of them must raise £2,000 to go on the expedition, during which they will undertake two weeks of community service, involving construction work and other local projects.



They will also visit the grave of the founder of Scouting - Robert Baden-Powell, go on a safari and spend four days climbing Mt. Kenya. More fund-raising activities are planned between now and July 2019, which include a Curry & Quiz night, another Big Breakfast and clothes collection.

Anyone wishing to support the Explorer Scouts by donating, please go to their GoFundMe Pages:

Alex: <https://www.gofundme.com/lduwxx-kenya-2019>

Megan: <https://www.gofundme.com/3nfa9y-kenya-2019>

Sean: <https://www.gofundme.com/6phndm-kenya-2019>

Expedition Kenya 2019

Five Explorer Scouts from the Charmouth Seagulls have been selected to take part in Expedition Kenya 2019. This Expedition is with the West Dorset Explorer Scouts and the Dorset Expeditionary Society. This experience involves helping the community in Maara Sub-County, Kenya. They will be involved with:

Developing the Baragu Health Centre,

Improving houses for local families,

Repairing classrooms in local schools,

Assisting teachers in the Donna Kelly special needs unit,

Teaching Maths, Computer Skills and English in local schools.

This opportunity will aid the Kenyan people and open their eyes to other cultures. They will be staying on a small farm on the slopes of Mt Kenya and will be buying and cooking their own food.

They will also take part in a high altitude 4 day trek on Mt Kenya and go on safari in the Samburu Reserve.

To ensure all money goes towards the work they are doing in

Kenya, they must fund the trip - £2,000 each. If you would like to help you can donate to them on their gofundme page:

Alex – <https://www.gofundme.com/lduwxx-kenya-2019>

Alfie - <https://www.gofundme.com/help-a-scout-got-to-kenya>

Mark – <https://www.gofundme.com/265wuk-kenya2019>

Megan - <https://www.gofundme.com/3nfa9y-kenya-2019>

Sean - <https://www.gofundme.com/6phndm-kenya-2019>

Melanie Harvey 01297 560393

Tackling the Tarka Trail

This summer saw seven intrepid Explorers set off for a week of walking around North Devon. We arrived at a fantastic Scout campsite, just outside Barnstaple, set up camp and then did our first section of the 77-mile route around the Tarka Trail.



The route

Each day we organised our own breakfast and made a packed lunch before setting off for a day of walking. Paul would take us to our starting point and then pick us up at the end of the day and return us to the campsite. Evenings were spent relaxing – reading, playing games and swimming in the River Yeo.



Relaxing at the campsite after a long day of walking

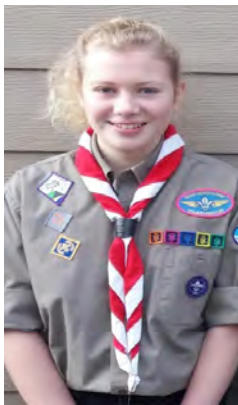
We had fantastic weather for the first half of the trip, but had to pack up camp in the rain, handing over our wet tents to Kevin and the Scouts before they headed off to the Jurassic Jamboree!



Great weather on Day 1

Explorer Scouts meet at the Scout Hut, Barrs Lane, Charmouth on a Wednesday evening between 6.30 and 8.00pm. For further information, please contact:

Melanie Harvey 01297 560393.



Progress Report on Freya's Trip to the Scout World Jamboree

I thought I should give everyone who has supported my goal to get to next summer's 24th World Scout Jamboree a progress report. In the spring 2018 issue, I told you about my efforts to fundraise £3600 for my trip of a lifetime to the US and Canada. Although no further details for Canada have been issued, I do know that after our 10 days

with 50,000 other scouts from around the world, the UK Contingent is heading to Washington DC for three days to see the sights, but also complete community projects.

I have been very busy with my fundraising during the summer. On the May Bank Holiday weekend, I held a soup and pud night, along with a Clothes X-change in Morcombelake Village Hall and raised £300 and organised a clothes drop-off in Charmouth the same weekend, which raised £70. My Go-Fund Me website has raised £250. I have made lots of cakes for both the Morcombelake and Chideock Vintage Tea events and been donated the proceeds, totalling £180. I have collected unwanted clothes for six months and raised over £350. I ran a stall at the Whitchurch Show on August Bank Holiday, selling my bird feeders and running a key game, which raised a further £130. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of people in the community and other groups of which I am a member, who have kindly donated money to me. The donations have meant my fundraising could take a back seat whilst I concentrated on my GCSEs in the summer.

I have now completed three of the six weekend camps organised by the Dorset Jurassic Unit, of which I am part, in preparation for our trip. They are held all over the county, but in May we camped at Bridport and hiked from West Bay to Charmouth and stayed in our Scout Hut. In late September, on the wettest weekend of autumn we were in Bournemouth on a team building weekend, but sadly as it was so wet, we had to resort to less adventurous activities than planned and make do with indoor archery, shooting and sling shot paint balls! Thanks again to everyone who has supported me.

Freya Southcott

1st Charmouth Explorer Scout



Photo caption: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at the Magdalen Project.

Cubs Report

Charmouth Cubs have had a very busy autumn term, starting with games and cooking for our overnight stay at the Scout hut. We visited the Magdalen Project at Winsham, for the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to get to know each other. They enjoyed a morning of farming, looking after the chickens, goats and pigs, then an afternoon of tending the garden, weeding, harvesting and watering; they loved pulling carrots and eating them straight from the ground. The evening was spent enjoying a film of Peter Rabbit and eating the food they made the Thursday before.

