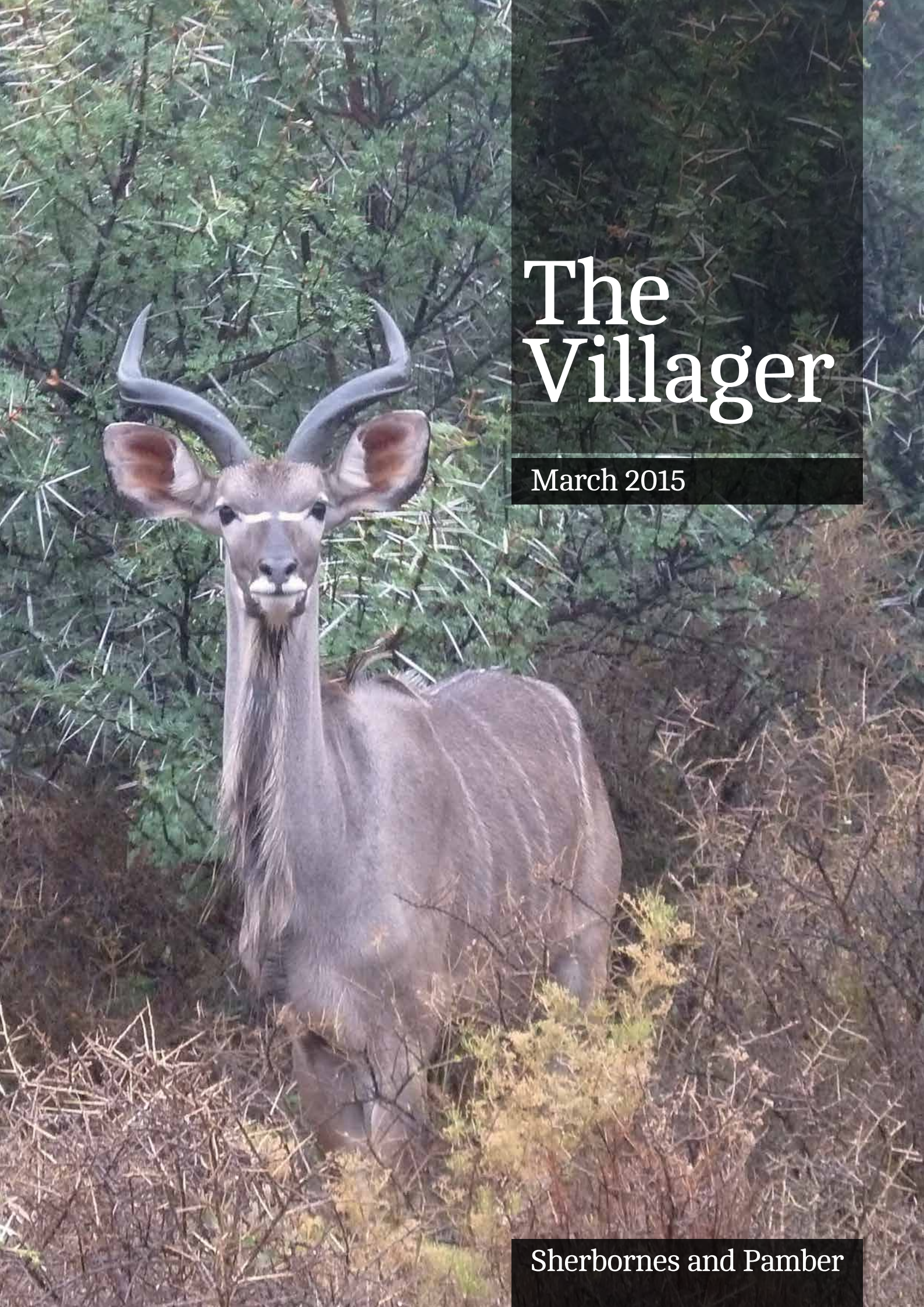


A photograph of a Kudu antelope standing in a savanna landscape. The antelope is facing the camera, showing its long, spiraling horns and large ears. It has a light brown coat with a white stripe running down its face. The background consists of green acacia trees and dry, yellowish-brown grass.

The Villager

March 2015

Sherbornes and Pamber



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Message from the Editor

You may be wondering why I have put a photo of an African kudu on the front cover ?..... well, just for a change ! The kudu is the 2nd largest of the African antelope and they are incredibly shy preferring to live in the thick undergrowth or “bush”; so they are very difficult to photograph. We are extremely fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of the country and I would encourage all the photographers amongst you to send in any photos that you think would look good on the front cover of the Villager. They need to be sent to me as a high resolution image so that they can be reproduced up to A4 size. Unfortunately some photos taken on a mobile phone are sent in too small a format.

For those from Sherborne St John, a lot of work has been done on the Village Neighbourhood Plan – so do please attend the Village Hall event on Saturday 14th March between 10am and 2pm to learn what has been done, vote on your preferences and find out what still has to be finalised before the Plan is drafted.

Julie Crawley
Editor

Contact us at Editor@thevillager.org.uk

Cover Photo: Kudu by Julian Crawley

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Future Events

March 2015

2	Pelican Film Society Boyhood, Ark Conference Centre	Guests welcome £5	7.30pm
3	SSJ Women's Fellowship Birds of the Bible	SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
3	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
9	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
10	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
13	Thai Curry Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall,	Tickets on sale from Bryony Crowther 07810 543738	7.30pm
16	Sherborne St John Village Hall Annual General Meeting,	SSJ Village Hall. All hall users welcome	7.00pm
17	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
21	Sherborne St John Village Market,	SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
23	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
24	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
31	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am

April 2015

4	The Sherbornes Art Exhibition, SSJ Village Hall,	Open to all with lunches, tea and coffee	10 – 5pm
5	The Sherbornes Art Exhibition, SSJ Village Hall,	Open to all with lunches, tea and coffee	10 – 4pm
6	The Sherbornes Art Exhibition, SSJ Village Hall,	Open to all with lunches, tea and coffee	12 – 5pm
6	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
7	SSJ Women's Fellowship The Newbury Coat	SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
7	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
13	Pelican Film Society The Imitation Game, Ark Conference Centre	Guests welcome £5	7.30pm
14	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
18	Sherborne St John Village Market,	SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
20	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
21	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
28	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am

May 2015

4	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
5	SSJ Women's Fellowship The Mystery of Agatha Christie	SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
5	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
12	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
15	Monk Sherborne Village Hall AGM & Quiz Night with Bangers and Mash,	Bryony Crowther 07810 543738	7.30pm
16	Sherborne St John Village Market,	SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
18	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
19	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
26	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am

June 2015

1	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
2	SSJ Women's Fellowship The History of Bramshill College	SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
2	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
9	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
14	Ramsdell Traditional Village Fete & BBQ		1-4pm
15	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
16	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
20	Sherborne St John Village Market,	SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
23	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am
29	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
30	Tuesday Club (drop-in coffee mornings)	St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. (Donation £1.00 pp)	10.00-12.00 am

July 2015

4	Sherborne St John Village Party, tickets on sale shortly		
7	SSJ Women's Fellowship Strawberry Tea	SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
13	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
17	Italian Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall,	Tickets on sale from Bryony Crowther 07810 543738	tbc
18	Sherborne St John Village Market,	SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
27	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall.	Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am

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Tuesdays

Ballroom & Latin Class

7:15pm - 8:15pm
£5.00 per person / per week
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9:45-11.15am

Sherborne St John Village Hall



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Church Matters March

Well, we now have Bishop Libby. Libby Lane was consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Stockport on 26 January amid scenes of general rejoicing and some dissent. She is the first woman bishop in the Church of England. There will doubtless be many more as the powers that be endeavour to begin to correct what they see as an imbalance in the House of Bishops.

