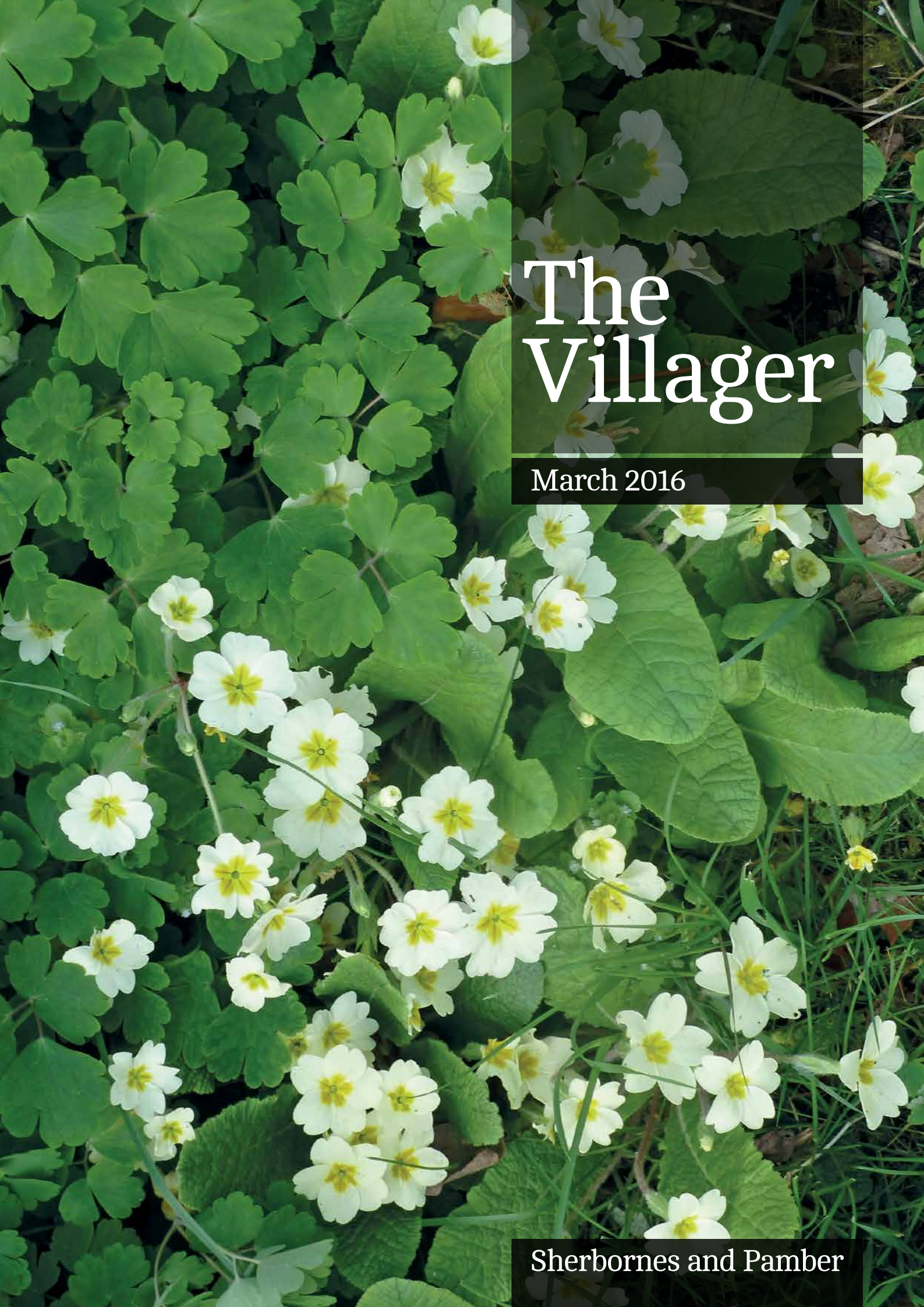


A close-up photograph of a dense patch of white flowers with yellow centers, likely Primula vulgaris, growing among green leaves. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, and the leaves are a vibrant green. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the foreground flowers.

The Villager

March 2016

Sherbornes and Pamber



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Editorial

"Its sad to go I cannot tell a lie" SSJ Revue, 2015.

Goodbye dear friends and neighbours in SSJ. After 5 1/2 years we are leaving this lovely village to be nearer family up north. Off to sunny Lancashire!

SSJ was everything we hoped it would be, but the real beauty of the village is the people living in it.

From day one our neighbours welcomed us with presents and offers of help. We had such fun at the festivities in the village hall and pavilion over the years. We know you will welcome the Woodward family to the village and know they will love it as much as we have.

We leave, but take with us such fond memories. Thank you and take care.

Wishing you all the best.

Margaret & Rob Dove



It appears that the law has, unfortunately, had to take over from common sense; fixed penalty fines are now being handed out to owners who do not clean up after their dogs. If you see or know of a dog owner who does not clean up please contact Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on 844844 and Kerri Swinfield, the

Community Safety Patrol Officer for our area will deal with them. The areas in SSJ that are particularly bad are: Church Path, Manor Road and the path down to the Triptrap Bridge. Please can we make 2016 a cleaner more hygienic dog poo "free" year.

Julie Crawley - Editor

Whilst we are happy to publish items and opinions in this magazine it should be noted that the views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Editorial team. Readers should also make their own enquiries about, and assessment of, claims and services made by advertisers in this magazine.

