



The Villager

February 2015

Sherbornes and Pamber



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We do not close for lunch

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Message from the Editor

New Year – Old Problem



Debra took her sister's dogs for a walk along the 'old' Cranes Road , along the Church path next to the pond and back again. Along the way she encountered 8 places where folk had let their dogs foul the pavement and then not picked it up – not on !!

Richard, SSJ Parish Council Chairman

On this Day.....

Saturday, 4th July

In 1862 Lewis Carroll conceived the idea of Alice in Wonderland

In 1954 UK rationing ended after World War 2

In 1776 the United States Declaration of Independence was signed

In 1968 Sir Alec Rose returned home after his 354 round the world trip in his ketch Lively Lady

In 1997 NASA's Mars Pathfinder lands on Mars

In 2009 North Korea test 7 ballistic missiles

In 2015, the population of SSJ can attend the second Village Party on the Village Green – if you want to reserve tickets then contact Richard Morgan at richard.morganssj@btinternet.com or 850123

60 Plus Coffee Morning Dates for 2015 in Sherborne St John Village Hall

Many thanks to the SSJ Parish Council for their continued support.

9 February	4 May	27 July	19 October
23 February	18 May	10 August	2 November
9 March	1 June	24 August	16 November
23 March	15 June	7 September	30 November
6 April	29 June	21 September	14 December
20 April	13 July	5 October	

If anyone needs transport - please call 850577.

Shelley Moore

Julie Crawley
Editor

Contact us at Editor@thevillager.org.uk

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Cover Photo: By Julie Crawley

Future Events

February 2015

2	Pelican Film Society, Saving Mr Banks, Ark Conference Centre	Guests welcome £5	7.30pm
5	SSJ Women's Fellowship AGM, SSJ Village Hall		2pm
9	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am
23	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am
28	Table Top Sale at SSJ Village Hall in aid of the VH		10 - 12.30pm
28	4 Men & a Quiz in aid of Ungureni Trust, Chute Pavilion, Tickets from Judith Darmady £20		7.30pm

March 2015

2	Pelican Film Society Boyhood Ark Conference Centre	Guests welcome £5	7.30pm
5 & 6	SSJ Review, SSJ Village Hall, Tickets on sale now		
9	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am
21	Journey to the cross and beyond, Easter Event, St Andrew's Church, Tickets £3		7.30pm
23	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am

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
13	Pelican Film Society, The Imitation Game, Ark Conference Centre	Guests welcome £5	7.30pm
20	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am
25	Jumble Sale in aid of Guides, Brownies & Rainbows, SSJ Village Hall		10.00am

May 2015

4	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am
18	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport		10.00am

The 2015 Sherbornes with Pamber Holiday Bible Club will take place on 28th - 31st July and 2nd August.
All children in years R to 6 are welcome. More information to follow



The Journey... to the cross & beyond

You are warmly invited to join us for an evening of contemporary Christian music, as we take a fresh look at the journey Jesus made to Calvary and the events that followed. Featuring the St Andrew's Church Band & friends.

When: 7.30pm, 21 March 2015

Where: St Andrew's Church, Sherborne St John, RG24 9HT

Cost: £3 (including light refreshments)

To book your ticket please contact Sean Clokey: saclokey@gmail.com

You are also warmly invited to join us at St Andrew's Church for our Easter services:

10am Good Friday 3rd April & 10am Easter Sunday 5th April 2015

The Parish of the Sherbornes with Pamber fb: facebook.com/swpchurch



Allotments in Sherborne St John

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

A few plots have become available for new tenants this year so if you are interested please contact me.

There are 3 sizes small, normal and large. So contact me 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 me by e mail ssjclerk@gmail.com or telephone 0118 9332379 with your preference and contact details (including your address)

David Smith
DANCE

NEW DANCING COURSES

Sherborne St John Village Hall, Kiln Road, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, RG24 9HP

David Smith - Fellow & Examiner UKAPTD / LIDTA / GPTD

Try Something New & Learn to Dance!

Mondays (Excluding Bank Holidays)

Latin & American Line Class

12:30pm - 1:30pm
£5.00 per person / per week

Tea Dance

2:00pm - 4:00pm
£3.00 per person / per week
(Ballroom, Latin & Popular
Sequence)

Tuesdays

Ballroom & Latin Class

7:15pm - 8:15pm
£5.00 per person / per week

***NEW* Beginners**

Argentine Tango Course

8:15pm - 9:15pm
6 Week Course
£36.00 per person for the course
(Payment in Advance) Commencing
Tuesday 6th January 2015. Please Telephone
or Email to book your place

Fridays

Latin in Line Class

7:15pm - 8:00pm
£5.00 per person /
per week

Sequence Class

8:00pm - 9:00pm
£5.00 per person /
per week

WEDDING DANCE LESSONS

Please telephone or enquire about availability to come and learn that most important first dance of your Wedding Day

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

If you find it hard to commit to weekly class or want to move at a pace that suits you, then why not enquire about individual lessons.

(Please telephone or email to enquire about availability)

DANCE LESSON GIFT VOUCHERS

Different packages available
(Please telephone or email to enquire)

SUNDAY TEA DANCES & FRIDAY PRACTICE NIGHTS

(Ballroom, Latin American & Popular Sequence)

Sunday Tea Dances: Tickets in Advance Only, 2:00pm - 5:00pm, Dates: 15th February - 19th April - 17th May
Friday Practice Nights: Tickets in Advance Only, 8:00pm - 10:00pm, Dates: 30th January - 27th February - 13th March

Church Matters February

People often say that history has a tendency to repeat itself. There is truth in that and one area which it is useful to revisit is the era of the Crusades. The first of the Crusades began in 1095, when armies of Christians from Western Europe responded to Pope Urban II's plea to go to war against Muslim forces in the "Holy Land" – Israel and surrounding territory.

One of the great Muslim military and political leaders was a man called Saladin (1137/1138–1193). Saladin's greatest triumph over the European Crusaders came at the Battle of Hattin in 1187, which paved the way for Islamic re-conquest of Jerusalem and other cities in the Near East.