Technically Bishop Libby will be in the “College of Bishops” but not in the House of Bishops as she is a suffragan rather than a Diocesan bishop. A “suffragan” is an assistant bishop, in a similar relation to the Diocesan bishop as an assistant curate is to the Vicar / Rector of the parish. It is the Diocesan who has the position of authority in the Diocese. (The Dioceses of the Church of England cover the whole country in a similar way that the counties do).

So it will be no surprise to know that the pressure to create more female bishops is still there – they want a significant

share of the Diocesan posts. Of course this cannot happen all at once – it all depends on when vacancies occur – that is when the current occupants decide to retire. Proponents of women bishops will be watching eagerly to see that there is a significant bias in favour of their candidates. Indeed one of their main pressure groups is called WATCH – Women And The CHurch. Their website boldly states “We now have women bishops but we’re just getting started”.

Indeed it is this pre-occupation with status which is one of the less attractive elements of the push for women in the Episcopate (i.e. as Bishops). It seems to sit uneasily with words of the One we follow: He said “I am among you as one who serves”¹. The Christian life is about service not status, yet there seems to be an awful lot of desire for status in this matter. Notwithstanding the fact that there are across the whole country plenty of congregations who still feel that the leadership of the church should be male, they wish to secure diocesan posts on an identical footing to men. Any congregation wishing to have male oversight will therefore have to petition a woman bishop for it. This is a tricky sticking point.

It is of course perfectly understandable, if you feel that the church is an institution much like any other, that you want to see women in leadership as, say, in politics or commerce. But we do not regard the church as an institution – it is a family – the people of God. And although this view is challenged today, the fact is that families need fathers. Of course things go wrong sometimes – fathers fail in various ways –but that doesn’t alter God’s basic design that the father is the head of the family. And as the church family parallels the human family, men need to take the lead there too.

The best way to understand the relationship between men and women in the church is that we are “equal but different”. No one is claiming that men are in some way superior to women. Men and women are equal in the sight of God, and as believers all one in Christ Jesus.² But men and women are not identical: there are differences of function – most obviously men cannot bear children³. That is the privilege of women. In a similar way, women cannot be fathers – that is the privilege of men.

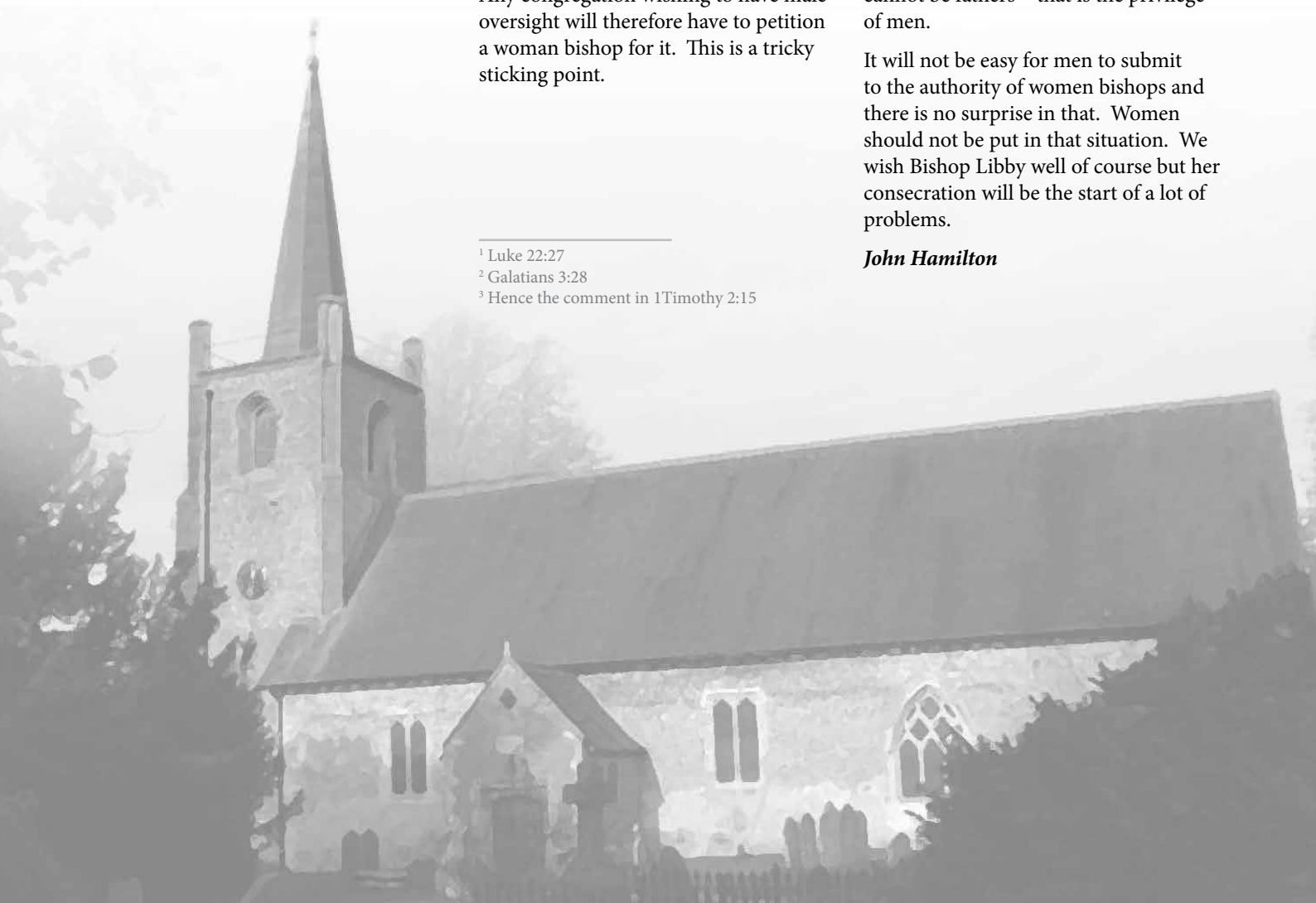
It will not be easy for men to submit to the authority of women bishops and there is no surprise in that. Women should not be put in that situation. We wish Bishop Libby well of course but her consecration will be the start of a lot of problems.