Contact us at villagermagazine@gmail.com

Cover: Photo of primroses taken by Julie Crawley

the Villager CONTACTS

Editor:

Julie Crawley

01256 851003

villagermagazine@gmail.com

Advertisements:

Emma Foreman

01256 889215/07747 015494

emma@thehay.co.uk

Distribution:

George Rust

01256 850413

distributionvillager@gmail.com

Future Events:

Lindsay Berry

01256 850495

futureeventsvillager@gmail.com

Pamber Correspondent:

Ann Ellis

annjellis@googlemail.com

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Future Events

March 2016

1	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Thai Carving Art, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
1 - 4	Sherfield Gallery Open Art Exhibition, Sherfield School, RG27 0HU, 22 Jan – 4 March,	9am – 5pm
7	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
7	Pelican Film Society, Suffragette, Ark Conference Centre	7.30pm
8	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
14	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, Chute Pavilion	7.30pm
21	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
21	SSJ Village Hall AGM, Village Hall	7.30pm
26	SSJ Village Market, Village Hall	10 – 1pm

April 2016

4	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
4	Pelican Film Society, Brooklyn, Ark Conference Centre	7.30pm
5	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Landscape Photography in the British Isles, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
12	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
17	Woof & Wellies, St Michael's Hospice, Fundraising Hotline 01256 848848	
18	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
23	SSJ Village Market, Village Hall	10 – 1pm
23	SSJ Village Quiz Night	
25	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting AGM, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm

May 2016

2	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
3	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Jonathan Jones IS Rudyard Kipling, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
10	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
11	5 and 10 K Run, St Michael's Hospice, Fundraising Hotline 01256 848848	
16	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
16	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
19	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, (Thursday) Chute Pavilion	7.30pm
28	SSJ Village Market, Village Hall	10 – 1pm
30	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	

June 2016

5	Sunflower Fete, St Michael's Hospice, Fundraising Hotline 01256 848848	
7	SSJ Women's Fellowship, The Dragon and The Damsel, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
13	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
14	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
25	SSJ Village Market, Village Hall	10 – 1pm
26	Summer Garden Party and Art Exhibition, Monk Sherborne	
27	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
27	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting AGM, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm

July 2016

5	SSJ Women's Fellowship, The Dragon and The Damsel, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
6 – 16	Farnham Art Society Annual Exhibition, University for the Creative Arts, Falkner Rd, Farnham	9.30am – 5.00pm
11	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
12	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
24	Big Wheel, St Michael's Hospice, Fundraising Hotline 01256 848848	
25	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
25	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting AGM, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm

August 2016

2	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
8	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	
9	Sherborne St John Parish Council Planning Meeting, Surgery Room, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
22	60s+ Coffee Morning, SSJ Village Hall. ALL OVER 60S VERY WELCOME	

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(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

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Fridays

Intermediate

Ballroom - Latin - Sequence

7:30pm - 8:30pm - Weekly Class

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

Venue: Chineham Village Hall

Stage 2 Beginners

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8:30pm - 9:30pm - Weekly Class

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

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Church Matters March

“Talking about Prayer” is the title of a book by Richard Bewes. It is also the theme of our Lent Meetings this year. In fact we are basing the series on Richard’s book. Prayer is about talking – not of course to one another but to God himself. And the fact is that prayer is not so much taught as “caught”. That is to say there is a limit to the amount one can learn about prayer by being taught to pray. The best way to learn to pray is to pray.

Nevertheless, the disciples did on one occasion ask Jesus to teach them to pray, “Lord teach us to pray” they said¹. In answer to this request Jesus gave them the prayer we know as the Lord’s Prayer². The prayer is just slightly shorter in Luke’s account than in Matthew 6, the other place in the gospels where it is found. It begins simply “Father”. It is the immense privilege of the Christian believer to know that he or she is a member of God’s family, and that far from being fearsome, the head of the family is the Father who has granted us access into his presence whenever we call

upon him. “Father” we pray “Hallowed be your name”. In other words we are praying for God’s name to be honoured, not misused as a swear word or an expression of surprise. The next request, “Your kingdom come”, expresses the wish that the Father’s sovereign rule will be recognised and that people will submit to his authority so that the work of his Kingdom advances. We pray this in two senses: first, that the gospel will spread to areas, communities and families where it is not known. And second, that the Lord will return as he has promised and bring in the final day when his kingdom triumphs.

The direction or aim of these first two requests is important – this is God-centred praying. That is to say it is his name, his honour, his kingdom, we’re concerned about, not ours. Far too often we rush into prayer for our own wants and needs, we put ourselves at the centre. There is room to pray for our needs, covered by the clause “Give us each day our daily bread”, but we notice that this request comes after expressing our concern for God’s name and God’s kingdom. The phrase itself is really an expression of dependence on God and his sustaining goodness, to give us what we need on a regular basis.

We have one need which is even more urgent than food, or health, wealth or any other felt need that there is – that is for forgiveness. We are at the heart of the gospel here. We have to realise

that we have a need which is far more urgent than food or anything else. That is to know that our sins are forgiven. Everyone has committed sin and everyone needs forgiveness. This is the great problem for the person who is not a Christian “When I do wrong I have no one to forgive me.”³ The great news of the first Easter is that Jesus offers forgiveness to all who trust him. We see him forgiving in the gospels⁴, and on Good Friday we see him pay the price so that even a criminal may have assurance of forgiveness⁵ if he turns to Jesus. Easter Day proves that everything he said was true.⁶

Returning to the Lord’s Prayer we should notice that it says “Forgive us our sins for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.” This is describing the person who is truly forgiven. Such people will readily forgive others. Failure to do that places a real question mark over whether we have been forgiven ourselves. If there is someone you cannot forgive then seek to put this right by the grace of God at the earliest opportunity.

The final request touches another personal issue – temptation. We all know the weak spots in our armour. They become a problem when we move in the direction of gratifying those desires. “Don’t even go there” is good advice. And in the prayer we ask specifically that the Lord will keep us away from such things. We tend to think we can beat this by ourselves – but we can’t – we need the Lord’s help. That’s what prayer is all about. And that’s why we’re going to talk about it over March – to encourage each other.