We made three planters from recycled wood for outside the Scout hut, which have been planted with bulbs and winter plants. The children sawed, hammered and painted them and they look fantastic. We had a brilliant evening trying fish that we were given by the Axminster fish shop and we took the children down to the beach and had a wood fire, to cook kippers, squid and cockles, they also got to try mussels and mackerel. We were given a box of apples and an apple press from the Party in the Park and the children loved crushing the apples and pressing the fruit and made three litres of juice for them all to enjoy.

We finished off our first part of the autumn term with 20 Cubs staying at PGL, Osmington Bay, Weymouth. The children climbed, used quad bikes and challenged themselves with the giant swing. We had the biggest group and I think they were the best behaved; they were very good and we were all very proud of them.

Kevin Payne

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

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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.

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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 £40 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

Beaver Report



Thanks to the amazing weather during our summer term, we spent as much time as possible outdoors. We had a really successful camp (sleepover) the weekend of 30th June/1st July.

We brushed up on our navigation skills before starting a hike round Charmouth, armed with a map and a compass to complete the route before stopping to collect fish & chips for supper on the way back. Once fuelled up, we set about putting up our tents (inside the hut!) and, as dusk came, we took several bat detectors and embarked on a bat safari with a local bat expert. By midnight we were tucked up in our tents and by first light were packing away our tents, enjoying a hearty breakfast, followed by more games before pickup!

We enjoyed a balmy evening on the playing fields, learning dance routines with the Uplyme Morris Men. Although not everyone was keen at the start, all the Beavers had a go and said how much fun it actually was by the end. Although a little young for new recruits, Uplyme Morris are always looking for new members, so if you fancy keeping fit, keeping your brain active learning the routines and enjoy meeting socially once a week to practice or take part in events during the summer, contact Pete (The Squire!) at petemorton56@googlemail.com

We have also designed and built rockets and launched them outside the Scout hut. Initially we had success with a couple going higher than the hut roof but we need to perfect our chemical mixtures next time! We were very lucky to get a private visit to Lyme Regis Museum, where we listened to a fascinating talk by their resident expert, before being let loose to explore the museum on our own.

We finished the summer with our Beach Party, toasting marshmallows, creating sand sculptures and ending with a huge celebration cake as we said good-bye to a number of Beavers who were moving to Cubs, whilst also investing some new Beavers into scouting.

In the autumn term, we have visited Langdon Woods for a den building session, followed by two sessions where we designed and built junk robots/rockets. In fact the Beavers' imaginations went wild and we had all sorts of amazing models of all shapes and sizes. For the rest of term, we are cramming in a Halloween Party, a Bonfire Night Party, a trip to the Fire Station, bouldering (mini rock climbing) and Christmas craft night and, of course, a Christmas Party!

We currently have 18 beavers (boys & girls aged 6 to 8). For more information about joining our waiting list, contact Karen. southcott@btinternet.com

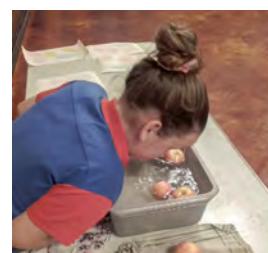
Karen Southcott (Raccoon) & **Giles Smallwood** (Coyote)
1st Charmouth Scout Group

Charmouth Guides

As you can see we have had a very busy time during the last term. We visited Rockburn in Bridport for an evening of rock-climbing at the end of the summer term and had fencing lessons by a guiding county trainer. This term, we have joined Lyme Guides for a super scary Halloween party where we ate themed scary food and played games. We have had a weekend sleepover camp at Huish Woods in Taunton where the girls cooked on open fires and learnt orienteering skills as well as knots. We also had craft activities as woodland crafts where the girls made things using tools that they do not usually get to use. We also did tie-dye t-shirts that turned out really well.

If you have any questions or would be interested in joining Charmouth Guides, please do not hesitate to contact:

Davina Pennells on 01297 560965.





IN THE BAND.

You may not know it but here has been an explosion of the Charmouth music scene in the last two years and young people have been at the forefront of it!

Every week four young bands get together to rehearse, spending months getting their sets together for live performances at local events and gigs.

'In The Band' started in 2016 and was initially based at the Community Hall. Unfortunately we discovered rock'n'roll and badminton do not coexist very easily, so after a few months rehearsals were moved to the Youth Club which is the perfect base for amplified music.

The bands are loosely formed by grouping together local young musicians based on their age or ability, with the youngest band member being nine years old, and in the oldest group being 19. Some of the bands concentrate more on learning to play covers of existing songs while others have worked more on producing their own material. It has been a busy two years for all the young players and singers and there has been a natural progression of their skills, abilities and confidence in that time. The majority of young musicians either live in Charmouth or have attended Charmouth Primary, with others from surrounding towns and villages. It is a very positive and creative experience that has music at its core but also brings the benefit of honing the

skills of cooperation, negotiation and collaboration.

Thanks to the support of local promoters and events the bands have had some great live experiences. Each year we promote our own showcase gig featuring all four bands at one of Charmouth's halls. In April the Village Hall on Wesley Close was packed with music lovers who had all come out to support the 'In The Band' musicians. We aim to make our gigs as professional as possible and so a local production company JSW came in to provide high quality sound and light. The hall had never looked or sounded quite so good as the audience was treated to well over two hours of fabulous music from five acts.