He also dealt sternly with many Muslims whom he regarded as corrupt. He declared a Caliphate centred on Baghdad with himself as the Caliph. This became the dominant Muslim force in the Middle East. However Saladin seems to have been something of a gentleman! So when his arch enemy Richard the Lionheart, Crusader leader

and King of England, was wounded in attacking Jerusalem, Saladin supplied his personal physician to attend to his wounds.

During the subsequent Third Crusade, Saladin was unable to defeat the armies led by King Richard, resulting in the loss of much of his conquered territory. However, he was able to negotiate a truce with Richard that allowed for continued Muslim control of Jerusalem.

The Crusades are one of the more regrettable episodes in our history. This is not so much for the brutality of the Crusaders – though we should remember that some treated the Arabs in an appalling manner. Rather it is the identification of the cause of the Crusaders with Christianity which has done such damage over the years and continues to rankle bitterly with Muslims today.

For the Crusades were launched from a "Christian" platform. The leadership of medieval Christianity was firmly in the hands of the pope and it was Pope Urban II who decided to send a massive army to reclaim the so-called "holy places". Thus he identified the worldly war of the Crusaders with Christianity and left the Muslims with the conviction that Christianity and Islam are sworn enemies. This underlies the on-going conflict today.

To change the way people think about these things we need to bring the truth of the Bible to bear. Here are some points to consider:

1. Military warfare belongs to the secular realm – it has no part to play in the actions of Christianity in the world. The New Testament says that "though we live in the world we do not wage war as the world does"¹. Jesus said that "all who draw the sword will die by the sword"².

2. Secondly, whereas acts of violent terrorism are plainly wrong and must be punished, the power to do this was always the civil power – never the church. The Crusades muddled this up. Western society is not Christian – it is materialist.

3. When the Bible speaks of warfare it does so in terms of spiritual warfare. We are in a battle certainly, but it is "not against flesh and blood"³ – rather it is to get the message of Jesus to as many as possible, despite opposition and difficulty.

4. Again, 2 Corinthians 10 says that the weapons of our warfare are not the weapons of the world – we do not resort to the bomb and the bullet but we preach Christ crucified, a message of divine power.

Let's commit ourselves afresh to this task in the year ahead. And let's pray that Muslims may come to see that there should be friendship, not hostility, between us.

John Hamilton

¹ 2 Corinthians 10:3

² Matthew 26:52

³ Ephesians 6:12



Services for February

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

1 February

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

8 February

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

15 February

10am	Family Service	St Andrew's
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	SSJ Village Hall

22 February

10am	Family Service	St Andrew's
10am	Morning service	Priory
6pm	'Sundays at Six'	SSJ Village Hall

1 March

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

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Feb 1	A church asleep	Rev 3:1-6	John Hamilton
Feb 8	Weak – or lukewarm?	Rev 3:7-21	John Hamilton & Ian Roberts
Feb 15	Moses called by God	Exodus 3:1-12	John Hamilton
Feb 22	Who is God?	Exodus 3:13-22	Warren Trask & John Hamilton
Mar 1	Failing to honour God	Malachi 1:6-14	Andrew King

SUNDAYS AT SIX

Feb 1	The prayer of God's King	1 Chron 17:16-27	Andy Spence
Feb 8	The victories of God's King	1 Chron 18:1-13	Warren Trask
Feb 15	David's serious error	1 Chron 21:1-22:1	Sean Clokey
Feb 22	Tradition or Truth	Mark 7:1-13	Steve Howe
Mar 1	The heart of the human problem	Mark 7:14-23	John Hamilton

MIDWEEK

We pray together this month on Tuesday 3 at both 2.30 & 8 pm – Parish Room.
Home Groups meet in the weeks beginning 8 & 22 Feb. The third week is half Term.

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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Monk Sherborne Parish Council

Firstly, let me say the Monk Sherborne Parish Council wishes everyone a very happy and prosperous new year.

We have a number of items we would like to bring to your attention in this issue of The Villager:

1. Community Speed Watch

Unfortunately, although we had individuals who expressed an interest in participating in this important venture, we have had no formal commitment so we would like to ask again for volunteers who are interested in being actively involved in this programme to contact the Parish Council. In addition, to mitigate cost, we have approached Silchester Parish Council in the hope we could borrow their equipment, however we cannot pursue this approach until we have volunteers.

2. Ditches

Please can those residents who have ditches on their property ensure they

are kept clean and debris free. This is important to prevent flooding as without drainage the Salters Heath Pumping Station fills up and everyone should know by now the consequences of what happens next!

3. Basingstoke Local Plan

The Local Plan has been submitted to the Inspectors, unfortunately it has been rejected on the basis of lack of new housing in the borough.

4. Monk Sherborne Village Hall

For those of you who have visited the Village Hall recently, you will have had the great pleasure of seeing the supporting wheel from the oldest bell from All Saints Church - it has been cleaned up and is gracing the wall of the Village Hall, a plaque will shortly be mounted alongside. More exciting news for those that use the kitchen facilities as the old one is being replaced

and a new one fitted. Finally, The Village Hall Committee have hired a cleaner for the Hall.

5. Highways

We continue to pursue the Highways team to resolve our pot hole and signage (signs that have been blown over or knocked down) issues. We have been told they are included in their programme of works to be carried out but cannot give us any dates. Please can we ask everyone to continue to contact the council with problems so they are made aware of the issues our community is facing by these delays.

6. Footpath maintenance.

The following footpaths are scheduled for maintenance in June 2015 - Footpaths 1, 4 and 5. Footpaths 10, 11 and 13 are scheduled for July

Mark Spencer

The SSJ Neighbourhood Plan

February 2015 Update

The Questionnaire. Initial review of the Questionnaire indicates overwhelming support for Sherborne St John as a thriving independent community. Great news and no surprises there! The preferred housing / development options are very much in line with the Housing Needs Survey (see SSJPC report in this issue). Further analysis continues. Feedback will be available shortly - www.ssjvillage.org/neighbourhood-plan.html

As previously advised, **we are now talking to interested developers / landowners about their proposals**, and how these can fit in with the Parish's wishes. You will appreciate that this can be a highly contentious issue, so please be understanding, and remember the starting point.