John Hamilton

¹ Luke 11:1

² See Luke 11:2-4

³ Marganita Laski

⁴ eg. Luke 7:48

⁵ Luke 23:43

⁶ Luke 24:5-7



Services for March

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

6 March

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

13 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

20 March

10am	MISSION SUNDAY: Preacher Graham Miller (LCM)	St Andrew's
6pm	Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche 'Sundays at Six'	Sherborne St John Village Hall

25 March

Good Friday

10am	Good Friday Family Service	St Andrew's
2pm	'Hour at the Cross'	Priory

27 March

Easter Day

9.30am	Easter Morning Service	All Saints
10.45pm	Easter Family Service - followed by Holy Communion	St Andrew's

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Mar 6	Return of the rescued	Isaiah 51	Andrew King
Mar 13	Your God reigns	Isaiah 52	John Hamilton & Andy Spence
Mar 20	Suffering Servant	Isaiah 53	Graham Miller (LCM)
Mar 27	Rise from the dead	Ephesians 5:11-14	John Hamilton

SUNDAYS AT SIX

Mar 6	The warrior's power	Luke 5:17-26	John Hamilton
Mar 13	The warrior's mission	Luke 5:27-32	Scott Seivewright
Mar 20	Of first importance	1Cor 15:1-11	Steve Howe

MIDWEEK MEETINGS FOR "LENT"

TUESDAYS IN MARCH (not 29th)

"Talking about Prayer" (Richard Bewes)

8 pm at the Rectory

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Caretaker/Handyman Sherborne St. John Village Hall and Chute Pavilion

Sherborne St John Parish Council are looking for a part-time Caretaker and a part time Deputy Caretaker to jointly maintain the Sherborne St. John Village Hall and the Chute Sports Pavilion. Successful applicants will be employed by the Sherborne St. John Parish Council.

Applicants for both roles should provide evidence of general d.i.y/handyman skills and previous experience in a similar role would be an advantage.

Both individuals would need to have previous general maintenance experience and duties would include setting up and preparing the Hall and Pavilion for use by the various users of both premises. Applicants should therefore expect a percentage of the role to involve light/medium manual tasks.

Generic plumbing, electrical, painting and decorating experience would also be advantageous but the expectation is that for more extensive works the successful candidates would liaise with contractors brought in to undertake these works. Liaison with a wide range of users of both premises is also a key part of both roles.

Applicants need to have a 'can do' approach in order to pro-actively manage the day to day issues of both facilities.

Living within the Village environs or nearby is an essential pre-requisite of both roles.

The Caretaker and the Deputy Caretaker will work as a team in order to ensure that both premises are maintained to a high standard; and to provide holiday and sickness cover for each other.

Each role will be for 8 to 10 hours per week (overtime can be anticipated).

For further details (inc. details of salary) interested applicants should contact Penny Mayo, Sherborne St. John Parish Clerk, on ssjclerk@gmail.com tel no: 01189332379 for an application form.

Vacancy for Lunchtime Supervisor at Sherborne St John CE Primary School

We are currently looking for an additional member of staff to join our lunchtime team ideally Monday to Friday from 11.50-1.10pm, but we could be flexible. The job involves setting up tables and chairs prior to lunch service, supervising children eating and/or playing outdoors, clearing away tables and chairs at the end of lunch.

For further information, please contact the school office on 01256 850180 or email info@ssj-school.co.uk

Sherborn St John Village Hall Presents

VILLAGE QUIZ NIGHT

**Sat 23rd April 2016 from 7.30
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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 on the Moss Hill site 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)

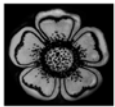


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SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on 25 January 2016

Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council now has the draft Neighbourhood Plan document.

By the time you read this we will have the Shop report commissioned by the Parish Council from an independent expert looking into the feasibility of a shop in the village.

We will publish in the Villager the outcome of the report and will be asking you all to reply to a questionnaire - we are sorry this means another consultation exercise but the Parish Council is very keen to get this right for the village for the future. This time we will be asking some very fundamental and far reaching questions that we really do need your answers to before we go

any further, especially since the Post Office and shop has now closed.

Date for your diary – July 9th Village Party on the Village Green – fun for all the family this year with some new ideas - watch out for further details.

If you have visited or gone past the Chute Recreation ground recently you will have noticed a new shed. The Parish Council wishes to thank the Football Club for their assistance. This means we can increase the storage available for our current users of the Pavilion.

The Parish Council would also like to take the opportunity of thanking Judith Darmady and John Edwards most sincerely for managing the Chute for so many years

Yet again the PC has had another complaint about dog “poo” on footpaths - PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND TAKE IT HOME.

We still have an abundance of rabbits in some of the allotments – we are trying to reduce their numbers but unfortunately they are doing what comes naturally and breeding like rabbits.....

We are pleased say work is progressing well on the new website which will be coming soon.

On a financial note we are pleased to say the precept will not be increasing and remaining the same as last year.

Cllr Linda Agnew

Monk Sherborne Parish Council

Potholes are a particular problem during the winter months and this year is no exception. Residents are encouraged to report these on www.hants.gov.uk as this appears to be the most effective. Recently problems in Salters Heath Road and Pamber Road, Charter Alley have been logged using this site.

Litter and fly tipping seem to be on the increase and our thanks go to those residents who pick up litter in their area and to the BDBC team who respond very quickly to clear up the fly tipping.

Whilst the PC understands there can be a build up of vehicles when members of the parish have building works carried out but it would be appreciated if the verges etc could be re-instated at the conclusion of the projects in order to keep the area looking as tidy as possible.