We have also been given performance opportunities at established events. A couple of the young bands have played at both Guitars on The Beach and Jurassic Fields Festival for the last two years whilst Dream Phaser had the pleasure of performing for Jools Holland when he visited Pecorama during this year's heatwave. There have also been

performances at Charmouth's Party in the Park, West Bay's RNLI Raft Race, Uplyme Fete, the Marine Theatre and Charmouth's Christmas Fayre.

I have been incredibly pleased with the way all the young musicians have worked so hard and then how they have performed. They have impressed many with not just their musical skills but also how they have acted and behaved. It's very easy for some people to join in with the negative narrative that can be associated with young people but we should be very proud of what they can achieve and how they get to that point. They have acted far more professionally than some of the adults I have come across in my time in the music industry!!

We have been lucky to have some great support from professional Bristol musicians still at the top of game and also with our images from local photographer Si Emmett and graphic designer Surya Osborne. Big thanks to them. We are also in the process of finalising plans for a recording session at Bristol's finest studio sometime early next year.

So, look out for our next round of performances starting in the spring. For the next few months we will be writing, rehearsing and polishing the acts ready for the public's enjoyment.

If you are a young person who is interested in getting involved or someone wishing to offer us a gig please get in touch on 07949 923834. We are also always looking for new equipment or instruments, so if you have any old ones not being used please consider handing them on to the next generation of musicians! We have already had some generous folk who have done this and we have had donations from Charmouth Events too, so a big thanks to them. It really does help!

So you can rest assured that the future of music is in the safe hands of our local young people. Come and see them play if you can.

Pete Wild



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The Adventures of Four French hens

How We Adopted Some Ex-battery Chickens

OK they aren't really French, they are Dorset born and bred, near Blandford Forum in fact. But as we collected them on Bastille Day, 14 July, we felt we should plump for a French naming theme and asked family and friends to suggest some names. When I asked five-year-old grandson, Jacob, he helpfully suggested 'Paris', 'Baguette' and 'Simon' but somehow these suggestions fell by the wayside. We ended up with Coco (Chanel), Yvette ('Allo 'Allo), Fifi and Miranda; she was to be called Henriette but my husband, Mike, said she reminded him of a well-known comedian, being a bit larger than the other three and somewhat accident-prone...

So how did we end up adopting our French girls?

We moved to a house with a good-sized garden a few years ago and have thrown ourselves into growing our own fruit and vegetables with gusto, and much trial and error. It was only a small leap to think about getting some hens.

We had no knowledge of chicken things at all, other than, when I was a very young child, I often visited my dear grandparents, John and Daisy McKinley, who had a small farm in Donegal, Ireland. I especially liked seeing my grandmother feeding her hens and remember what a privilege it was to be trusted to collect the newly laid eggs.

Before taking the plunge I asked around and did my research. 'But there are so many foxes near you!' was a common comment. I decided to buy a fox-proof chicken run which has a metal 'skirt' around the base which makes it near impossible, we hope, for foxes and other predators to tunnel in, and a kit henhouse that is spacious and easy to keep clean. Although we felt between us we needed a degree in engineering to construct the chicken run, we managed to put it together with remarkably little marital disharmony.

I was a bit baffled by the array of chicken-keeping related products I had to get: appropriate feed, and diet things, bedding, hygiene and cleaning products. It was a bit like being a first-time Mum-to-be getting all her bits and bobs together for the imminent arrival of her baby!

We really wanted to get the chickens in the warm summer months so that they would have a few months to settle down before the onset of more unsettled winter weather. So, with all the kit arranged, in mid-July I phoned the British Hen Welfare Trust (BHWT) to ask about their hen adoption scheme.

British Hen Welfare Trust

This charity does amazing work all over the UK to re-home some 50,000 former battery hens every year. These are hens that have reached their 'end-of-lay' age, at about 17 months. If not adopted they would be killed, as they have reached the end of their most productive egg-laying capability.

The woman at the BHWT checked over the phone that I had appropriate accommodation and so on for the hens and then told me the next collection would be from a farm near Blandford Forum – in three days' time! 'No going back now!' I said to Mike, feeling just a little anxious that I would be a good hen-keeper and would cope with them if they were unwell. And then I remembered my lovely grandmother and how good she was with her flock and felt reassured.



Getting the girls home and settling in

Along with a number of other people we collected our chickens from the farm in north Dorset. This was not the battery farm where they had lived all their lives, but one where the farmers had kindly lent their barn for the day to facilitate the hand-over. There were hundreds of chickens (Rhode Island Red crosses, I learnt) flapping around the barn as skilful BHWT volunteers randomly caught the requested number and popped them into our specially prepared cardboard box. As advised this was big enough to hold four footballs.

As Mike drove us back to Charmouth I peered round in the car to see pairs of amber eyes peering nervously back at me through slits Mike had cut into the box. Most battery hens will have lived their entire lives inside so this day, with all its new experiences, was probably very overwhelming for them.

Once in their chicken-run, we had to tip them gently out of the box, but Miranda (plumper than the others) fell out sideways with a squawk. They looked in puzzlement and perhaps alarm at the henhouse, in particular. Maybe they had not been used to walking or hopping or flapping. The first night we had to lift them (flap, flap!) into the henhouse and introduce them to their new sleeping quarters.