John Hamilton

¹ Luke 22:27

² Galatians 3:28

³ Hence the comment in 1Timothy 2:15



Services for March

St Andrew's – Sherborne St John
All Saints – Monk Sherborne
The Priory – Pamber End

1 March

10am	Parish Communion, Sunday Club & Crèche	St Andrew's
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall

8 March

8am	Holy Communion	Priory
10am	Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche	St Andrew's
10am	Morning Service	All Saints
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall

15 March

10am	Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche	St Andrew's
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall

22 March

10am	Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche	St Andrew's
10am	Morning service	Priory
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall

29 March

10am	Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche	St Andrew's
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall
	- followed by the ANNUAL MEETING of the PCC at 7pm	

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Prepared for the day? - Malachi

Mar 1	Failing to honour God	Malachi 1:6-14	Andrew King
Mar 8	What leaders should do	Malachi 2:1-12	Sean Clokey & John Hamilton
Mar 15	Sudden arrival	Malachi 2:13-3:4	Sean Clokey
Mar 22	The whole tithe	Malachi 3:5-15	John Hamilton & Sean Clokey
Mar 29	Prepared for the day	Malachi 3:16-4:6	John Hamilton

SUNDAYS AT SIX

Mar 1	Heart of the human problem	Mark 7:14-23	John Hamilton
Mar 8	All things well	Mark 7:24-37	John Hamilton
Mar 15	Dangerous Diet!	Mark 8:1-21	John Hamilton
Mar 22	Second touch	Mark 8:22-30	Warren Trask
Mar 29	The way to life	Mark 8:31-38	Sean Clokey

CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING (APCM): SUNDAY 29 MARCH

- The meeting will follow a shortened Sundays @ Six.
- Coffee at 6.45pm.
- We will begin promptly at 7pm and finish not later than 8pm.
- The meeting includes news, elections, financial reports and vision for the year ahead.

MIDWEEK MEETINGS

HOME GROUPS meet in the weeks beginning 8 & 22 March.
We meet to PRAY on Tuesday 3 March in the Parish Room at 2.30 & 8pm.
Track 3 on Understanding the Bible 17 March:
Parish Room / Home Groups

Roman Catholic Services (Tel: 819772)

Sunday Mass will be celebrated at the Church of St Bede, Popley at the following times: 9.00am 11.00am 6.30pm

Weekday Mass

Tuesday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Wednesday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Thursday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Friday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Saturday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *

* Time & Venue could vary

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All Saints Monk Sherborne

The Priory Pamber End

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Monk Sherborne Parish Council

The Parish Council is still looking for volunteers to initiate the Community Speedwatch campaign. A minimum of 6 people are required to get it up and running. The Parish Council would like to get a Speedwatch rota organised where as a team you determine how often and when to set up the Speed Indicator Device for your slot. Car number plates, the speed they are travelling (obtained from the SID) and the colour and make of car are all recorded and passed on to the main coordinator. This information is then passed to the Police for any action where appropriate. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the scheme (minimum age 18) is required to 'apply' by completing a form which can be obtained from the parish clerk. The more people that become involved, the more flexibility and ultimately more speed checks can be undertaken. At least 2 people are required to man the SID and record the necessary information. If

you have friends or family who are keen to help out on your shift please get them to fill in a form. We look forward to hearing from you!

Following submission of a grant application to replace a footpath stile, the Parish Council have been advised of their success. Therefore, we are pleased to advise that a kissing gate will be installed on the footpath at The Priory church in due course.

The Parish Council would like to thank Stone Circle who have kindly offered to jet wash the bus shelter on the A339. The constant traffic flow has left it looking rather worse for wear so it will be nice for users to actually see the bus coming from the windows whilst seeking refuge from the weather!

Liaison was held with Manor Farm following a number of safety concerns being raised by local residents regarding the mud and clay on the road near to

the church. Immediate action was taken to address the situation with further remedial work promised. The contractor also advised that all lorry drivers were asked to show due consideration to local residents.

Following the retirement of Mr Dennis Plester as the Neighbourhood Watch coordinator for Salters Heath Road, a replacement is being sought. If you are interested in volunteering for the role please contact either the parish clerk or Mr Martin Budd for further details.

The precept request for financial year commencing 1st April 2015 has been served upon Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council. The precept is to remain at £9,450 for the 8th year running.

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 18th March 2015 at Monk Sherborne Village hall, starting at 7.20pm.

Postcard from..... Brizzle

Bristol has an individual history - it used to keep its own time; it boasted the first US diplomatic mission in the UK; it had its own 'race' riots in the 1980s (called race riots, the racial element is generally thought to have been minimal) but has now moved on towards a truly multi-racial society; and it produced the graffiti /street artist Banksy!

A city that built its wealth on tobacco and the slave trade, it is not surprising it lost its way in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Now it's most definitely 'on the up' and the result is a bustling city full of history and surprises. Not prissy like Bath, Bristol still has its poorer areas, but it also has its pure gems - many centred on the Docks and the river Avon.

Isambard Kingdom Brunel is the sort of name you have to live up to! He didn't let Bristol down - for one, the Clifton Suspension Bridge is not only a significant piece of industrial heritage, it is also an inspiringly beautiful structure spanning the deep Avon Gorge. One of the most impressive of Brunel's many achievements was found rotting in the Falklands, where it had been abandoned in 1886. 84 years later, in 1970, the SS Great Britain was re-floated, brought back to Bristol and re-installed in the same dry dock in which it was built from 1839 to 1843. Extensively restored, the ship gives a vivid insight into ocean travel in the early Victorian era. Brunel ensured that the steam / sail ship was at the forefront of innovation, speed, safety and comfort; the 322ft long SS Great Britain was the first

propeller-powered (and sail) iron liner - it crossed the Atlantic in 14 days. Later it sailed the UK / Australia route for 30 years. Now the SS Great Britain is the centrepiece of an imaginative museum full of human interest and industrial history. The dry dock itself is worth the visit on its own!

Bristol is a lot of superlatives, it really is.

The 'Tourist'





SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Village Agents Needed

Gail Allen from Age Concern Hampshire gave a short presentation about the Village Agent Project which started in 2011 and runs throughout Hampshire. It was recognised by the Well Being Team that in rural areas elderly people especially preferred 'face to face' contact to discuss any problems or issues when they seek assistance. They are looking for more volunteers to cover the local villages. Funded by HCC until October 2015 from an initial pilot of 12 volunteers they now have 38 active in the County and want to expand and recruit more people. Training courses are run to induct new agents. While agents do not offer advice, they have access to advisors on line or by telephone, and can direct people to the appropriate people, organisation or agency for help. They are also able to carry out things such as home fire safety checks. Ideally they need 2 volunteers per area and she has already had one resident apply. All volunteers have to pass the DBS checks in order to work with vulnerable adults. The Parish Council thought it an extremely good Project. If you are interested please contact her at: villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk

Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman, Julian Crawley and his steering group are doing a fantastic job. The housing Needs Survey revealed a need for affordable homes as well as smaller homes for elderly residents who wish to downsize thus allowing them to remain in the Village. A workshop was held on Wednesday 28th January 2015 when our consultant Alex Munro went through the data, and looked at the options and preparations for the open meeting on 14th March 2015 in the Village Hall when options for inclusion will be displayed together with information from 3 developers on their plans for their sites. The meeting will be advertised to ensure as many people attend to view and give their opinions prior to the preparation of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

New Bus Service to Chineham

Andy Lipscombe, Basingstoke Community Transport, informed the PC that they were proposing to extend the 58 service from Tadley to Chineham retail park service to include Sherborne St John.

Service details:

To run twice a week on Wednesday and Friday from 18th February 2015.

11.34a.m. pick up at Cranes Road & Dancers Meadows, and then travel via hospital & Popley to Chineham centre/ Lidl arriving at 11.52p.m. 1.45p.m. return from Chineham centre arriving in Sherborne St John Cranes Road 2.15p.m. The service costs £13 per day to run – approx. £120 per month. If sufficient residents use the service there will be no cost to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council agreed unanimously to fund any shortfall for 3 months and review the situation after the initial period.