It was resolved to keep the precept for the forthcoming year the same as before

for the 9th year running. This will be increasingly difficult to keep at this level, however the PC are looking at ways to sponsor the cost of maintaining the Parish green areas as well as carrying out other maintenance such as road gulley cleaning to avoid flooding, road edge repairs and litter picking. If any individuals or businesses would be interested please contact the Parish Clerk on mspcclerk@gmail.com or 01189700264 for further details.

It is hoped to get a volunteer team out soon to clean the road signs in the parish. Anyone interested please let the Clerk know.

Planning matters

The enforcement team have been notified of breaches of conditions at Blackberries, Salters Heath Road. We are awaiting a response.

Land at the rear of 9 The Close
15/04221/FUL **Objection**

The Mole Decking work 15/04428/RET
No objection

Beaufort Chase, Charter Alley 15/04477/
HSE **No objection**

The Mole continues to change in appearance, albeit slowly, and the new signage has improved the look significantly. The village is looking forward to the opening of its pub at some point this spring.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is Weds March 16th at 7.20pm where one of the items on the agenda will be to look at the possibility of having a defibrillator located in the Monk Sherborne phone box.

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Pamber Parish Council

The last meeting of Pamber Parish Council was held on Monday, 8th February 2016.

Planning applications:

15/04527/OUT: Outline planning permission for erection of 1 no. dwelling to provide staff accommodation for riding school, with all matters reserved except for access, following demolition of hay shed/toilet and tack shed Pamber Green Riding School New Road Pamber Green.

Objection

16/00147/HSE: Erection of extension to existing garage to create carport and conversion of existing garage to create ancillary accommodation with home office above Valentine Cottage Silchester Road Little London.

Decision awaited

16/00069/HSE: Erection of open porch Ramblers Aldermaston Road Pamber End.

Decision awaited

16/00118/HSE: Erection of first floor extension involving raising of the roof with Juliet balcony to front elevation. Avenbury Ramsdell Road Pamber End.

Decision awaited

Planning decisions made by the Borough Council:

15/04185/ROC: Variation of condition 4 of the planning approval 15/02442/HSE to allow replacing of obscure glazing to first floor master bedroom with clear glazing

Bow Brook Aldermaston Road Pamber End.

REFUSED

5/02098/ROC: Variation of conditions 1 and 9 of planning permission 14/00459/

FUL to state new drawing reference showing amended landscaping scheme and driveway/access layout Ashmead House Ash Lane Latchmere Green Little London.

GRANTED

15/01757/OUT: Outline application for erection of a dwelling and associated works with all matters reserved except for means of access

Wayside, Silchester Road Little London.

GRANTED

15/02610/HSE: Erection of single storey rear extension

Terra Nova Green Lane Pamber Green.

GRANTED

15/03013/AGPD: Proposed Grain Store Building

Frog Lane Little London Hampshire Permitted under General Development order.

RAISE NO OBJECTION

Application for a Grant

As Silchester Common is well used by the residents of Pamber Parish, a grant of £300 towards the upkeep was approved.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday, 9th May 2016 at 8pm in St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. There will be reports from local organisations as well as items of local interest. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday

To celebrate this event, Pamber Parish is to join in the nationwide Beacon Lighting Ceremony. The beacon at Pamber Park will be lit in the early evening of Thursday, 21st April 2016

(the official time is yet to be confirmed). Please come along and join the Parish Council in the loyal toast to mark this memorable occasion. Further details will be available in the next magazine.

St. Stephen's Hall, Little London

Cllr. Witchalls was appointed as the second Parish Council representative on the committee of management. The other representative is Cllr. March.

Highways

There have been a number of issues raised about the condition of the highways and footways, especially along the A340. All these have been reported to Hampshire Highways but repairs will only be carried out if the scale of problem meets the criteria set by the Authority. Even if the criteria are met, the repairs can only proceed when there is finance and manpower available. With limited funds available, the Parish Council is trying to obtain permission to carry out a small part of the work needed to the footways but to date, this permission has not been forthcoming.

Please remember that any highways issues can be reported directly to Hampshire County Council by visiting <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/transport> or telephone 0300 555 1388.

The next meeting of Pamber Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 14th March 2016 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

Notes from Pamber Green and Pamber End

Here we go again, another month of my life flown by. It seems to have been a month of trauma in the household with the torrential rain of early February causing the utility room to start to flood. Thankfully, it is lower than the rest of the house so damage is limited. Throughout most of the month (well it seems that way to us!) the central heating has suffered repeated outages which left us without heating for many days at a stretch on more than one occasion. It wasn't too important when seasonal temperatures were regularly being exceeded at 13° and 14° but as colder weather flooded in we certainly felt the cold. My poor husband has spent most of his time banished to the loft or kneeling by radiators chasing air bubbles.

My recent comments about felling work in Pamber Forest brought a reply from a parishioner who points out that authorised work carried out by volunteers and contractors complies with statutory rules to prevent birch or hazel taking hold which would result in the Forest losing its designation. He adds that the latest area cleared will regenerate quickly and soon support a healthy population of oak and sweet chestnut saplings. His view is that the forest floor has been disturbed rather than destroyed and will look unsightly for only a few months, allowing long-dormant seeds to germinate. Obviously, Pamber Forest has been managed for many centuries to allow it to provide a living for locals and to sustain the ancient woodland. However, my issue is with the way it has been done. We all have differing views but beauty is in the 'eye of the beholder'.

The same parishioner also raised concerns about abuse of the forest by some of its visitors, views repeated from other sources. Irresponsible owners allow their dogs to foul alongside paths, making no effort to move it or clear up. Even worse, some may bag the waste but then leave it hanging in trees, not only an eyesore but the

plastic is unlikely to degrade for a long while, if at all. It is a concern we read about so often in the Villager and is a widespread, very unpleasant and anti-social practice. He continues with concerns of a wide range of rubbish left in the Forest and other abuse and misuse. His plea and mine is that we all respect this valuable natural area.