We had also invested in a light-sensitive (battery-operated) automatic 'pop-hole', a little door at the entrance to the hen-house which opens at sunrise and closes at dusk. The first morning, even though the door had opened by itself, I had to lift the hens out and I worried it might be a daily routine for some time to lift them out in the morning and back in at bedtime. To my delight, however, Miranda (not so clumsy after all) led the way and hopped up the henhouse stairs the second night, quickly followed by her sisters. It is a little miracle to me that they now put themselves to bed before the pop-hole door closes by itself! Even though every night they seem to need several goes to work out who needs to sit where: four hop in, then three jump out, then two in, then three

out and on and on, until they can finally settle down for the night zzzzzz.

Peck off!

I had not realised how 'bald' commercial chickens can get. The day we got them, while Miranda (who may have had a different past) was already a lovely, fluffy hen, Yvette, Coco and Fifi all had very pale combs, scraggy feathers on their necks, and were almost completely featherless on their undercarriages. I fretted that Coco was 'egg-bound', when she appeared to be straining to lay her first egg, and that I would have to assist with the delivery (oh dear!) but – well done Coco! She relaxed and did it all by herself.

Distressingly, Fifi seemed to be attempting to establish a pecking order shortly after they arrived as she frequently plucked feathers off the others. I discovered that if a hen needs more protein in her diet she will peck feathers off others in the flock and eat the feathers. So I gave them all more protein and the aggressive pecking stopped very quickly. I also learnt that they love parsley, all sorts of herbs and marigold, rosehips, cucumbers, grapes and melon! Not all at the same time, however.

Fabulous feathers and lovely eggs

Some months after we got them they have now all got glowing red combs and lovely plumage of different shades from a coppery brown, to tawny ginger, to brown and white, to almost a blonde bombshell.

They have settled in quickly and we love having them. They are curious and love to explore, under supervision, scratching and hopping and sunbathing around the garden. I think they think of themselves as assistant gardeners. Miranda is adept at catching hapless insects as they fly by – she gives a snap of her beak and looks most satisfied. The chickens have no sense of personal space and brazenly walk all over our feet or hop onto my lap for treats with no fear. In the hot months I learnt not to paint my toenails pink or red, or risk having my feet gently pecked.

They happily chat away whenever we go near. I now know the different sounds they make; such as when they are exclaiming for treats or to get me to open the (manual) door to their nesting room or when they are contentedly chirruping away before laying an egg.

And not least important, all the girls share their gorgeous yellow, yolky eggs, and there are four eggs almost every day. It still feels a privilege to collect them.

Little dinosaurs on the Jurassic Coast

I also found out that chicken collagen is apparently the closest existing match to that of the Tyrannosaurus Rex – mini-dinosaur cousins! Very apt for living on the Jurassic Coast, although T-Rex was, of course, found in the Cretaceous era.

Cluck cluck!

For more information on re-homing ex-battery hens, please visit <https://www.bhwt.org.uk/rehome-some-hens/>

Jo Seaman



Hammonds Mead Hotel

My Family and Growing up in Hammonds Mead Hotel

Rosie Young, joint owner of Bridport Old Books in South Street, Bridport, grew up in Hammonds Mead Hotel, built in 1910. Since 1993 an estate of houses and bungalows covers much of the site, leaving only the field; now an overflow car park. During a delightful few hours, Rosie related some of her early recollections, which are amusing, nostalgic and poignant, from a truly idyllic childhood in Charmouth in the 1950s.

"My twin sister Susy and I were born in Burnham-on-Sea in 1946, younger sisters by only 17 months of my brother David. Twins had not been expected and being born prematurely, the family doctor, unkeen on x-rays, had been at that stage unaware there were two of us! I arrived safely and my mother no doubt tired from a long labour, delivered Susy 18 hours later! At first, we lived with my maternal grandparents in Edington Burtle on the Somerset Levels whilst my father taught at the local primary school. During the early 1940s he had been employed abroad by a tea company in Java. When war broke he just managed to escape on one of the last boats to leave after the Japanese invasion of the island. He often talked with sadness at the possessions lost, particularly a trunk of his favourite books. His Irish father, my grandfather, vicar of nearby Chilton Polden,



Hammonds Mead Hotel Aerial view

was previously a missionary in Kohinoor, southern India, where my father was born. My maternal grandparents also lived in India, but being tea planters in Darjeeling, where my mother was born, the two families found themselves at either end of the Anglo-Indian spectrum.

My mother, finding it difficult, having unexpectedly to cope with three of us rather than two, was offered temporary help of a neighbouring friend's daughter, Elizabeth, who was on leave from the Wrens. Libby, as we called her, was a tall, striking ex-debutante with the most wonderful copper-coloured hair! She was straightforward and brooked no nonsense, despite being relentlessly teased by my brother, with Susy and I following suit as we grew older, but she would do anything for us – loyal and constant to the end.