The Questionnaire Feedback Exhibition and Consultation on the Draft Options will take place on Saturday 14th March at the Village Hall, SSJ – 10.00 to 14.00. Be there to review the findings and make sure your voice is heard, before we start to write a Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Wildlife Map of Sherborne St John – this is underway. We are still looking for interested volunteers to assist with this - if you would like to help, please get in touch with Penny Mayo, Clerk to SSJ Parish Council at ssjclerk@gmail.com or 07714 770 940.

Information on the SSJ Neighbourhood Plan at www.ssjvillage.org/neighbourhood-plan.html

Julian Crawley



SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Housing Needs Survey

Of the 523 Housing Needs survey questionnaires that were distributed, 42% were returned – better than the national average.

A few key numbers and conclusions from the survey results follow (I know that the numbers do not always add to 100% - this is where answers were not received to all questions in the survey!).

The profile of the present accommodation in the village comprises

- 93% houses/bungalows and 7% flats
- 74% 3 to 4 bedded houses (or more)
- 26% 1 to 2 bedded houses
- 80% owner occupied, 14% rented through Housing Associations
- 3% privately rented
- The survey showed a stable community with 40% having lived over 20 years in the Parish.
- 93% are happy with their accommodation while 7% thought their accommodation inadequate.
- Many 3 to 4 bedded houses had someone over 65 living there and some thought their accommodation too large.
- There is a recognised need for people to be able to downsize to a smaller owner occupied residence but still remain in the Parish.
- 27% thought affordable housing was needed for local people, older residents or 1st time buyers.
- 72% preferred owner occupied tenure with 17% shared ownership.
- 86% wanted to remain in the Parish.

The Parish Council has concluded from the above that the Neighbourhood Plan needs to focus on affordable housing and smaller dwellings for folk who wanted to stay in the village but wanted to downsize.

The next step is to engage with developers in order to share the above and determine how these developers might then work with the Parish in

order to realise the 10 to 15 homes that we are obliged to consider.

Speedwatch

We now have the necessary kit in order to mount our own speed camera within the bounds of the village.

The next step is to train the volunteers in the use of the equipment and then initiate random speed checks throughout the village.

Hopefully the number of drivers speeding along Cranes Road and Vyne Road for example, might then begin to decrease.

Infrastructure Fund

The application process to BDBC for funds to improve/add to the village infrastructure continues. We keep being asked for additional detail so, being positive, hopefully we'll get some good news in the near future.

On this subject the Parish Council continues to look for ideas as to how it might be able to improve the infrastructure of the village.

If you have any suggestions as to a likely project or projects then in the first instance please contact the Parish Clerk (ssjclerk@gmail.com)

Trees

The 30 trees we received from the Woodland Trust have been planted around the boundaries of the Chute, along the edges of the Village Green, Elm Road and Dark Lane, and at various locations throughout the village.

If you see a vertical black plastic tube sprouting from the ground, then it's probably one of the trees that were planted (it's not an expired firework as some folk thought they were!)

Dog Fouling

A number of folk have contacted me re: this issue. Over the holiday period this issue seems to have increased. **PLEASE** if you are a dog owner can you take care of the problem when it occurs.

It seems to be particularly prevalent near the duck pond, situated alongside the Church Path. This is also an area where children stop to feed the ducks. The two do not happily mix.

There are bins situated around the village in which you can deposit your dog's deposit!!

2015 Sherborne St. John Precept

The intent is to maintain, or indeed slightly reduce, the 2015 Precept compared to the 2014 Precept.

Village Maintenance

There is a programme of works about to be initiated in order to tidy up various areas of the village by way of cutting back hedges, trees, etc. If you aware of any areas that needs tidying up then please contact the Clerk (ssjclerk@gmail.com)

2015 Village Party

On this day.....

- In 1776 the United States Declaration of Independence was signed
- In 1862 Lewis Carroll conceived the idea of Alice in Wonderland
- In 1954 UK rationing ended after World War 2
- In 1968 Sir Alec Rose returned home after his 354 day around the world trip in his ketch. Lively Lady
- In 1997 NASA's Mars Pathfinder lands on Mars
- In 2009 North Korea tests 7 ballistic missiles

In 2015, the population of SSJ attended the second Village Party on the Village Green – if you want to reserve tickets then contact Richard Morgan @ richard.morganssj@btinternet.com or 01256 850123

Thought for the Month.

Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn (Benjamin Franklin)

Richard Morgan Chair, SSJ PC

Pamber Parish Council

Pamber Parish Council met on 12th January 2015.

Parish Event

After the success of the parish picnic last year, councillors agreed to hold another parish event this year. Details are yet to be finalised but it will probably be held on Saturday, 20th June. Please make a note of this date and endeavour to come along and join in the occasion. Further details will be given as they become available.

Planning Matters

Applications:

14/03528/LDEU: Application for certificate of lawfulness for the occupation of the dwelling by persons other than those employed in agriculture.

Greenacres, Aldermaston Road, Pamber Green. **Objection**

Planning decisions made by the Borough Council:

14/03304/FUL: Erection of a two story four bedroom house to replace existing residential mobile home.

The Caravan, Bramley Road, Little London. **GRANTED**

14/02826/FUL: Change of use of building and associated land to Sui

Generis dog day care centre and retail shop. Unit 2/4, Cottage Farm New Road Pamber Green. **REFUSED**

St. Stephen's Hall, Little London

The new lease for the hall was signed on behalf of the Parish Council and the Hall Management Committee. The lease has a term of twenty eight years.

It is understood that the repairs to the roof will be carried out as soon as the weather is favourable. A parishioner has requested that a small re-opening party should be held once the repairs have been completed. Councillors agreed to support and help with such a project and would discuss the matter further once the hall is ready.