The new service needs to be advertised. The Clerk will arrange for details to be posted on the boards and in appropriate places and details will also be put in the next Parish report for the Villager. **However it needs to be self funding in the end so please use it or loss it !!!!**

Infrastructure

Mr John W Edwards reported that when a grave was dug recently the digger went straight over the newly repaired path to the WW1 memorial. It was therefore proposed that a new entry point was required to access the graveyard on the corner of Manor/ Cranes Roads – to remove the brambles, ivy and laurel hedge. Mr Edwards will obtain a quote for the work and the Clerk will then contact the Vicar and parochial council to see who would be liable to pay for the work.

Road/Footpaths

Concern was raised once more about the road/pavement at the entrance to the school. The Clerk will contact HCC Andrew Kettlewell and Keith Chapman to try and arrange an on-sight meeting.

Cllrs Rougier, Tomlinson and Rosie Harrall have asked if they be advised when the meeting will be held so that they may attend.

Vandalism

It has been discovered that some people unknown have pulled some of the recently planted trees out of the ground at the edge of the Chute near the tennis courts. If anyone has information that would help to catch the people responsible, please let the Clerk know on 01189332379.

Village Party

Please diarise July 4th-the date of the Village party. This year's party promises to top last years. More information will be released in due course. Tickets are available from Richard Morgan who can be contacted at 850123.

Speedwatch

Becky Jones almost has Speed-watch up and running. We need volunteers from all parts of the Village so that when we go out each part of the Village will have people there. This should ensure that no part of the Village gets more attention than any other. If you are interested in finding out more, call Becky on 01256850693

Allotments

There are 3 allotments sites at present in the Sherborne St John Parish.

A few plots have become available for new tenants this year. There are 3 sizes small, normal and large. So contact Penny, the clerk, if you fancy growing your own vegetables – hard work but **VERY** rewarding and there are many people already there who are happy to help with advice to ensure your success!! Contact Penny by e mail ssjclerk@gmail.com or telephone 0118 9332379 with your preference and contact details (including your address)

Syd Abraham

Vice Chairman

Pamber Parish Council

Pamber Parish Council met on 9th February 2015

Parish Event

Please note that the Parish Event will now take place on 13th June 2015 (not 20th as reported last month).

There are plans to make this a commemoration of 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. There will be a fancy dress parade (costumes from the time of the battle) and drinks and light refreshments will be available. Live music will be provided by a local band. The event will take place on Pamber Park, Pamber Heath this year but it is hoped to have an event in the south ward next year.

Planning applications:

14/03923: Erection of 5 bedroom dwelling and detached garage. Retention and conversion of existing dwelling into games room/guest room, to include dormer window. (Amended scheme to that approved under BDB/77624).

The Barn, Bramley Road, Little London.
No objection

14/02338/FUL: Amendment - Installation of a solar park and associated works to include a temporary roadway and construction compound, security fencing and landscaping works.

Land at Berry Court Farmhouse, Bramley Road, Little London.
No objection.

St. Stephen's Hall, Little London.

I am pleased to report that the repairs to St. Stephen's Hall have now been completed but some re-decoration has still to be done. Once all the work has been carried out, the plans for a re-opening party can be made. Please keep an eye on the notice boards and website for more details.

Parish Council Elections.

On 7th May this year there will be parish council elections. If you are thinking about doing something positive for your community and you want to help make a difference, consider becoming a councillor for your parish. There are ten councillors on the team and all ten positions can be contested. Contact the clerk for more information about Pamber Parish Council or talk to any parish councillor.

Nomination packs will be available on the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council website or alternatively, you can contact the Elections Office. The Notice of Election will be dated Friday 27 March 2015 and nomination papers will be accepted from this date, up until 4pm on Thursday 9 April 2015, nomination papers and forms of consent must be delivered by hand to Electoral Services, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke during office hours (Monday to Friday between 10.00am – 4.00pm, excluding Bank Holidays).

If you are over 18, a British or EU citizen and have lived or worked in the locality for the past year, you are probably eligible to stand as a candidate. You need to find a proposer and a seconder from amongst the electorate. You can start a campaign whenever you like, but your nomination papers must be submitted in person to the Borough Council at least a month before polling day.

Pamber Parish Council meetings are held in public at 7.30pm on the second Monday of most months at Pamber Heath Memorial Hall and at St. Stephen's Hall in Little London, alternately. There is also an Annual Parish Meeting held alongside the monthly meeting in May. The team is supported by a salaried clerk.

For election details from BDBC, Tel: 01256 845298

Email: electoral.services@basingstoke.gov.uk

Grants

A grant of £300 was awarded to Hampshire Wildlife towards the cost of running the Pamber Forest Project.

The parish council has a small sum of money available to help with community projects. If you are involved in such a project and think that a grant could help, please contact the clerk for more details.

The next meeting of Pamber Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 9th March 2015 in the Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Details of meetings are displayed on the notice boards and on the website www.pamber-pc.gov.uk

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Notes from Pamber Green and Pamber End

I think my body must have a winter switch that sends me into semi-hibernation when it gets cold and miserable. I never used to be like this when I was younger. I'd be out in my garden working all year round after work and at weekends but I need a major incentive now to go out. Still it has been fairly dry of late, let's hope for an early Spring.

WELL IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED!
The A340 has at last been restricted to 40mph throughout its length from the start of Pamber End through to the boundary of Tadley. I still can't understand why it had to take so long but thank goodness it is done. Parishioners having to pull out onto the 50mph section took their lives in their hands, especially during the rush hours.

The moles are wreaking vengeance at the moment. Many of the verges throughout the parish are riddled with mole hills, as is our lawn. If they would just divert their tunnels into the forest we could all live together in harmony but if they keep this up they are asking for trouble!

Whilst the County Council have sorted out the speed limit, no progress is being made with the overgrown hedgerows

hindering access along our footpaths. Thankfully parishioners have trimmed some of the obstructions but once Spring arrives these will soon become inaccessible again with large size growth spreading. I have reported these again and would urge you all to do the same using the website link:- www3.hants.gov.uk/index/transport/roadproblems.htm

We are fortunate to live in a rural community, enjoying the outdoor spaces and room to live and occupy ourselves. But this brings a range of problems to deal with, including rats. My near neighbour, Norman Smith, tells me that Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council offer a free rat removal service, provided by a contractor, to domestic customers aged over 60 and/or those in receipt of income support or housing benefit. They do not provide a removal service for any other pests. Look on their website www.basingstoke.gov.uk under Environmental Health.

It was interesting to read in the last Villager about the Priory School building work and extension that is now complete. It is one of our local village schools and has had close links with our parish church. Many of our children, my son included, have been a part of the life and environment provided by the

school in past years and it would be nice to see a regular review and report of developments and activities within the Priory School.

It seems the future of St Stephen's Hall is now secured and a plan for repairs is in place when the weather improves. A quaint part of the parish which is nice to see survive and hopefully flourish.

Please diary date up and coming Parish Council meetings on 9/3/15 and 13/4/15, followed by the AGM 18/5/15. It would be nice to receive a report at the AGM this year from the Pamber Forest Reserve Manager and the Advisory Committee as the forest is such a significant part of our parish.

News of the superfast broadband Wave 2 roll out to Pamber residents has now been published at the website <http://www.hants.gov.uk/broadband>. Check now to see when you may hope to see an improvement to your service. Thanks to parishioner Ian Dalton for keeping us informed on developments.

As always, please send me any news or items of interest for inclusion in our notes page.

Ann Ellis

annjellis@googlemail.com

The SSJ Neighbourhood Plan March 2015 Update

Just one (very important) notice this month -

The Consultation



The Questionnaire Feedback Exhibition and Consultation on the Draft Options will take place on **Saturday 14th March** at the **Village Hall, SSJ** from **10.00 to 14.00**.