My father, being offered once more a job with his old company, De La Rue, meant a move to Harrow, near London, in 1947. Libby, by now indispensable, agreed to accompany us. My mother, finding it hard to settle into a suburban life, and missing her rural environment, was encouraged by her father, who by this time was farming in Dorset, to consider a 'little tea room' he found in Charmouth. It was to be auctioned on 17th November 1947. It was apparently being sold by a Mr. Squance who had been responsible for converting the building into a very high spec hotel, with fine carpets and cutlery that survived until we left. Even now, it seems quite a high price he was asking: £18,000. After some consultation between themselves, my parents decided to investigate. On viewing the property, to their surprise, not the 'tea room' they expected, but a 12-bedroomed hotel set in five acres, plus a

two-acre field beside the beach in Charmouth. My mother, convinced that it would be the perfect place to bring up their family with the freedom and beauty of the surroundings, didn't take long to persuade my father and with my grandparents' help, the deal was done. A brave move, as neither parent had any experience of running a hotel or catering for large numbers. Libby, a vital factor in this decision, stayed on board with us. In fact, she never married and remained with us for the rest of her life; an important and much-loved member of our family.

Hammonds Mead, designed by a Danish architect around 1910, commissioned by the Evans family, and considered, I suppose, 'cutting edge' for its time and maybe slightly pretentious, came complete with its own 'Fawlty' tower and a unique early central heating system. My father would spend much of his time in the cellar, packing the outer shell of the monstrous appliance with cladding to conserve the heat. It never worked well. Pipes led from the main boiler, branching out to each room and the grilles, which opened and shut manually, were noisy and the warm air emitted both dusty and smelly. Outside, lawns equipped with tennis court, croquet and clock golf, bordered by lavender and rose bushes, stretched to the front and side of the house, while a gated entrance to our field, with a further stile, led to the blue sparkling sea and the beach; our childhood haven. Early morning swimming was de rigueur, led by my father in his black one-piece bathing costume! The main entrance was off Lower Sea Lane, whilst a rear gateway to Higher Sea Lane exited onto the pedestrian walkway to the beach.

At first, my mother did the cooking but later, many and various were the cooks employed. All the vegetables were grown in two large kitchen garden plots, whilst soft fruit bushes and apple trees filled the well-stocked orchard behind. All this was overseen with the tireless help of Tom Marchbank, our gardener, also responsible for mowing the lawns. A local fisherman, Jeff Bidmead, brought lobsters weekly to our back door, to be prepared by my mother and served up in great style by Libby. Joyce, Tom's lovely wife, became our full-time cook. A number of village women worked as chambermaids and would arrive each morning carting babies and toddlers, prams and pushchairs up the long drive. We occupied the children whilst their parents worked upstairs. Elevenses took place in the kitchen where the ladies would gather around the long pine table drinking strong cups of tea, dunking Rich Tea biscuits, chattering and laughing with my mother and Libby, who befriended them all.

There being no defined reception area, the guests were greeted at the heavy front door by Libby, followed by Tom carrying the luggage through the small, half-panelled hall, past the chiming grandfather clock and up the wide curving staircase; a real feature, beneath which stood the large gong, beaten to summon the guests to meals. Two double sliding doors led from the entrance hall into the adjacent drawing room/visitors' lounge, where views of the sea could be seen from each window. The loggia, at the base of the square tower, was accessed by the lounge and provided a sun room for guests.

Steps outside led to the main lawn, simply known as the big lawn, and the tennis court. The grass was mown closely and white lines meticulously marked out by Tom, the gardener, a job he was particularly proud of. Guests brought their own racquets and balls were supplied by Colonel Sholtey, ex-Wimbledon player, who had access to rejects from the matches. A regular visitor, Sholtey always requested the same room, No. 1. In fact, many guests returning each year asked for the same bedroom for their fortnight's stay. Over time we became friendly with these regular families, anticipating their arrivals with pleasure; mostly professional people, quite happy to holiday in England in those days, long before packages: the Rice-Oxleys; the Bridgers; the Seymours; and Brigadier & Mrs Bomford, their two sons and Zulu, the dalmatian. I remember when the Brigadier's snoring resulted in him being obliged to sleep in a special tucked-away room. As a group, we spent days that seemed to last forever: tennis, lawn games, swimming, the beach and fossiling were enjoyed by us all. When it rained, we played ping pong and darts in the games room.



Returning to the hotel's interior, hardly believable now in the age of compulsory en-suites, there were only two bathrooms, one of which included a lavatory, leaving only one loo available for a complete floor! China chamber pots were provided in each room! The bathrooms, complete with round central showers, impossible to operate, were situated high above the deep roll-top bath, which was supported on four claw feet, whilst brass taps set in the middle of one side, with wooden-handled, sideways-operating taps, gushed hot and cold water, but still took for ever to fill the baths. Each guest bedroom had a wash basin, equipped with a miniature version of the same wooden-handled taps. I kept these wonderful taps after the hotel was sold and the brass door knockers that we had carefully taken off each door. My father threw them out several years later in a fit of 'tidying up'.

Like most young children, we would bath together. Me one end, Susy the other and David in the centre, in charge of the taps. Our heads barely reached the roll-top edge, so deep were these old-fashioned iron bath tubs. My father, leaning against the tall chrome towel rail, would read us favourite stories; L. T. Meade's 'Beyond the Blue Mountains' still resonates and is on my bookshelf now. Narrative poems were recited by heart to a noisy splashing audience, more anxious to fight for control of the central position in the

bath and those gushing taps than learn how Horatio kept the bridge for Rome.