The Budget for 2015/16

The budget for the next financial year was approved and the precept set at £26,000. A small increase had to be made to reflect additional costs. The precept covers the cost of many items and includes, for example: insurance; grounds maintenance; support for St. Stephen's Hall; administrative costs; the website; provision and maintenance of notice boards, seats, bus shelters; traffic management.

The Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held on 18th May 2015 in the Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath. Arrangements are being made for a speaker; watch this space for further details. Please put this date in your diary now as the Annual Parish Meeting is an important event for all parishioners of Pamber. It is your opportunity to hear what is happening in the parish and you have the opportunity to ask questions about and comment on all parish matters.

County Councillor

Members of the council sent congratulations to County Councillor Keith Chapman on being awarded the MBE.

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

E.A.Knight (Clerk) (01256) 882571

PARISH ELECTIONS

The local elections are coming in May 2015 and new blood is welcomed. If you have ever considered becoming a parish councillor, now is the time to start planning your campaign.

Pamber Parish Council is divided into North Ward and South Ward, broadly either side of the forest. Pamber Green and Pamber End, together with Little London, are in the rural South Ward, supported by five named parish councillors. All ten positions are up for election this year. Meetings are normally held once a month on Monday evenings.

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Notes from Pamber Green and Pamber End

A belated happy New Year to all readers of the Villager, particularly those within Pamber Green and Pamber End. Hopefully you all survived the festive period and are raring to embrace 2015 and whatever that brings.

We returned home from our winter travels to be greeted with excessive high winds and power cuts making us wonder why on earth we hadn't stayed away in the sunshine. The older I get, the less I like our winters with the cold and wet. Certainly not a good time to be thinking of walking in Pamber Forest at the moment!

Local 'Broadband Champion', Ian Dalton, continues to lobby on behalf of Pamber residents who do not currently receive a high speed broadband service. There is some hope that the superfast broadband Wave 2 roll out may encompass some of their properties. The website <http://www.hants.gov.uk/broadband> will publish detailed postcode specific results by the end of January. It is likely that future funding for Superfast/High Speed Broadband will, in part, depend on actual take up of the provision with priority given to areas that may generate the largest volume of new customers. So it is in the interests of all Pamber residents not currently catered for to register their interest and maintain a high profile for this issue.

Following eloquent lobbying by parishioners at the November meeting, Pamber Parish Council agreed to lodge an objection to the dog day care centre and retail shop in Pamber Green on the grounds of the unacceptable level of vehicular movements and unacceptable noise levels that would be generated. Subsequently, Basingstoke and Deane Development Committee supported the objection and the application was refused. Forthcoming Pamber Parish Council meetings are on Monday 9/2/15 and 9/3/15.

It seems unlikely that St Stephens Hall, Little London will be put up for sale and that current leasing arrangements will continue. We await further developments and how the hall will be improved to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

Don't hold your breath but it's possible the A340 40mph reduction should happen in January!

On the occasions over the past few months I have walked on the public footpaths in Pamber along the A340 I have been increasingly concerned at the extent the hedges have become overgrown. In some cases pedestrians have to detour perilously close to the main highway and those pushing buggies would be hard pressed to get by. I have reported these to the County Council but

have seen no sign of any action by them, or any response to my email. Fortunately, some public spirited local residents have improved the situation but it needs a serious professional operation to get them back under control. I appreciate funds are limited in the current economic climate but unhindered access needs to be maintained.

During the October and November I spent some time collecting seeds from a number of flowers and shrubs in my garden which, whilst very attractive, I did not want to propagate further. Now the problem is what to do with them. Suggestions would be gratefully received.

I'm looking forward to re-starting singing with my choir. Before Christmas, we took part in the Mayor's Carol Concert which included tradition but also the challenging Hallelujah Chorus. I'm told it sounded very good so perhaps the silent prayer our musical director, Dai Ogborn, was seen to give before we launched forth was to good effect. We are including Zadock the Priest, Nesun Dorma and Bring Him Home in our repertoire to support many other wonderful pieces. I love it, very good for the soul and your spirits and we are all amateurs.

Ann Ellis
annjellis@googlemail.com



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Sherborne Revue 2015

Friday 6th and Saturday 7th March 2015

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Friday 6th March Evening: 'curtain up' at 7.30
Saturday 7th March Matinee: 'curtain up' at 2.30
Saturday 7th March Evening: 'curtain up' at 7.30

All in the Sherborne St John Village Hall

£7.50 for evening and £5 for matinee performances

Some reviews from last time::

'Brilliant' – Light Bulb Manufacturer's Illuminated News

'Utterly jaw dropping' – Plastic Surgeon's Clarion

'Five stars' – Astronomer's Weekly News

'Rubbish' – Bin Man's Monthly

To book your tickets, please contact Elizabeth Banks on 01256 850514

The SSJ NSPCC Christmas Fair 2014

A new year has started, the days are getting longer again and the NSPCC Christmas Fair 2014 held last November is a distant memory. However, we'd like to report on the event and send a big thank you to all the stall holders and our supporters who provided items such as soups (The Swan), rolls (Tesco), cakes and Christmas nibbles (Bramley Bakery and our village cake makers) and to the local shops and organisations who provided very generous Angel Tree and Silent bid prizes Photographer Ian Wilson from Barrett and Coe, Hampshire Court Hotel, Test Valley Golf Club, Holiday Inn, Newbury Race Course and many more. Also we must thank the Villager, Popley Matters and the Basingstoke Gazette for their free advertising along with many websites. Thanks also to all our local helpers on the day and to those behind the scenes.

Finally, and most importantly, a thank you to all who attended the event and hopefully enjoyed being part of the day, we couldn't do it without you.

We spent many hours in 2014 bringing ideas together to make the Fair a success and we are pleased to report that the event raised a total net profit of just over £1,100. This compared very favourably with previous years' Christmas Fairs, largely due to the addition of the Angel Tree and Silent bids. Also, due to the increased number of people attending, we gained more income on the door, the raffle and refreshments.