Val Holford has written with the view that Pamber End is the forgotten village. During over 45 years that she and her family have lived in Pamber End, they have rarely seen any improvements. It took her 27 years of lobbying before a speed limit was imposed in the Bramley Road which takes a large volume of traffic. There is no pavement making walking to the bus stop very dangerous. Speeding traffic is a cause very close to their hearts, as their son died outside their house in 1981 when traffic was only a fraction of what it is now and I fully sympathise with them. Speeding traffic and lack of pavements in other rural areas of our parish was the topic I discussed with a borough councillor a few days earlier, in particular Silchester Road in Little London and New Road in Pamber Green. All very dangerous areas whether on foot, cycle or horseback.

Jenny Cullum has reported Pamber Green broadband, (Basingstoke numbers) being very slow or down for no apparent reason. High speed broadband is still a long way off there. Jenny also tells me of a piecemeal development plan for 2 bungalows on the Greenacre Garden Centre site.

The planning applications I have written about before have been quiet of late. The decision on housing and a new village hall at Berry Court Farm, Little London opposite the existing St Stephen's Hall has not yet been made. I understand at some point in the future it will be going to committee for them to decide as it has been such an emotive issue locally. On reading the latest published Pamber Parish

Council minutes, I note that they again have financially supported St Stephen's Village Hall and continue to discuss ongoing repairs and maintenance to the hall on a regular basis. The minutes say 'a total of £739.70 had already been allocated from the budget allowance and the payment of the remaining balance of the budget allocation (£760.30) to St. Stephen's Hall Management Committee be approved'. I can only assume this means that St Stephen's Hall currently meets local need. Regarding the application for up to 12 dwellings and a new access onto the A340 at Pamber End, this should be going to committee on 23rd February. I understand the BDBC Officer is in favour but hopefully the committee will ask for a site visit to assess access issues. More news, hopefully, next month.

Breaking News - Tickets are now on sale for the Basingstoke Festival of Choirs biennial concert at the Anvil on Sunday 10th July 2016. The theme is The Best of British and the wide selection of music will centre on this theme. This concert is always a sell out event so purchase your tickets early. Basingstoke Ladies Choir is holding a joint charity concert with the Basingstoke Male Voice Choir on Saturday 9th April at the United Reform Church. A varied programme to suit all tastes at this popular venue so do come along and enjoy.

The next Pamber Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 14th March 2016. Make your views heard.

I'm pleased that my articles are generating interest and feedback which makes my job as Pamber Correspondent much easier. It is more interesting for you to read the news and views of others around our patch of the parish than the saga from my family diary.

Hope you have a lovely Easter but not too much chocolate!

Ann Ellis

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Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School

In January, the Year 6 pupils spent a week at the Stubbington Study Centre on a residential trip. Our 'on the spot' reporters have written about the experience:

Our review on Stubbington Study Centre

By Michael and James
Year 6

Our trip to Stubbington Study Centre was very interesting and we feel our team work was improved immensely.

At the start of the trip we were quite nervous but extremely excited; for many of us it would be our longest trip away from home.



Our first impression of the study centre was that it was rather compact but after exploring the land we found most of it



was a woodland reserve which they had certainly made the most of. Most of the "sessions" we did were based outside. The teachers that were with us during this trip were Miss Biles, who has been on the trip ten times now, and Mrs Rogers, the teaching assistant.

One of the best experiences was a fossil hunt on the beach where everyone found a fossil. The most common fossils were fossilized shark teeth, "eagle ray crushing plates" (their teeth), turritella and catinula. "We were lucky to find so many sharks'

teeth during our fossil hunt," said Miss Biles.

All the year sixes enjoyed the experience.

"The trip to Stubbington brought all the year sixes closer which made me enjoy Stubbington more," said Darcy. We feel the trip was amazing, despite the cost!



*Sherbert – SSJ School Villager
Correspondent*

Sherborne St John Village Market

Saturday, 26th March 10am – 1pm

Christmas is behind us, Winter is almost gone and Spring is in the air.

Our Village Market starts again for this year on Saturday the 26th of March.

Again we will have our eggs and jams, butcher with cheeses, fruits and vegetables Bramley Bakery and lots of tables with new goodies.

Please take an hour out of your Saturday and come and support your local vendors.

And when you have finished your shopping, you can stop in our Cafe and treat yourself to a cuppa and a cake.

We look forward to seeing you all on the 26th of March.

*Lorah Noonan
Shawna Campbell*

The Priory Primary School



January saw 60 children (and their accompanying adults) from The Priory making the journey to London to sing at the O2 Arena to take part in the 20th Anniversary Young Voices Concert. As you can imagine, it was a wonderful occasion. After many weeks of rehearsal, everyone was very excited to have a final practice with children from hundreds of other schools from all over the south of England and under the leadership of their conductor, David Lawrence.

Thousands of children take part every year and every year, the concert gets better and better! This year, our children aged between 6 and 11 sang and danced their hearts out to a variety of toe tapping individual songs and medleys, from Uptown Funk to the

Gospel Medley, from Utter Madness to the Pop Medley. As they say, "there was something for everyone"! As well as the children, various adults take to the stage too and this year, much to the delight of the children, some extremely talented "beat boxers" showed off their talents – it is amazing what incredibly special effects can be produced with the human voice and a microphone!

After a long, but thoroughly amazing day, our coach arrived back at school just after midnight and we all went home to dream of the bright lights of London and performing once again at the O2 Arena in 2017!