The hotel, only open during the holiday season, became ours in the winter and we had the run of the whole house. In Miss Evans' day, the visitors' lounge was her library-cum-drawing room. Dull tomes of Victorian poetry and history filled the shelves that lined the lower half of the room. Never read, these books would be pulled down by us to build houses and bridges for my brother's train set. In later years, my sister and I turned a corner of the room into a lending library, mostly furnished with our pony stories and in summer cleared out to our cupboard at the back of the house where the assorted volumes were lent to guests at the charge of 1d each. The beginning, no doubt, of my interest in professional bookselling.

Christmas at Hammonds Mead was memorable. A tall fir tree filled one end of the visitors' lounge, now transformed into our spacious living room with lots of big chairs and games, and home-made decorations looped above us, pinned to the beams amidst the holly, an open fire at one end, stoked continuously by my sometimes over-zealous father, dangerously liberal with the paraffin he used to encourage the blaze, kept family and assorted cats and dogs warm throughout the winter months. The cranky innovative central heating was, as already mentioned, unreliable.

Miss Evans' drawing room, with its two sets of double doors that could be opened onto the hallway, could be transformed into a substantial ballroom. I have no recollection of using them as such, but there was ample room for childhood games, parties and plays. Plays performed for the benefit of friends, parents and family; small donations usually in aid of the PDSA animal sanctuary. On occasions our parents, with friends from the village, would rehearse plays themselves, directed with a certain military flair by Brigadier Pemberton, with musical accompaniment by Mark Jones. These plays were to be performed in public in the Church Hall (a large building in Lower Sea Lane, built by the public-spirited Misses Whittington as a community asset).

During the summer months, with the hotel full of guests, we were squashed into the back of the house. The attic became our bedrooms, then my father had our original rooms, Nos. 12 and 13, converted in the early '60s, but at least we acquired two more bathrooms! My brother, Susy and I moved to sheds in the back garden as we grew older. Our summer sitting room was off the kitchen, with French windows that opened onto a small lawn, a paddock for our ponies and the orchard where the hens, ducks and pet rabbits were housed under the apple trees. Our first television arrived in 1960 in preparation for Princess Margaret's wedding. For some now long-forgotten reason, my father didn't initially put it in the visitors' lounge, but upstairs on the top floor in a corner of the square landing in the tower, outside two guest bedrooms.

Our deceased pets – cats, dogs, hens, rabbits and a hedgehog – found eternal rest in a graveyard amongst the fir trees at the top of the lavender lawn. All our lawns had names.

The lavender lawn sloped down to a gravel path that bordered the rose lawn and beyond, spreading towards the sea, the big lawn. Then, leading down a slope from there, the daffodil lawn and behind a high hedge, the bird bath lawn.

One summer's evening we told Libby to warn the guests that the gardens were haunted. She was to announce that, after the evening meal, a ghost would appear on the lavender lawn. The guests obligingly congregated as my brother, draped in a white sheet with torch in mouth, emerged from the darkness of the fir trees, whilst the guests oohed and aahed on cue! Meanwhile, Susy and I rushed round every bedroom and turning the bottom sheets up, made apple pie beds to further strengthen the notion of sinister goings-on at Hammonds Mead. The long-suffering guests took it all with good humour. I no longer remember what my parents or Libby thought of our antics!



Ruskin Spear, painter and Royal Academician; Hugh Gaitskill MP; Adrian Boult, conductor; and 'Wind in the Willows' author Kenneth Grahame's son, were amongst some of the better-known people who visited Hammonds Mead whilst we were there. Ruskin Spear arrived when I was aged about nine, with an unusual entourage – a kitten and a young, very pregnant companion. Whilst they were staying, the kitten became lodged at the top of a fir tree and had to be rescued by Charmouth Fire Brigade. His companion spent much of her time, it seemed to me, in the kitchen, face streaked with tears, being helped by Libby and my mother, both competent knitters, to complete a matinee jacket in preparation for the arrival of her imminent baby. Many years later, whilst viewing a local sale, I came across a portrait of a young girl holding a kitten. On reading the description details naming Ruskin Spear as the painter, I realised at once that this was his companion holding what must have been her kitten and I surmised that maybe it had been painted in Hammonds Mead. I was thrilled, bought the painting from the owner, as it didn't reach its reserve on the day of the sale, and was able to verify that indeed she was Clare, the visitor to Hammonds Mead all those years ago and that the cat was Tigger, which I was told, had died at 24.

These memories, somewhat jumbled, as the more I talk, the more I remember, hopefully describe the idyllic childhood I shared with my family at Hammonds Mead. A hard act to follow."

Lesley Dunlop

National Coastwatch - Lyme Bay (QAVS)

EYES ALONG THE COAST



Charmouth NCI Lookout: Let there be light!



Some of you will have been aware of the digging between the Heritage Centre and the NCI lookout earlier in October. This was to establish a mains power supply to the lookout, which had been organised by the Charmouth Parish Council. The Parish is the landlord for the lookout which is leased by the National

Coastwatch. We received their support for laying on power earlier this year but, understandably, had to wait until the summer season was over to cause minimal disruption to beach hut users, tourists and locals alike.



Note the chimney in this early picture of the lookout with attendant Coastguards.
Courtesy www.freshford.com

The electricity supply provides the reliability and capacity for us to increase the number of watch days we can be open, thus extending our service to the community and coastal safety. We have been recruiting more volunteers over the summer months and they will have to complete their training and qualify at our parent lookout at Hive Beach. We will then gradually increase our operating days.