Thank you all again for your support for this local event.

Happy New Year

Margaret Dove and Julie Grand

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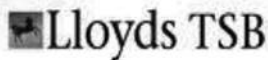
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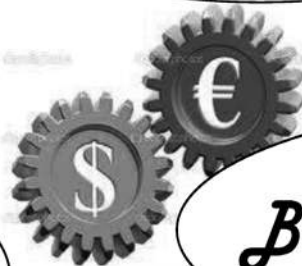
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Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School

By the time this article is read we will be well into the Spring Term at SSJ. It has certainly started with plenty of physical activity – we need to burn off all of those Christmas calories! Children in Class 1 have had Gymnastics coaching from Premier Sport, and the Junior classes have had hockey coaching and will shortly be starting rugby at the Chute Recreation Ground. Some Junior children have taken part in athletics and cross country events, and our clubs this term include judo, floorball, fencing, gym and tag rugby. Something for everyone!

There was great excitement one morning in January as the Infants discovered a fire engine in the School playground!

No, it wasn't a fire at the School, but a visit from the Fire Safety Team who spent the day with Classes 1 and 2. As well as hearing important messages about fire safety, the children had the chance to dress up as firefighters, explore the fire engine and use the fire extinguishers!

The Year 6 students went to Stubbington Residential Centre at the end of January – more about their week in next month's Villager! Whilst they were away, the Year 5s were on a bikeability course which taught them road safety and how to check and maintain their bicycles, as well as getting them 'out and about' on their bikes!



Sherbert

SSJ School Villager Correspondent

Piccolo Pre-school Nursery

The Mayor Cllr Roger Gardiner and his wife Tricia were invited to attend our Nativity Play at Piccolo Pre-school Nursery on Thursday 11th December. We are one of the very few Preschool Nurseries who do the traditional Nativity Play; we have been doing this since we open, six years ago. All children took part, the ages of the children are 2 years old to school age. Each one had his/her little part; we all practise the songs and movements for the big day. The Mayor and his wife arrived shortly after all parents and families were at the setting. Parents, family and staff felt honoured with their visit.

The children stole the show, when they came out to take their places, some ran to their parents first and then to the stage. Once the play finished Mayor Cllr Roger Gardiner thanked the children for inviting them "this is what Christmas is all about".

We also had the visit of Ofsted on the 10 of December, the outcome, of which was that we are an Outstanding Provision.

Claudia

Piccolo Preschool Nursery Manager



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Priory School

Happy New Year from the staff, governors and children at The Priory – we hope that you had a very enjoyable and relaxing Christmas holiday and that 2015 brings you good health, happiness and prosperity!



We are delighted that the building work that was so much a feature of school life for the Autumn term is now complete and we are very proud of our newly remodelled school. Our successful bid from the Academies Capital Maintenance Fund has provided us with a smart new kitchen and staffroom, new infant toilets and refurbished junior toilets, a light and bright library

and a glazed screen corridor providing our upper junior classrooms much improved access to the main body of the school. It will take a long time for the novelty of our new surroundings to wear off; never, in our wildest dreams did we ever imagine that we would be able to bring about so many and so far reaching changes. What is particularly lovely is that whilst the interior of the school is now fit for the demands of the 21st century, the exterior of the school has retained its beautiful appearance and charm.

Now has begun the dusty process of unpacking all the items that were in storage and we are looking forward to having “a place for everything and everything in its place”, as the expression goes! Certainly now, a few days, in to the new term, we are beginning to feel that

the school is now, once more, a school and not a building site!

As a village school, we pride ourselves on being part of a tightly knit local community and we hope that the changes that have taken place at The Priory will benefit our current children and their families as well as those yet to come across our threshold – we hope that you, too, will come and see us soon – we would love to show you around!

Best wishes,
Suzanne Kelly
Head teacher

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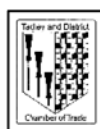
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Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

The speaker was Brian Spicer who used to be the Estate Manager at Hackwood Park and his talk centred on Spring Wood, which is to the east of the house, and was described by Sir John Betjeman as the "Jewel in the Crown of Hackwood". He described the formation of the wood from the time that the clay among the chalk ridges, laid down after the ice age, gave rise to a mixture of oak and beech trees growing together and then went on to give a history of its development through the ages. The name Spring Wood comes from Norman times when part of the forest was enclosed to protect the King's deer from the local fallow deer and the water for them was supplied by the spring located there. It has undergone quite a few changes since then. Through the civil war, George 1 visiting and having his statue installed there, landscaping by

Charles Bridgeman giving avenues and landmarks designed by John Vanbrugh with the stone and flint wall being built which still stands to this day, neglect over a number of years, damage by the hurricane of 1987 and then restoration to its present state by Lord Camrose who died in 1995. Nowadays the house and adjoining land is owned by the government of Qatar and access is restricted to designated footpaths through the adjoining forest.

After thanking Brian for his interesting and amusing talk Tony reminded everyone of the trip on Tuesday 24th February to Westfield Shopping Centre or the London Museums and the "do as you please" trip to Salisbury on Tuesday 17th March. Further details of these trips can be obtained from Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

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. The programme of speakers and trips for this year is now available and can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 01256 418770 or at bjmapbr@ntlworld.com.

The next meeting is on 4th February when the speaker will be David Ogborn on Singing for Fun.