Suzanne Kelly, Head Teacher



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Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

At the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd February the Chairman, John Lambeth, welcomed 58 and 3 visitors and reminded everyone that the next meeting on 2nd March would be the AGM which would be followed by lunch at the Conservative Club. The Secretary, Tony Brazier said that nominations for all officers and the members of the committee had now been received. He then gave details of the forthcoming trip to Winchester but said that the Cadbury World visit would not take place due to insufficient numbers. Christine Broadbent presented her welfare report in which she welcomed back members who had been unwell.

The speaker this month was Mervyn Annetts from Mervyn's Coaches. He gave an interesting and amusing presentation in which he went through the history of stagecoaches from their

beginnings in the early 17th century, through the 18th century when Mail coaches started operating through to the end of the 19th century when railways became the predominant means of transport for long distances. The first motor coaches at the beginning of the 20th century were often very rudimentary affairs and it was not until 1930 that regulations were introduced to ensure their safety. He then gave an account of his own connection with transport when he started as an apprentice with Thorneycroft in the 1950's, becoming a coach driver and then a partner with Porters Coaches until starting Mervyn's Coaches in 1982. Originally starting with Bedfords but now using Volvos he gave examples of the work they undertook and the films and TV series that his vintage vehicles had been used in.



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.

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Our community care project offers support to the frail, elderly, disabled, vulnerable and housebound members of our community and their carers.

Our core service is provided by volunteers who work tirelessly to assist and support their clients to move them forward with the problems they face.

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We also offer email advice via our website. Please take a look at www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk and follow the link to Get Advice - Email Service from Tadley.

We are looking for volunteers to help us provide our service, in particular reception, Research & Campaign co-ordinator and an IT specialist. If this interests you please call our admin line on 0118 9817567 or email us at admin@tadleycab.cabnet.org.uk to arrange an informal chat.

We also have a Macmillan Caseworker who helps people from the Hampshire area that are affected by cancer. To speak to a Hampshire Macmillan adviser please call 0344 847 7727.

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Women's Fellowship

The February meeting of Women's Fellowship was the Annual General Meeting.

Prior to the meeting beginning officially, Mrs Jean Linford passed on to the Members a warning of a scam telephone call supposedly from TPS (Telephone Preference Service) received by one of the members, to the effect that she had been taken off the TPS and they needed her telephone number to renew the Service. After sending an e-mail to TPS

she was reliably informed that it was a scam. If you encounter such a call, either disconnect the call, or ask for details in writing and contact the TPS.

We were informed that a vacancy has opened for a Caretaker for the Village Hall and Chute Pavilion, although Mr Ed Campbell has kindly stepped in on a temporary basis until March.

The meeting continued with the Treasurer's Report, and happily the Fellowship is in healthy credit.

The Women's Fellowship's scrapbooks were available for all to see showing photographs of past Fellowship events going back to its inception forty eight years ago. The scrapbooks were perused by members before and after the afternoon tea supplied by the committee, and before the raffle.

An enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Rose Cooper

Crimestoppers

I regularly report on scams that have occurred in Hampshire which are very often committed against the elderly or more vulnerable members of our community. Sadly I have another trick to warn you about after Police received a report of a phone scam offering the sale of lottery tickets. The con was particularly nasty as it went on for almost a year and cost the elderly victim some £15,000.

In March 2015, an elderly man in his 90s was called by someone he did not know and persuaded to buy 75 Irish lottery tickets. The victim was advised that a good win was common and he was sure to make a fortune. When the victim agreed, he was asked for his bank debit card details to ensure the tickets could be bought on his behalf. He was told evidence of the tickets' purchase would be sent to him through the post.

Just a few days later he was contacted again and this time asked if he would be interested in other lotteries in Europe and Australia. The victim said he might be and he was told that some tickets would be purchased for him in the lotteries in Italy and Australia. Over the subsequent months a total of nine further purchases were made, mostly without the victim's agreement, and certainly without him understanding what was really

happening. The victim finally contacted his bank when he realised that he wasn't winning any prizes and thought that was odd. He then discovered that money had been taken without his consent and an investigation has now revealed that more than £15,000 was taken from his account.

This matter has been referred to the national Action Fraud team and although there haven't been many other similar offences reported locally, it is very likely that there have been other victims who either haven't yet realised they have been targeted and scammed, or simply would rather not report it as they feel they are in some way to blame. However it is important that you should contact the Police on 101 if you have been harassed by someone trying to sell you lottery tickets over the phone.

Remember, never give out any personal information about your bank account to anybody over the phone and never give your PIN number out in any form (including typing in to a keypad). If you have given out information which could compromise your bank account security in any way, call your bank to cancel your cards as soon as possible – please don't be embarrassed to speak up straight away!

Sometimes brazen fraudsters will still try to get your bank details by claiming

to be Police Officers investigating their own crime! If someone calls claiming to be a Police Officer, ask for their identification number and police force. Hang up the call and advise that you will call them back using the 101 number. A genuine police officer will not mind waiting while you check. Call them back from a different phone if possible or wait at least 10 minutes before making the call, to ensure they have not kept the line open.

Never hand over money to someone at the door to be sent off elsewhere. If someone comes to your door claiming to be a police officer or staff member, always ask for identification and make a note of their identification number. Ask them to wait while you verify their identity. Close the door and call 101. Dial 999 if it is an emergency. If you have elderly or vulnerable family or friends, please keep an eye out for them as best you can!

Remember – if you have information about ANY crime, please do not hesitate to give Crimestoppers a call on 0800 555 111 or log on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org where you can also give information anonymously. If you are on twitter, please follow me @HantsCrimestopp

PC Simon Wright

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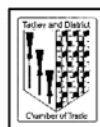
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Recent Police Incidents reported in the Villager Area:

Non dwelling burglaries –

Between 02/01/2016 - 18:00 and 03/01/2016 - 09:00 – Salters Heath Road, Monk Sherborne –

Offenders have entered an unlocked rear garden shed, once inside a number of tools have been stolen. A suspicious vehicle was seen prior to this incident the day before, Subaru legacy M628 UYC, this incident relates to another non dwelling break around the same suspicious vehicle – As below.