The National Coastwatch can only operate with the dedication of our volunteers and, just as importantly, the support of members of the public, local businesses and, in this the particular case, the Charmouth Parish Council without whose support we would not be in operation.

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



Men at work.

We had been using solar power panels and batteries to power our equipment for over two years and while the system enabled the lookout to prove itself, there were a number of limitations. We could only generate enough power for a maximum of four operating days per week. In winter we would often have to swap batteries around and take them home to boost them. Moving the bulky panels, which were hung in the windows when the lookout was closed, was often quite hard for some of our volunteers to manage. (We could not mount solar panels permanently outside due to the building's grade II listed status.) Last but not least, we can now have a much needed heater! Even our Victorian counterparts had a stove as can be seen from old photographs which show a chimney!

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

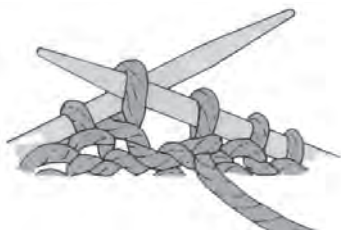
See also: NCI (national) website: <http://www.nci.org.uk/>



ENTER SHORELINE'S PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION ON PAGE 13

What's On

'KNIT AND NATTER' GROUP



MEET EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON FROM 2-4PM
IN THE CLUB ROOM AT THE REAR OF THE
COMMUNITY HALL.

We knit and crochet for children and families in Iraq,
South Africa and the UK

SOME MEMBERS KNIT FOR THEIR OWN PROJECTS OR COME FOR A 'NATTER'.

Wool is provided for items made for the charities, paid for by the money
we raise when we hold coffee mornings twice a year. Everyone is
welcome. If you feel you would like to join but do not have knitting or
crocheting skills then we can help you learn.

Need more information?
Please call Jan Coleman 01297 561625

A FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITY

AT

ST MARY'S CHURCH,
CATHERSTON LEWESTON, CHARMOUTH

FROM

THURSDAY 13TH - SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER

12 NOON TO 4PM

WITH A CAROL SERVICE TO FOLLOW AT
4PM ON SATURDAY

Bob Hatch

CHICAGO BRIDGE

SATURDAY 19th JANUARY
at 2.00pm

Village Hall, Wesley Close.

£5 to include a
Delicious afternoon tea
Prizes, raffle.

For tickets ring 01297 560251 or 561317
Charmouth & District Twinning Association

U3A MEETINGS



Friday 11th January: Talk at 11.00am, coffee
10.00am - 10.45am, Charlie Wheeler, from
Dorset Wildlife Trust, will discuss the Swans of Abbotsbury.

Friday 8th February: Social meeting with coffee. An opportunity to
chat with other members and 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.

Both meetings at Woodmead Halls, Lyme Regis. Free to U3A members;
donation of £2 suggested for non-members. Contact: Mary Bohane
01297-444566.

CHANGING SPACES PRESENTS Community Carols & Curry

Wednesday 12th December 2018

7pm - 9pm

St. Andrew's Community Hall,
Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth

Proceeds to:

Charmouth Senior Citizens Lunch,
Awaken Love for Africa,
Crisis @ Christmas

Tickets £10 - On sale at FSB and Charmouth Pharmacy



*Distant Shorelines - Druscilla
Perry in front of Taipei 101 in
Taiwan.*



*Distant Shorelines - John &
Sue Calder under the lifting
bridge in Duluth, Minnesota*



*Hope they are not going
to be all day! Patient pets
outside the Village Hall
during the Gardeners' Show.*

Photo: Lesley Dunlop

We Remember

Margaret Hathway

1925 - 2018

Margaret Hathway was a resident of Charmouth from the early 1980s until she moved to Fairfield House residential home in Lyme Regis last year. She passed away on 25th September in Dorchester Hospital. She was a well-known member of the community, having helped run the Village Hall for many years and as an active member of Lyme Regis Golf Club into her late 70s.



Margaret was born in the Ashton area of Bristol on 10th September 1925, daughter of Ethel and Frank Hicks. She was an only child, born when her mother was 40 and her father 44. They ran a corn chandler's shop in Ashton Road, Bristol and the family lived in the same building throughout Margaret's childhood. She attended the local primary school, Merrywood, in the neighbouring Southville area of Bristol. She spent long periods in hospital as a child, suffering from mastoiditis, a painful infection of the inner ear which only later became easy to treat with antibiotics.

Aged 11 she transferred to La Retraite High School for Girls across the river in Clifton, the posh part of Bristol, on the other side of the river. The war years started just as she turned 14, and these must have been especially worrying times for her parents. Right to the end of her days, Margaret often expressed concern that she needed to get home to her mother and father. Her school reports showed consistent effort and achievement, but occasional lapses, and her headmistress seemed quite excited that she passed her School Certificate with good marks in 1941. The excitement was perhaps partly due to relief at having survived the year of 1941 when Bristol was heavily bombed on several occasions. Her achievement would have allowed her to go to university, but there seemed to be no ambition to do so and she soon accepted a position in the tax office in Prince Street in central Bristol.