David Cowling



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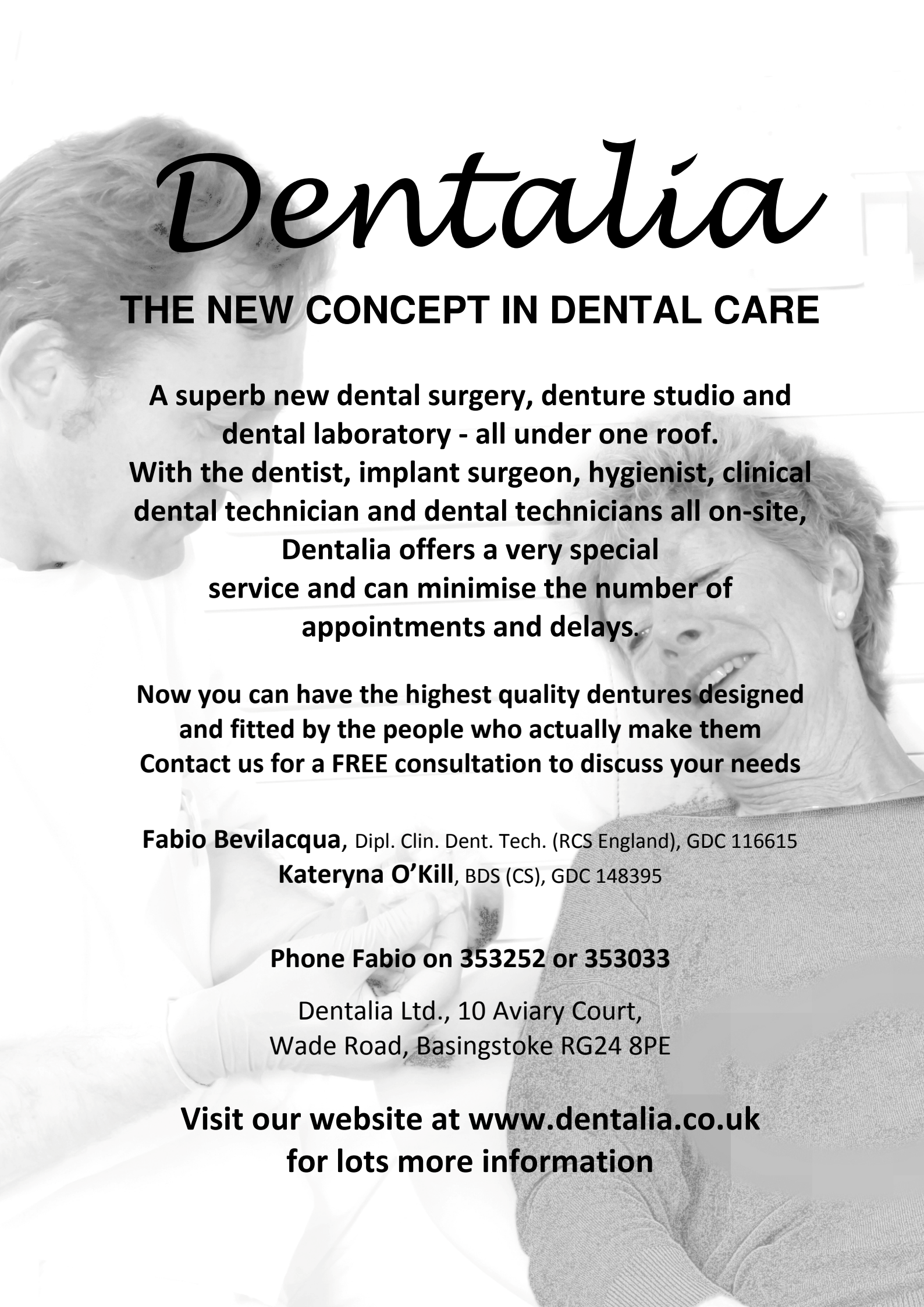
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2015

Saturday 28th Feb- Back by popular demand Wine Tasting evening



Lots more events being planned for the year, so keep in touch with us via:

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On the sofa until the next day
When I awoke, my mind a fog
Off I went for the hair of the dog!
Some people never learn it's said
I should have stayed in bed instead.

Bill Breakspeare

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The car park is for the use of those attending a function in the village hall and all users on hall business. In addition, special permission has been given to (i) parents of children at the village school in the mornings, when dropping children off and in the afternoons when collecting and (ii) those attending services in the village Church.

We would ask no one to abuse our trust; several people use the car park for their own personal use and occasionally leave their cars overnight. This cannot be allowed.

Sue Burlingham

Chairman of the Sherborne St. John
Village Hall Management Committee

Local Boy Makes Good



James Edward Bye was born in the North Hants Hospital in 1984. He moved with his parents from Kempshott to Pamber Green at the age of two. He went to the Barn Nursery on the Aldermaston Road and in his first Christmas production he played Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer. He then went to The Priory School where Mr Hale was headmaster. He was in his glory as the school did a lot of drama, which he loved. He loved dressing up and we had a lot of videos for him to dance to; Michael Jackson was his favourite, he had a MJ tea shirt with his trilby hat – he would stand in front of the French windows when the sun was

shining, seeing his reflection he was the Bee's Knees. Gene Kelly was another he danced to, but never tipped the sofa over.

He came to me one day and asked if he could be a 'Captain', Nan put her thinking cap on and, yes, we found his 'Captain Tea-towel', he was delighted with a tea-towel round his neck plus a huge safety pin and his red swimming trunks; that did not last long as he wanted to play football. The very first time he played, I told him if he scored a goal I would give him a £1. James loved money so that match cost me £4!

James was now ready for the Hurst as he was 11 years old. To me, James was on the road to being an actor, time after time he would be in a play or doing anything that was in front of an audience. His last was Bugsy Malone, his part brought the school roof down with a standing ovation. He then won a scholarship to Queen Mary's; once again he was making every one of his performances enjoyable. He won a scholarship to 'The Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art' and then moved to London.



James came to visit the family this year with his wife Victoria and son Edward to attend an audition in London for one of the major soaps but would not tell the outcome. He phoned home one day, his mother answered only to scream that James had got the part but everyone was sworn to secrecy. On 12th October in the Sunday Mirror it said that 'James Bye, unknown actor, will play the part of Martin Fowler who is due to return to Albert Square'.

Break a leg!
Olive Carter, Pamber Green.

New Bus Service

Basingstoke Community Transport have been reviewing what they might do to help us to access a post office when our village P.O. eventually closes down.