Between 06/01/2016 - 20:30 and 07/01/2016 - 20:50 – Salters Heath Road, Monk Sherborne –

Attempts were made to gain entry to an outbuilding in the rear garden, 2 heavy duty padlocks were bent by a screw driver type implement, no access gained. This incident relates to the above incident around the suspicious vehicle.

09/01/2016 – Between 04.50 and 10.50 – Elm Road, Sherborne St

John – Unknown offenders have forced open 2 outbuildings on farmland, once inside a petrol chainsaw and a petrol hedge strimmer have been stolen. The offenders have smashed the 2 padlocks which secured the outbuilding doors.

Between 25/01/2016 – 19.00 and 26/01/2016 - 07.40 – West End,

Sherborne St John - Unknown offenders have prised off the padlock to the front garden shed, once inside a petrol hedge trimmer and a petrol chainsaw have been stolen.

Neighbourhood Update – Speed Enforcement

We know that speeding motorists has been a concern for the residents of the Tadley area for some considerable time. It is currently one of our main community and district priorities and the Neighbourhood Policing Team are working with Hampshire Police Road Safety Units, local councils and

Community Speedwatch teams in order to reduce excess speed on our roads.

The recent emphasis on speed enforcement has been to educate motorists rather than simply prosecute those who are stopped for exceeding the speed limit. This is of course dependant on the speed at which they were travelling, and any previous penalties they may have incurred.

We encourage members of the public to contact us if they perceive there is a problem in a specific location, and we can then carry out a site visit to make an assessment.

There are locations where it is simply not possible to effectively and safely carry out speed enforcement with a hand-held LASER speed detection device. However, that doesn't stop us from patrolling the area if required as well as involving other agencies to assist with traffic/speed monitoring.

Probus Hears About Code Breaking Sister At Bletchley Park

John Lidstone gave a presentation to the Probus Club of Basingstoke about the Bletchley Park code breaking centre and the secret part played by his elder sister Pamela stationed there.

Bletchley Park has probably been Britain's best kept secret. Its mission was to crack the Nazi codes and ciphers the most famous of which was the Enigma. It is estimated their work shortened the war by two years and saved 80,000 lives.

Having signed the Official Secrets Act people in each working hut were not allowed to discuss their work with people in other huts. Any subsequent breach could have led to 30 years imprisonment or the death penalty.

University graduates, especially mathematicians were needed if the enemy's electromechanical cipher machines, particularly Enigma, were to be cracked. Alan Turing and Gordon Welchman from Cambridge worked alongside other cryptanalysts including a chess champion.

John's sister Pamela was one such recruit, having graduated from Reading University with a First Class degree. Called up for National Service she attended the selection procedure for the Foreign Office part of which was a timed completion of the Daily Telegraph crossword. Most addicts took eleven minutes: Pamela did it in seven.

To hide the fact that Enigma had been cracked reports were written as if coming from an MI6 spy with a network of imaginary agents inside Germany. Bletchley became so efficient it could read messages from German battlefield generals before they were seen by Hitler in Berlin.

The embargo on Bletchley's secret work remained until 1976. John only learned of Pamela's part at her death at 95 as she never told her family about her work. They thought she had worked for the Foreign Office throughout the war.

See the web site of the Probus Club www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com for more information about its activities.

SHERBORNE ST JOHN VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity No. 301945
Kiln Road, Sherborne St John, Hampshire RG24 9HP

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Trust will be held on:

Monday 21st March 2016

At

7.30 pm

In the Village Hall

All residents of the parish over the age of 18yrs are invited to attend and may vote at this meeting.

Draft Agenda

1. To record any apologies for absence.
2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2015 (copies available at the meeting).
3. To receive the Chairman's report (copies available at the meeting).
4. To receive the Treasurer's report (copies available at the meeting).
5. To elect three trustees to serve until the next AGM (nominations available at the meeting).

Notice of any other nominations or business to be raised must be sent to the Chairman (4 Cranes Road Sherborne St John RG24 9JD or ssjvillagehall@btinternet.com) **before 7th March 2016**.

Officers: R Pettifer, Chairman; S Campbell Booking, Secretary; B Mitchison, Treasurer.

Vacancy for Club Treasurer – Sherborne St John Football Club

The Sherborne St John Football club currently has a vacancy for a Club Treasurer. This is an important role and the new Treasurer will be a key member of the club's management committee.

This voluntary role would ideally suit a village resident who has some spare time on their hands and is keen to give something back to the local community. Full training will be given by the existing Treasurer.

If you are keen to get involved in a vibrant and growing part of the local community or would like more information, please contact **Jon Davies (07523079210) for further details jon.davies3@gmail.com**.

The Sherborne St John Football Club was founded by residents of the village in 1981. It is run by members of the village and provides the opportunity for villagers of all ages to participate in organised team sport.

The club is dedicated to youth development and currently has a dozen teams affiliated to the Hampshire FA, Peter Houseman and North East Hants Youth Leagues. The club also fields an under 18 side and an adult men's in the Saturday Basingstoke and District League.

Bert's Blog



Bert is away travelling in France, more next month



Village Agents Needed in Your Community!

There are over 60 Village Agents in rural communities all over Hampshire. If you are interested in learning new skills or refreshing old ones, taking part in your local community, and helping older people to remain independent then Age Concern Hampshire needs you to be the next Village Agent.

Village Agents are local people who offer a few hours a week of their time to signpost and help older people to access information, advice, and local services. They provide a face-to-face contact point for people who are less likely to use the telephone or internet service to access information. They are also trained to provide a basic home fire safety survey on behalf of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The Village Agent programme has been running since 2011 following research done by Hampshire County Council's Older Peoples Wellbeing Team and has been highly successful in helping to reduce social isolation and loneliness in older people by enabling them to access resources that they need, and assisting them to engage with their local communities.