Photos of Margaret during the subsequent war years show an elegantly dressed and rather glamorous young woman, often on a motorcycle excursion with dashing young men, one of whom became her husband, Ken. The excursions took them all around the south west of England, with Lyme Regis being a favourite destination. Margaret and Ken continued their carefree post-war life until 1952 when their first child, Richard, was born, followed by Gordon four years later. Gordon's childhood memories are of a mother always there to support and nurture her boys as the homemaker, while husband Ken provided financial stability and prosperity. The family moved to Hertfordshire in the early 1960s, a long way from Bristol in the days before motorways, but there were frequent visits 'home' to visit grandparents and other relatives. Family holidays took them even further, to Cornwall and many other places in the west country, that she and Ken had been to in their earlier lives.

Royston in Hertfordshire was home for 12 years through most of the boys' schooldays and as they became more independent, Margaret developed a life outside of home by joining and later helping to run the local Townswomen's Guild. In 1964, aged eight, Gordon decided to join friends in playing golf. Something about this game obviously appealed to Margaret too, as she soon followed suit and remained a keen and active member of the local golf club wherever she lived, until well into her 70s. Though never a star player, she won many handicap trophies at Lyme Regis and other golf clubs.

The settled life in Royston continued through the 1960s, but 1969 brought tragedy when her son Richard was killed in a motorcycle accident, aged just 17. It's hard to imagine how devastating this must have been, but it was surely of some comfort to receive scores of cards and letters with heartfelt condolences. There were also many letters from school friends that showed how popular and well-liked Richard was. Afterwards, in the way that was normal then, little was said about what

had happened and life continued almost as if nothing had changed.

After Gordon left home in 1974, Ken and Margaret made their first move back towards the West Country, first to Newbury, and then they purchased a holiday flat in Lyme Regis. In 1981, they moved their home to 'South Winds', on Lower Sea Lane, and Margaret managed holiday flats in the same building for many years. Friendly and sociable as always, Margaret soon found many new friends in Charmouth, and the village was to remain her home to the end of her days. In the 1990s, Margaret and Ken moved into one of the new houses in The Lawns, which they had helped to build.

In 1987, no doubt to Margaret's great delight, her son Gordon and new wife Bo decided to move to Charmouth too, to start their married life. 'Mum' soon became 'Grandma' and perhaps the most joyful time of her life began. What could be better than having your grandchildren living almost next door, going to school just across the road, with a river and beach a short walk away and a garden to play in. And what's more they were girls (!) after so many years surrounded by boys.

Margaret was always a keen gardener and every year would produce a healthy crop of runner beans, redcurrants, tomatoes and raspberries. She encouraged the girls to help her, but they usually ate a lot more than were kept. Later, she and Ken would take them to Devon in their caravan, where they taught them to ride a bike and started teaching them to swim. There would be trips to the beach to go swimming in the sea, to explore the rock pools, and to have the occasional ice cream, which were greatly enjoyed as supplies were limited at home!

Margaret was always keen to give back what she could to her social groups, almost inevitably ending up on the committee as Treasurer. With husband Ken, she helped to run the Village Hall for many years. Her ability to keep neat and methodical records, learned in the tax office, served her well. Even when this became increasingly difficult for her, she continued to perform a valuable role as key holder of Charmouth Village Hall, and there must surely be many local residents who remember the way to her front door.

Husband Ken was never a great one for socialising however, and as time passed Margaret's ability to maintain her social contacts declined. One by one, they either moved or passed away and she became increasingly lonely at the same time as her physical and mental abilities declined. When Ken passed away two years ago, Margaret moved to Gordon and Bo's home, also in Charmouth, where all three had invaluable help from a kind and professional carer. This was a difficult time for all, but she was well looked after and there were some happy days on holiday in Cornwall and on local days out. She made frequent day visits to a local care home and was happy there, but as time went by she became increasingly distressed when left alone at home, or worse, when asked to do something she really didn't want to do.

After six months with Gordon and Bo, the decision was made that she should move to Fairfield House care home in Lyme Regis. It didn't take long for her to settle in and start to enjoy life again with the social contact and caring attention that she must have craved for so long. She stayed mobile with walks around the home and in the garden, and she enjoyed life's simple pleasures to the last, especially meals which she would often eat with her eyes closed and a smile on her face.

Even though she was 93 years old, her death felt sudden and quite unexpected, as she showed no sign of serious illness until her last few days. Seeing the care and kindness of all the people doing their best for her at the end made the experience much easier to bear. She will be greatly missed and remembered with love and fondness.

Gordon Hathway

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

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 | Mike Jackson-Bass 01297 560484 Phil Winstone 01297 561011 |
| 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 Pielez 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 |
| Guides | Weds. 7-9pm | Phone for information | Davina Pennells 560965 |
| 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 792850 |
| Line Dancing | Tuesday afternoons from 2.00- 3.30pm | Village Hall, Wesley Close | Andrea Harfield 01297 561083 |
| Parish Council Meeting | 4th Tuesday of every other 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 |
| 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

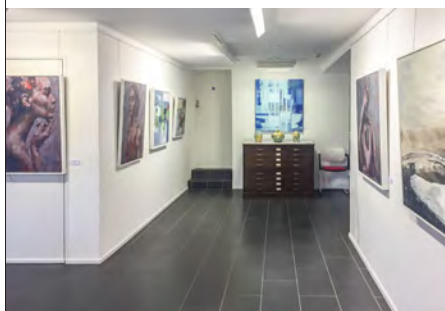
Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| 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. Pauline Berridge | 01297 560957 |
| 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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