Be there to

- review the findings and
- make sure your voice is heard
- vote for your preferred development site

before we start to write a **Draft Neighbourhood Plan**.



Information on the SSJ Neighbourhood Plan at

www.ssjvillage.org/neighbourhood-plan.html

Julian Crawley



Bramley Osteopaths

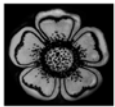
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“Keep Singing!”

On 29th January, a choir of nearly 50 children from The Priory performed at The O2 arena as part of the Young Voices series of concerts. This was the fourth year that the school has taken part in the event so it is definitely becoming a regular date in the school's calendar and one that is greatly anticipated by children, parents and staff alike!

Rehearsals began in September; every Thursday morning before the start of school, the choir met to practise the songs and the accompanying dance moves. The vocal selection this year was particularly challenging and included a selection of Andrew Lloyd Webber show tunes, an adaptation of Mozart's Requiem and some African songs in a tribute to Nelson Mandela, as well as the usual pop medley. Never before have we sung songs in the Zulu language, in Latin and in English – as you might



imagine, the sound of these on the night was both powerfully dramatic and moving in equal measure!

We hope that the Young Voices experience will stay with the children

forever. The whole day is packed full of memories – riding on the escalators, sitting in seats so high up that we have a bird's eye view of the arena, eating a packed lunch and a packed tea (not forgetting the treat of sweets to “keep us going”), the anticipation as the parents begin to take their seats and the thrill of performing for 2 hours to the most appreciative audience ever – absolutely electric!

It was one o'clock in the morning when we arrived back at school – amazingly most of the children were still awake and buzzing with enthusiasm! We are already looking forward to January 2016; there's just one thing that we need to do to rekindle our memories and that is to “Keep Singing”!

Suzanne Kelly, Head Teacher

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Spring Close #	11.34	Abbey Rd Post Office	14.00
Dancers Meadows #	11.34	Hospital	14.05
Hospital via Elm Road-A340	11.40	Manor Road	14.09
Abbey Rd Post Office	11.43	Spring Close #	14.09
Shakespeare Rd Surgery	11.48	Dancers Meadows #	14.09
Chineham Shopping Centre	11.52	Cranes Road	14.13
Lidl Chineham	11.57	Bishopwood Court, Tadley	14.29

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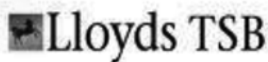
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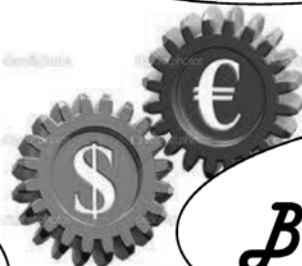
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Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School

At the end of January, Class 4 abandoned their normal timetable; the Year 6 pupils travelled to Stubbington for a week's residential trip and the Year 5s spent each morning on their bikes! I thought it best to let them tell you all about it:

Stubbington

"After a long wait, the 26th January 2015 had finally come. It was the day all seventeen Year 6s were going to Stubbington for five long days. Stubbington is a large community by the sea. This encourages years 4-6 (ages 8-11) to be responsible, have excellent teamwork and to have respect. At Stubbington they have interesting activities to keep children active throughout the week. And on the 26th it was the Year 6 of SSJ's turn to go..."

"There were several activities and one of my favourites was the hide. On Wednesday night we went into the hide and we had to sit quietly and wait for animals to come. It was very exciting because there was probably at least one animal every minute of the hour that we were there. Also Miss Biles and Mrs Rogers (the adults that took us) had gone there for eight years and never seen a badger, but this time they did! Which was amazing!"

"Shelters and chain-gangs was another fun activity we did. When we built the shelter we were split into three groups. We were told to make sure we could all fit inside the shelter and that it was waterproof. Once we had built the shelters, we all crawled inside and they poured water on the shelters to see if they were waterproof, which I thought was really funny!"



"Also we had a go at Earthquake.

Earthquake is where you have a series of obstacles and you have to get around all of them. I was a little nervous about that! Another thing we did was making small mammal hotels to see if we caught any mice – we did! We caught 3 mice – 1 female and 2 males."



"At the beach we made rock pools, found rare fossils and had a sandcastle-building contest."

"Overall, going to Stubbington was one of the best choices I've ever made and I would recommend it to other people. I thought it was spectacular!"

Neha, James and Liam

Bikeability

"Early on the 26th January all the Year 5s were wrapped up warm in thick woolly jumpers, hats, gloves and scarves. They all set off down Sherborne roads to start an exciting week of Bikeability."

"We learned a variety of new things, however the first thing was a safe stop and start. That didn't take us very long and before we knew it we started on our 'U' turns. That took us a bit longer to learn but we eventually mastered it. In the same lesson we learned how to go past a junction and that we had to claim our lane. This meant we had to go in the middle of our lane when we went past a junction to make sure a car doesn't hit us. I was quite nervous doing that but once I tried I really enjoyed doing it. It was my first time with my bike on the road."

"On Tuesday we did our very first trip onto the roads and we were split into three groups, all in different spots of SSJ – one by the Swan, one by a main road and one by Tyfield. We were doing things like U-turns, signalling and right/left turns in and out, and it was great fun."

"We were halfway through the week and we were stepping up a gear, doing more challenging things and pushing ourselves to the limit. We were doing checks, making sure that everything was safe: helmets adjusted, bikes in control and NO dangly bits on you, your bike or your helmet. We had an ABCD check. A was to check air in your tyres, B was to check your brakes, C was control and D was 'dangly bits'!"

"Doing the activities was amazing. We did this really cool game where you had to be able to be really steady on your bike, because you had to be as slow as possible to win the race. But if you put your foot down or went in a diagonal line, you would be out."

"Everyone was very enthusiastic to do Bikeability and I really loved it. I learned a lot of new things and I would recommend Bikeability to anyone."

Darcy, Immy and Ines

Sherbert – SSJ School Villager Correspondent

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The Monk Sherborne And District Horticultural Society

Report of the Annual General Meeting

The meeting took place on Friday 30th January 2015.

Thank you to all those who took the time to attend.

Chairman's report

I reviewed a successful year for the Horti....

April- The planting of sunflowers to celebrate the RHS 50 years of Britain in Bloom, July- the coach trip to Hampton Court Flower show much enjoyed by everyone, August- our annual show which proved successful even despite the rain and finally in November the annual illustrated supper talk where we raised £650 for St.Michael's Hospice.

Sadly I had to end with the news that our requests for help to save the show and the Horti had fallen upon deaf ears.

We sent out a notice to all members and published articles in the Villager and Parish news in September calling for a new chairman and committee.

With over half of the current committee and myself standing down it was necessary for new blood to take the society forward. No volunteers came forward and therefore no election of officers took place at the AGM.

Treasurers report - Miles Roberts reported on a net profit from activities for the show of £4,011, helped by sponsorship of the schedule and donations, despite the wet weather, which had resulted in reduced income. Other expenses had been restrained and the show had shown a total net profit of £1,127.

Secretary report - Bruce Jones reported there were 61 members of the Society last year. There were 557 entries in the show classes.