B.C.T. decided to offer return trips to Chineham on Wednesdays and Fridays utilising the same driver and vehicle as operates route 56 to Tadley. Departure from SSJ would therefore be about 11.30 and users would have at least an hour and half at Chineham. There would be an alternative bus to visit DunElm and Lidl. The proposal depends on the Parish Council agreeing to underwrite it financially when discussed on 26th January.

This advance information is provided so that you can offer suggestions and make comments to Ted Wilkinson 01256 850891 or e.mail to ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com

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N.B From 1st April senior's
concessionary passes will not be valid on
any local bus services before 09.30 The
disabled persons passes are not affected.

Bert's Blog



Nicknames and tales - the things I get called you would not believe. Bert the Bouncer I quite enjoy as I have perfected the art of jumping vertically without touching or landing a paw print on the Boss or Mrs. This usually occurs first thing in the morning when I am extremely happy to see them (breakfast is on the way) and if I bounce high enough I can see through the kitchen window. I live in fear of a rendition of Dirty Bertie from No. 30 as I know that sometime within the next few hours I will be taken to the white room for a shampoo and shower. Sometimes I am Pierre-Auguste Bertoir when my tail paints willowy branches on creamy backgrounds (the Mrs' mackintosh) and swimmingly wet trails of waves on walls in wet weather. For the record I can also break an elegant wine glass full of red liquid cleanly in two, crash tea cups full of the healing drink to the floor in a minute and wipe tears from the faces of miniatures in seconds and all with a swipe of my magnificent tail. I am very proud of my tail, its elegant lines tapering to a fine point. In the mornings while I am waiting to bounce, I suck it, a bit like the latest miniature who sucks her fingers, lip and anything within easy reach. When the Mrs comes down in the morning and feels my wet tail she calls me Baby Bertie, I ask you. Talking of fine points, I have heard tell of the miniatures father once practising his barbering skills on one of my predecessors whose fine tapering tail ended in a blunt bob and finished his detailed tail painting for quite some time, a sad tale if ever I heard one.

Sherborne St John History Society



WATERCRESS

Towards the end of the last war a local teacher started to research the geography of SSJ for a dissertation towards an academic qualification. Iris Green taught at Brookvale school in Basingstoke where one of our members, Cynthia Hall, was a pupil. We were delighted to be entrusted with the carefully researched and beautifully presented book by Miss Green. Her work includes maps, graphs and drawings, but, as she explained,

photographic film was rationed so she could only take a few pictures. She selected SSJ for her study particularly because of its variety of relief forms and geology – the junction of London Clay to the north and chalk beds to the south with the consequent springs leading to the Wey brook. The constant flow of the chalk stream provides a favourable setting for the growth of watercress. One of the photos is of the watercress bed in what is now a pond at the West End of the village by the A340.



Writing in 1944 Miss Green said,

"The headwaters of the several streams which form the Wey Brook have been made into productive water-cress beds. The water from the main springs close to Weybrook Farm [behind Weybrook house] was made into a large bed by the side of the main road from Basingstoke to Aldermaston. This bed, together with a large one on the stream behind the cottages on the east side of the road, belong to Major C L Chute of the Vyne.

Lower downstream in Fisher's Meadow are beds belonging to Crane's Farm. An artesian well made in 1944 supplies water for these beds.

At Church End, the stream is also used for watercress and these beds belong to Mr Shillam of Springfield House.

Recently fresh beds have been made in Pump Meadow, south of the Church, and owned by Mr Paxton of Spring Cottage.

The beds are all let to private watercress growers, and in places the streams have been widened."

Commercial growing of watercress in SSJ began in the late nineteenth century. The assessment for rates in 1897 records Mr Slennet being the tenant for the West End beds. He lived in Wimbledon and organised the transport by train to London. Local men did the work of cutting, trimming, weighing, packing and transporting to the station. Charlie Jennings remembered Arthur Higgs of Dell cottage doing this work. Tom Woods related that Clarence Eccott took

the beds over during WW2 working with his wife. He also ran the Dancers Meadow bed. In the 1970s Clarence sold his beds. Mr A. Brown bought part of the Springfield bed and continues to harvest watercress to this day.

If you have information or memorabilia that might add to our knowledge of the history of the Sherbornes & Pamber please email the History Society at SSJHisSoc@Lillydown.net

Probus hears about The North Hampshire Medical Fund

Judith Charmer, the Fund Manager for The North Hampshire Medical Fund gave a presentation to the Probus Club of Basingstoke about the activities of this charity founded by the Earl of Carnarvon some 35 years ago which is probably unknown to most local people. Its purpose is to raise money to buy specialist equipment for Basingstoke hospital that the Health Service budget is unable to provide.

The equipment procured for Basingstoke has aided the improvements in on-site diagnostics, pain reduction and obviates the need for lengthy journeys to other centres for treatment. In many instances, equipment purchased by The Fund has been used for training medical staff in the most up to date procedures. Access to updated technology has also enabled the hospital to attract the best consultants. Their skill and expertise has helped to spread the hospital's reputation as a centre of excellence and ensured a better quality of care for the thousands of people who use its services..

In the past two years 21 pieces of equipment have been funded and supplied to the North Hampshire Hospital. They include £450,000 for a new Radiotherapy Planning CT scanner for targeting cancer with advanced technology and £10,500 for a Cardiotacograph machine for the hospital's antenatal unit. This will save lives and reduce the incidence of complications, stress or harm to mother and baby. They have a current target of £130,000 for an Endobronchial Ultrasound which looks inside airways and allows samples to be taken from a lymph gland or tumour around the chest. Patients presently have to travel to Southampton or Oxford for these procedures with up to a 4/5 week waiting list, a lung cancer tumour can double in size in just 4 weeks.

The Fund is the only charity in the county dedicated to raising funds for equipment to help the hospital keep pace with advances in technology. However, technology is expensive, and NHS budgets cannot



always stretch to pay for all the equipment that can help save lives, improve diagnosis and treatment or reduce pain. By continued support, The Medical Fund will keep the North Hampshire Hospital at the forefront of patient care.