Age Concern Hampshire is pleased to be working in partnership with Hampshire County Council and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service. The project is fully funded and supported by Hampshire County Council.

If you would like to get involved and have some time to offer or know anybody else who might be interested, please get in touch today! Call Gail Allen, Village Agent co-ordinator, on 01962 892443 or Freephone 0800 328 7154 or email villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk. Alternatively you can download an application form, and find out about our many other volunteering opportunities, on our website: www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer-for-us/



5K and 10K Run

Wednesday 11th May 2016

Make a difference.... Go the distance!

Starting at Down Grange Sports Complex, Pack Lane, Basingstoke, RG22 5SN

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) welcomes the Basingstoke 5 & 10K Run to Down Grange Sports Complex, Basingstoke on Wednesday 11th May starting at 19.00hrs.

This family friendly event is a great way to get fit, have fun and spend time together whilst raising money for North Hampshire's only adult Hospice, which provides specialist care and support to patients suffering from life limiting illnesses.

We are excited to announce that in 2016 the run will have chip timing available for all runners. Last year was a record breaking year which saw over 600 runners take part raising an incredible £21,000! So dust off your running shoes, come along and join your community, and help us beat the outstanding amount raised in 2015. Registration is open online and places are selling fast so book early to avoid disappointment.

To sign up and for more information please visit the Hospice website:

stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events or call fundraising on 01256 848 848. Follow us on Twitter @smhbasingstoke **#BasingstokeRun**



BAOS Presents



The Haymarket 8th – 12th March 2016

Adult Tickets from £16

Passion. Drama. Music. Dance.

Can true love conquer all? Following the sell-out success of Hairspray, BAOS is set to bring the streets of New York in the mid 50s back to Basingstoke. The story of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is vividly and emotionally brought to life through the rivalry of the Jets and the Sharks in Bernstein's musical masterpiece. Two teenage street gangs from different ethnic backgrounds. As war builds between the two gangs, the Sharks from Puerto Rico are taunted by the Jets of New York. When Tony, a Jet ready to leave the gang life behind, falls for the beautiful Maria, the sister of the Sharks' leader Bernardo, tension

escalates between the two groups. All leading to a violent rumble that will leave your heart racing. Watch as the two young lovers desperately try to find a way to be together despite living in a time of much hate and ignorance. With songs such as 'America', 'Somewhere', 'Tonight', 'I Feel Pretty', 'One Hand, One Heart' and 'Jet Song', it's a show full of emotion, strength and intense dance numbers.

£16 Tuesday.

£20 Wednesday - Saturday.

£13 for under 16's all shows.

£1 reduction for Students and over 65's

Group discount on bookings of 10 or more at £1 discount per ticket

The logo for the Basingstoke Ladies Choir features the word 'Ladies' in a large, elegant cursive script. Above it, 'BASINGSTOKE' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. Below 'Ladies', the word 'CHOIR' is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

SAT
9th
April 2016
7:30pm

&
Basingstoke Male Voice Choir
Charity concert
United Reformed Church
Basingstoke

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villages. Please visit my website for more details and to see how I can
help you achieve your fitness goals.

I can train you in the Gym where I work, your home, outside in the fresh air or in
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**By Zoë McManus Solicitor,
Wills & Probate team**

Are you doing enough to plan for the future?

Despite the increasingly complicated nature of our modern families and financial situations, over two thirds of people in the UK have still never made a Will. There is a tendency to put this subject to the back of our minds and say “That’s not something I need right now”. This unfortunately ignores the importance of a Will and the consequences of not having such a document in place.

The law sets out clear rules for what happens to your estate and who your assets pass to if you die without a Will. It is therefore very important that you make a Will so your assets may pass to those you would wish to benefit. The importance of writing a will is even more pressing if you have children or other family members who depend on you financially, or if you wish to leave gifts to people outside your immediate family. A well-structured Will can also help address any potential concerns regarding Inheritance Tax that you may have.

Making a Will gives you the opportunity to make certain your family are aware of your wishes and allows them to handle your estate sensitively during a difficult time. It allows you to appoint specific people, known as your Executors, to administer your estate and ensure the terms of your Will are followed.

When considering your wishes for later life, it can also be a good time to think about what would happen if you were to lose mental capacity. One in three over-65s now suffer from dementia and this can pose a real issue for loved ones who may be helpless to assist you. Currently, if you lose capacity and are unable to deal with your finances or make decisions then your friends or relatives have no choice but to make a costly and time consuming application to the Courts in order to be able to deal with matters on your behalf. To avoid this, you can make a choice to create a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) nominating a family member or trusted friend to look after your affairs if you lose capacity.

There are two types of LPA. The Property and Affairs LPA allows your Attorney to deal with your finances, including paying household bills, managing bank accounts and collecting any income or benefits. The second type focuses on your health and welfare and gives your Attorney the authority to make decisions about your person such as where you might live and your day to day care.

If you would like to find out more about the preparation of Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney then please contact our team at Phillips Solicitors by calling 01256 460830, emailing legal@phillips-law.co.uk or visit www.phillips-law.co.uk

Small Ads

Enquiries and items for inclusion please contact **Emma Foreman** on **01256 889215/07747 015494** or **emma@thehaye.co.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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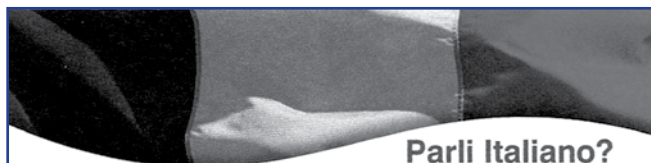
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