The President - Lady Lulu Naeve thanked all the committee and those who had helped during the year. We had made contingency plans for the society should no volunteers come forth. These are as follows:

Future of the Society

A new chairman and an expanded committee was required but had not been forthcoming. Consequently, it was proposed that the Society would go into suspended animation for three years. The current members shall remain members (without new subscriptions) and no new members shall be recruited. Some Society assets may be sold off (those being several car ports) all other equipment (including the new pop up tents) shall be stored safely and not lent nor hired out.

The dormant society will be managed by myself, Miles Roberts and Bruce Jones.

The proposal was put to the meeting that the Society should go into suspended animation for three years; that if no one had come forward to run the Society, a meeting of existing members should after three years determine the future of the Society's assets; that during the three year period the named Society managers should manage matters but that they should take no serious decisions without consulting the membership. This was proposed by Sir Paul Neave, seconded by Alick Jones, and the proposal was approved unanimously, with no abstentions.

It is a very sad end to 64 years of the Horticultural Society. However, we are not alone as many societies are closing due to a lack of support. It seems people do not have the spare time now to devote to these good causes. I am hopeful that new people will come forward with a solid proposal for the Society in the future. If not, the Society's financial assets will be distributed throughout the districts we currently cover as decided by the current members.

I would ask that all cups and trophies won at the show last year be returned in July and will post a reminder nearer the time.

At the end of the meeting Bill Chubb addressed the members and indicated that the Monk Sherborne Village Hall Committee was planning a much smaller and simpler show, with horticultural classes (but not accredited to the RHS rules or judging procedures) and children's classes. The likely date would be early to mid-September. I am sure he would appreciate any help with this if you are interested.

Finally I should like to express my personal thanks to all those who have supported me with the Horti. My wonderful committee, all the members and my family who have given encouragement to new ideas and physical help.

Kind regards
Kim Fleming
Email kimf790@gmail.com
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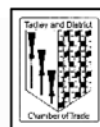
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Tuesday Club returns to St. Stephen's Hall

The T-Club meets every Tuesday from 10.00-12.00 noon at St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. This is a self-funding group of friends and neighbours who welcome anyone to drop in for a cuppa. Following repair works to the hall, the meetings returned there on 3 March. Donations of £1.00 per person cover tea/coffee, biscuits and hire of the hall. Enquiries: Hilary Evans hilarymevans@hotmail.co.uk

ASBRP – All Saints Bells – We've Got Some Bits Over!

No, it's quite all right; these are some of the old and redundant bits...

Would anyone like to purchase an old bell clapper, we've got two or three looking for homes. The clappers are made of wrought iron, weigh about 25 pounds each and are 24 to 27 inches long – we are not yet metric in the bellringing world. They date from about 1862 and, having spent their lives in the very harsh conditions of the tower at All Saints, are rather corroded (but would clean up very well). We would like to ask £20 for each one – all in aid of the restoration funds.

For your information – the bells are really nice to ring now.

For further information contact David Cullum on 01256 850315.



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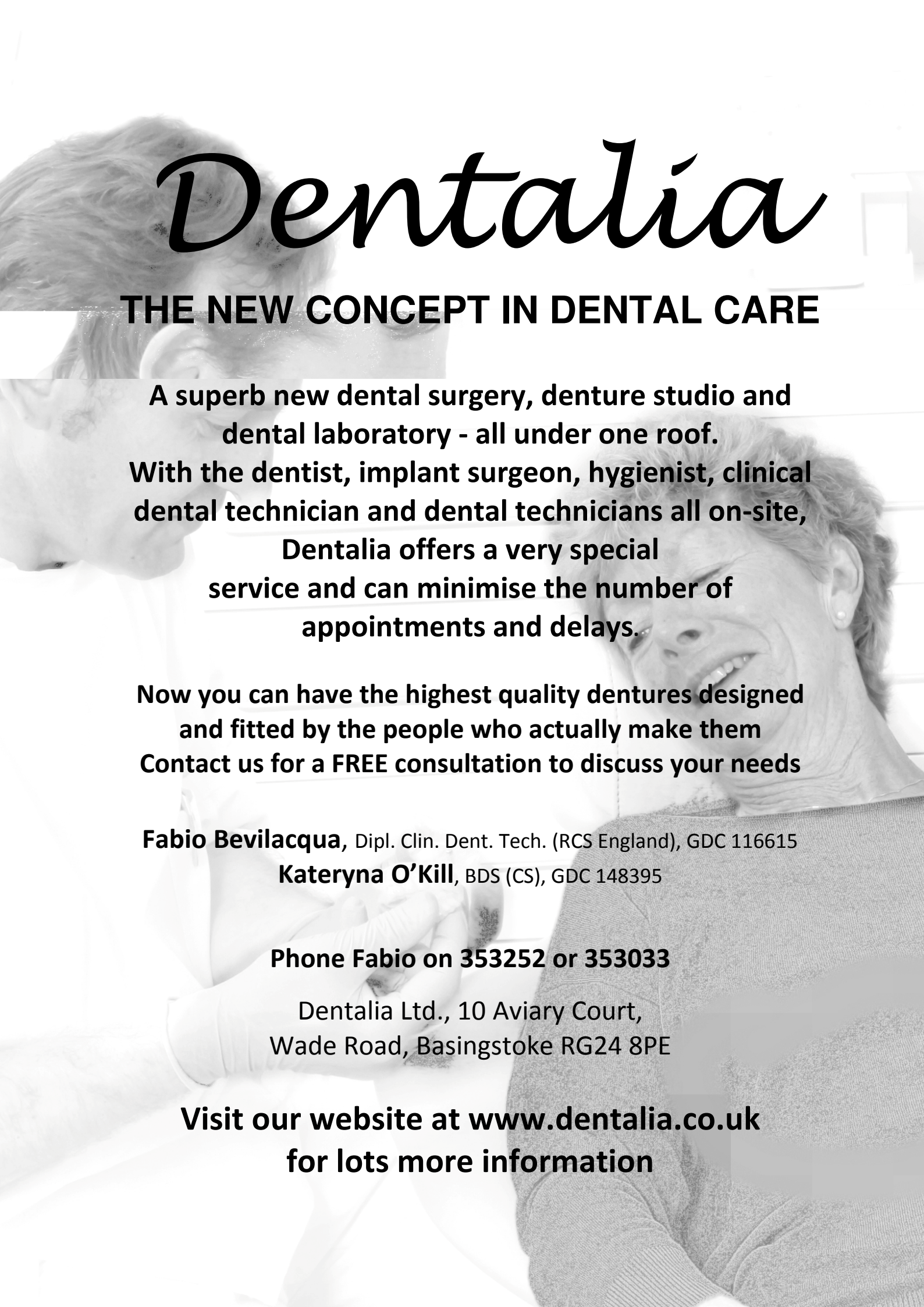
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**SHERBORNE ST JOHN
VILLAGE HALL
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
MONDAY 16th MARCH 2015 AT 7.00 pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL
SHERBORNE ST JOHN
All Villagers and Hall users are invited**

Sherborne St John Village Hall

The Committee would like to thank Margaret Dove and Julie Ede most sincerely for organizing and running this last NSPCC Christmas Fair at the end of November. They both did a great job and as a result it was very successful.

We the Committee are very happy with the £1,143.91 profit that was made. It was divided between the NSPCC, the Village Hall and the Camrose Charity for the homeless.

We would also like to thank everyone involved, both on the Committee, and other kind friends and villagers. It is wonderful that we are able to host so many events each year in the village hall and we can only do this with the support and help of the villagers.