The Probus Club of Basingstoke has also been in existence for as many years as The North Hampshire Medical Fund. A social club for retired professional and business managers it meets twice most months and more information can be seen on their web site www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com or call their secretary Paul Flint on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.

Weather of 2014

A consistently warm year – possibly the warmest on record!

The latter part of 2013 was very wet with October (122mm) and December (163mm) especially so; this created the base for the disastrous flooding of 2014. Out of the first six months of 2014 only March had below average rainfall; both January (206mm) and February (243mm) were well over twice their long term averages. The first six months had a total of 654mm, whereas we would normally expect only 358mm – i.e. 180% of average. The persistence of the rain made it almost impossible to drain the floods away. Then the latter six months of 2014 had just below average at 370mm (the 30-year average is 400mm) and September was very dry with only one day with more than 1mm of rain.

For the whole of the year temperatures here were 1.6 Celsius above average probably making this the warmest year on record, yet we never saw any temperature above 30°C again. Only August and December were close to the average, all other months were consistently on

the significantly warm side; this was particularly noticeable in the first few months with very few air frosts due to the prevalence of cloud and rain and several severe storms and, unusually, August was cooler than September.

Pamber Green	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg Day Max Temp C	8.1	9.4	12.5	14.3	16.4	20.8	24.2	20.5	20.9	16.1	11.0	7.9
Diff from 30-yr avg C	+1.1	+1.8	+2.9	+1.8	+0.8	+1.8	+3.2	0.0	+4.0	+2.0	+0.6	-0.1
Highest Max Temp C	11.4	12.5	18.1	18.1	24.3	24.7	29.1	25.4	24.6	21.6	16.1	13.1
Avg Night Min Temp C	2.4	3.1	2.3	5.7	8.4	10.8	12.6	10.4	10.4	9.3	5.3	1.9
Diff from 30-year avg C	+1.4	+2.1	+0.5	+2.4	+2.5	+2.0	+2.3	+0.2	+1.9	+3.2	+1.6	0.0
Lowest Min Air Temp C	-4.2	-0.5	-3.0	-0.1	0.0	8.1	7.5	4.4	3.0	0.5	-2.8	-6.0
No. of Nights Air Frost	6	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	11
Diff from 30-year average	-7	-11	-4	-3	-2	0	0	0	0	-1	-3	-2
Total Rainfall mm	206	161	37	98	76	77	15	87	5	96	115	53
Percent of 30-year avg %	275	243	60	184	151	154	27	134	9	128	155	77
No. of days with >1mm rain	24	21	7	13	13	9	5	12	1	19	17	8
Diff from 30-year avg	+11	+11	-4	+4	+3	+2	-2	+5	-8	+10	+6	-4

David Cullum. Tel. 850315

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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!

Crimestoppers

Upgraded powers to tackle underage drinking, including making it easier for police to confiscate alcohol, move along groups of teenagers causing trouble and stop retailers selling to underage children, came into force recently.

Previously, Police needed to prove that youngsters were intending to consume alcohol in the street before confiscating it (I know, what else would you do with a bottle of cider?!). Now Officers are able to confiscate the booze simply because people under 18 years are in possession of it. There is also a power to tackle persistent underage drinkers who possess alcohol in a public place.

A 'Direction to Leave' notice can be served on people aged 10 to 15 years, ensuring that larger groups of youngsters move on when congregating on street corners, outside shops etc.

The law has become more severe for shops who sell alcohol to under-18s – two strikes in three months will potentially lead to a loss of licence.

Your local Councillors have also been given new powers to tackle problem premises. They will be able to call for a review to restrict or remove an alcohol retailer's licence.

The powers are not about spoiling anyone's fun, or being heavy handed. However, we all know how a large group of youngsters hanging around outside the

local shop, or playground, is intimidating and stops residents from using the services of the local community. Add to that a few bottles of cider, or cans of lager, and the problem becomes far worse. We then have youngsters who are far 'braver' through their nice new 'lager coats' and start becoming more rowdy, perhaps committing vandalism, public order offences and other crimes to impress their mates. It also is very time consuming for the rest of us clearing up vomit, taking drunken teenagers home to their parents and repairing the damage caused.

Of course, drunken youngsters can also become the victims of crime where they are vulnerable when incoherent through drink or drugs. Wallets, phones and other personal property can get taken, and more serious offences such as sexual assault can also happen.

The legislation is all about keeping our youngsters safe, and also allowing local residents to feel safe in their communities. Do you know where your kids are tonight?

If you have information about any crime, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111, or log on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org. Your call is free, no one will know you called and you may earn a cash reward. Please follow me on twitter @ HantsCrimestopp for more updates.

PC Simon Wright



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By Michael Le Fort, Head of Wills & Probate

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Dementia is just one example of why it is so important to consider arranging Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA). These legal documents allow you to appoint an Attorney, often your spouse, partner or perhaps one or more of your children, to make certain decisions on your behalf if you no longer can.

There are two types of LPA. The Property and Affairs LPA allows your Attorney to deal with your finances, dealing with paying your bills, collecting any income and benefits that you might be entitled to and possibly selling your home should the need arise. The Health and Welfare LPA allows your Attorney to

make decisions about where you might live and your day to day care but they would not be able to do so until you had lost mental capacity.

This may all seem a long way off, you may think that it does not apply to you. The reality is that it is better to plan ahead because once you have lost mental capacity the time for you to make these decisions for yourself will have passed. Like many matters it is lifetime planning that can be most important and an LPA this is no different. If you wish to be the architect of what should happen to you if you were to lose mental capacity then it is important to make plans now. Should you fail to do so your family or friends would have to apply to the Court of Protection to become your Deputy (a Court appointed Attorney); a more time consuming and costly process that applying for an LPA.

For more information you can contact Michael Le Fort in the Wills & Probate team on 01256 854637 or email michael.lefort@phillips-law.co.uk and visit our website at www.phillips-law.co.uk



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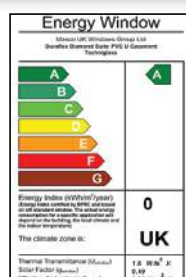
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