Although it may seem a little early, we would ask for anyone who would like to help out in any capacity with the 2015 Sherborne St. John Christmas Fair to contact one of the Committee. The fair is already booked to be held in the village hall on Saturday, 28th November.

All help will be appreciated.

Many thanks

Sue Burlingham

Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee

The Sherborne St John Village Market 2015

This year, we are giving the market a bit of a shake up! We learnt last year what was working for our visitors and what was not. We have invited several new stallholders to join us and with lots of interest we hope to be able to rotate the goods on offer to give you a varied selection throughout the year.

Some of our new stalls include, cake bakers, chocolate makers, fashion retailers and crafters.

Of course, some old favourites will remain including the Bramley Village Bakery, we wouldn't want you to miss out on those freshly baked goods! Also, Shaw Trust will be on hand for your fresh produce plus Roy and Denize with their ever so tasty jams and preserves!

Market dates for 2015

21st March, 18th April, 16th May,
20th June, 18th July, 22nd August,
19th September, 17th October,
21st November* and 19th December*.

**Christmas Markets*

If you are interested in becoming a stallholder this year, please do contact us either at one of the markets, via email to Shawnauk1949@yahoo.co.uk or visit our Facebook page, 'Sherborne St John Village Market'.

Don't forget to join us for a cuppa and cake once you've finished your shopping!

See you soon,

Shawna & Lorah

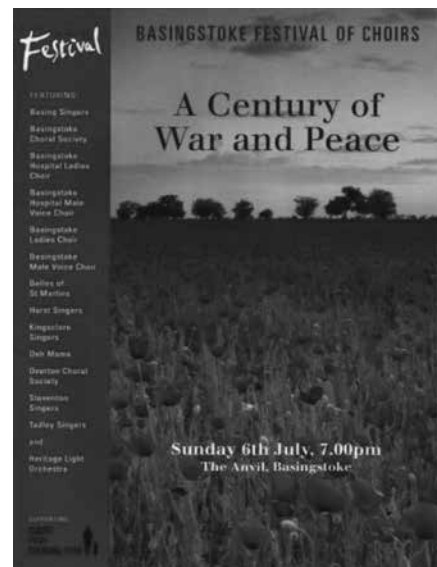
BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

The speaker was David Ogborn who presented a talk "Singing for Fun". He gave a history of his own involvement with choirs in the area since 1975 which included his time with the Basingstoke Male Voice Choir which did many world-wide tours and eventually led to his setting up the Festival of Choirs in 2011. Last year a special concert "A Century of War and Peace" was held at the Anvil which was a sell-out. This involved 13 choirs and raised money for the charity Care for Casualties. He then had everyone at the meeting joining in some singing practice and trying out a

few songs which, despite most people's reservations, did not sound too bad.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am – 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Further details about meetings can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 01256 418770 or at bjmapbr@ntlworld.com and details of trips from Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

David Cowling



Womens Fellowship – February 2015

The January meeting was unfortunately cancelled due to the many illnesses spreading through the village, and which many members succumbed to.

Looking back to December 2014, the Christmas Lunch was held at Sandford Springs Golf Club & Hotel, a venue known to the Womens Fellowship, and which can be relied upon for their attentive service and varied menu. It was much enjoyed by all.

The February meeting of the Womens Fellowship was the AGM, when the Financial Report for 2014 was read, and the 2015 Programme distributed. As in previous years, we have a varied and stimulating year ahead, with Speakers, outings and Summer Tea. Mrs Margaret Plumb had organised a Quiz on Nursery Rhymes, which proved to be surprising and informative. It seems that some, though by no means all, of

the well known and much loved nursery rhymes have an almost sinister base to them, whilst others have emerged from an incident of some kind. Everyone appreciated the work that Margaret had put into it. The Committee had provided a tea, and the Bring & Buy sale + raffle got the year off to a lively start.

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An advertisement for "Parli Italiano?". It features a black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand. The text "Parli Italiano?" is in a bold, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller font, is "Italian classes for all levels" and "Mother tongue teacher". At the bottom, it says "Based in Oakley, Basingstoke", "07872019128", and "parli.italiano_oakley@yahoo.co.uk".

Bert's Blog



Just showing you my special bed, kept in the sitting room especially for me and upon which I keep myself company!

I am allowed to sit on it if I have been good and promise not to misbehave or do anything which may instigate the air freshener being utilised. Recently I have had a suspicion that someone else has been using my special bed – no, not the Boss and definitely not the Mrs – although I blame her for this gross invasion of my property. The other night, after being told I could come in and sit on my bed, which I hasten to add is right next to the small elevated bed belonging to a certain small furry spitty thing called Tiddles, I was just going to do my usual circular walk to find the best position for curling up when I smelt a suspiciously cat like aroma hovering over of my special bed – that danged cat had been sleeping on MY bed! Vastly annoyed and not to be out done I kept one eye open all evening to see if she would be joining us. Sure enough, in she padded, looking all innocent, spotted me and made to jump onto her own bed. Just as she did so I barked really loudly so she misjudged the position of her cushion and instantly fell base over apex onto the floor! Did I laugh? Yes, for a bit, but not only did Tiddles land on her feet (don't they always get the better of you) but my bark had woken both the Boss & Mrs who had been dozing by the fire and I got into a bit of hot water, however some time later, when things had quietened down, I snoozed and dreamt of flying fur.

Tadley Bureau Opening Hours



The CAB is open to the public as a drop in service during the following hours.

Monday	10.00 -- 3.30
Tuesday	10.00 -- 1.00
Wednesday	10.00 -- 1.00
Thursday	10.00 -- 3.30
Friday	10.00 -- 1.00

We are also open for appointments only on a Thursday evening at 6pm.

We can provide advice by email – please visit our website www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk and fill in one of the enquiry forms.

For an appointment or telephone advice ring our adviceline on 03444 111 306

Singing is good for you!

Something missing in your life? Want to give something to the community? Want to find a new circle of friends? Why not do something that has been shown to benefit your health – singing – its more fun than going to the gym!

'Singing has physical benefits because it is an aerobic activity that increases oxygenation in the blood stream and exercises major muscle groups in the upper body, even when sitting. Singing has psychological benefits because of its normally positive effect in reducing stress levelslinked to our sense of emotional well-being' – so says Professor Graham Welch of the University of London.

Here at **Basingstoke Male Voice Choir** we've been singing for 50 years and we desperately need new members to take us into the next 50. We're not all trained musicians – just a bunch of people enjoying a good sing. We practice once a week and give concerts 3 or 4 times a year, it's not too onerous and we have a lot of fun!

The only prerequisite is that you're male! You don't need to be able to read music or have sung in a choir before though both or either would be real assets.

Our programme for 2015 starts with our first concert in April and then we're off to Cornwall for the Cornish International Choir Festival in May. Still plenty of time to find out what singing in a choir is all about – just turn up at our rehearsals at the **United Reform Church** in London Road, Basingstoke, held every Monday at 7:30PM. Alternatively look at our web site (www.BasingstokeMVC.org.uk) and select the 'Contact Us' section or email MLGHOOK@yahoo.co.uk and we'll get you more details.

Later in the year (September) we are planning a 'taster day' where you will be able to get a more in-depth view of singing in a choir and also to learn the rudiments of singing.

Please get in touch – it will be worth it!

Probus hears about Microlight Flying



Kim Taylor, a Landing Site Officer with The Queen's Helicopter Flight, gave an illustrated presentation to the Probus Club of Basingstoke about microlight flying. Kim has experienced a varied aviation career. He is a retired Police Air Observer, microlight constructor, pilot and former Flight Safety Officer for the British Microlight Aircraft Association.

He described what legally constitutes a microlight aircraft in its various shapes and forms, going on to illustrate the different characteristics of this type of aviation and why it appeals as "flying for ordinary folk".

Statutory individual medical and licensing requirements were covered as was flying training, excellently demonstrated by way of video clips made by a helmet camera in the cockpit.

The pros and cons of factory versus home built aircraft were examined and an in-depth account given of Kim's own experiences in constructing three very different flying machines. He also touched on how the airworthiness aspects were addressed.

Kim reminisced how microlight flying had led him on adventures over the past few years. Besides the simple fun of flying from airstrips and airfields he has toured extensively and been involved with rallies all over the UK. This included, what he was told at the time, was the first return flight to the Scilly Isles in a 'weight shift' microlight. On the centenary of Louis Bleriot's first crossing of the English Channel, Kim was among over a hundred British and French aircraft to make the crossing

in 2009. He has partaken in a mass microlight landing on the sands of Morecambe Bay, commemorating the gallant action of the Lancashire Fusiliers in Gallipoli. Kim's finest event was organising the 'Help for Heroes' flypast over Wootton Bassett in 2010. This was a tribute to the armed services and to the people of the town itself. It involved one hundred and forty aircraft and raised over £3000.

If you want to know more about the Probus Club for retired professional and business men see their website www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com or ring the Secretary Paul Flint for an informal chat on 07770 886521.



Basingstoke Ladies' Choir *Concert*

Sunday 26th April 2015, 3pm

*St Joseph's Church, St Michael's Road,
Basingstoke.*

With guests 'Berkshire Brass'

Supporting the 'Life' Charity.

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Jan Hodges—01256 781035/07771848437

Or

Chantal Brown—01256 320474



BAOS Presents Hairspray

The Haymarket

**Monday 16th - Saturday 21st March
2015, 7.30pm**

Saturday 21st March, 2.30pm

**Tickets from £15, group discounts
available**

**BIG hair, big voices, and tonnes of
Hairspray!!**

Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion: to dance. Her dream is to appear on 'The Corny Collins Show', Baltimore's hippest dance party on TV. If there is one thing that this girl knows, it's that she was born to dance. When the station cancels their monthly 'Negro Day', Tracy is forced to open her eyes to a bigger issue that her friends face... racial inequality.

It's 1962, and change is in the air. But can a trendsetter in dance and fashion vanquish the programme's reigning princess, win the heart of heartthrob Link Larkin, and integrate a television show without denting her 'do?

Packed with great chorus numbers such as 'Good Morning Baltimore', 'Welcome to the 60s' and of course the fabulous 'You Can't Stop The Beat. With upbeat 60s music and colourful set and costumes, Hairspray is sure to have the audience dancing in the aisles. Be sure not to miss this eight-time Tony award-winning show!

Live in Care – a realistic alternative to residential care

Leaving the home you love, where you may have lived for many years, can be an upsetting and daunting experience. New routines, a different environment and unfamiliar faces can all add stress at a time when all you want is comfort and reassurance.

If you are familiar with the everyday pressures families face as they come to terms with the care needs of a loved one you'll know that organising care is no easy task and the thought of them moving out of their home can add to these pressures. But there is a realistic alternative for many people; staying at home with the support of a live-in care worker.

By putting in place the support of a trained, professional live-in care worker, a specialist care at home provider can help with all your loved one's care needs, keeping them in the home they love. This support includes help with everyday tasks, such as laundry, housework, shopping and general management of the home as well as personal care and companionship.

A live-in care worker provides dignified and respectful support, as well as offering the safety and reassurance that someone is always there. This means that your loved one can continue living in their own home and within their local community for as long as possible, so that their friends and family can maintain their normal relationships with them.

The back up from a quality, experienced care at home care provider is vital

so that they will be able to offer a continuity of staff to ensure that the care workers supporting your loved one know and understand their lifestyle and are familiar with their specific routines and care needs. They will also be able to provide all the necessary checks, administration, management, training and supervision that the live in care worker will need to be able to focus on providing the very best quality of care.

When arranging a live-in care service, you will need to talk through all the options with your chosen provider so that you understand what to expect from the live in care worker and what support that the care provider can offer. Of course, they will also need to understand exactly what you are looking for and what specific needs your loved one has. With all this information they will then be in a good position to recommend a tailored care package and live-in care worker that best match your requirements. It will also help if the provider has a local base so that the support is easily mobilised and so you can have contact with them at short notice if and when required.

This article was written by Michele Lupton, Live-in Care Service Manager for Bluebird Care in Hook and Newbury. If you need any advice on live in care at home or if you would like further information about Bluebird Care's care at home services you can contact Michele on 01256 762324

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LEGAL CORNER



Shared Parental Leave – The New Rights

Gill Brown, Head of Employment Law at Phillips Solicitors explains that for babies born after 5th April 2015 employed mothers will have the possibility of sharing up to 50 weeks' leave and 37 weeks' pay with their partner. This 'Shared Parental Leave' regime also applies to adoption and surrogacy and is equally applicable to same sex couples.

The new rules are aimed at giving parents more flexibility and bonding opportunities but in practice they are complicated in respect of eligibility, notice provisions and whether or not the second parent qualifies for Statutory Shared Parental Pay.

Shared Parental Leave is available to parents who are in employment, fulfil the service and earnings criteria and can provide the requisite declaration in support. This option is only available to the mother/adopter and if they have care of the child, including same sex couples. At least 8 weeks' written notice is necessary to apply for Shared Parental Leave so anyone wishing to take advantage of these new provisions could give notice now of their intention to take up this option. The child must, however, be born/adopted after 5th April 2015. Statutory Shared Parental Pay will be payable at the same rate as Statutory Maternity Pay, subject to fulfilling the qualifying criteria.

With the introduction of Shared Parental Leave, the current provision for unpaid Additional Paternity Leave will be abolished. Fathers will, however, still be entitled to Paternity Leave in a block of one or two weeks at the time of birth/adoption, this remains a separate right to Shared Parental Leave, and Statutory Paternity Pay may be claimed during this one or two week period.

Shared Parental Leave should also not be confused with Parental Leave which remains as a separate right. Parental Leave is being changed this year as well to entitle any eligible parent to take up to 18 weeks unpaid leave per child before they reach the age of 18 provided it is to care for the child, has regard to the employer's business needs regarding timing and does not exceed 4 weeks in a year.

These different rights can be complicated and confusing for employees and employers alike. If you would like further information regarding your entitlement in specific circumstances or if you are an employer faced with an application under any of these employee rights then it is advisable to take legal advice especially during this transition period.

For more information contact Gill Brown 01256 854605, gill.brown@phillips-law.co.uk or Karen Bristow 01256 854670, karen.bristow@phillips-law.co.uk

Small Ads

Enquiries and items for inclusion please contact **Emma Foreman** on **01256 889215/07747 015494** or **advertising@thevillager.org.uk**

- The advertising rate is £4 per month or £6 for a box entry. Cheques to be made payment to 'The Villager'.
- Payment for advertisements must be received in advance and are limited to 10 lines of type.
- For information on annual block advertisements please contact **Emma Foreman**

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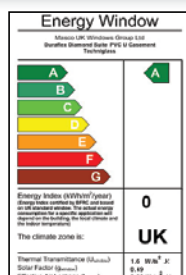
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