



The Villager

September 2015

Sherbornes and Pamber



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Editorial

After 2 days of miserable weather the sun shone on Saturday 15th August, the wedding day of Alex Irving and Sophia Davies. Alex grew up in Sherborne St John along with his brother Dann, sons of Barbara and John Irving in Crane's Road. The wedding ceremony took place in St Andrew's Church in front of family and friends. Alex is now studying theology at Wycliffe Hall in Oxford. We wish Alex and Sophia every happiness in their married life together.



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2015

Although Christmas still seems a long time away, now is the time of year our thoughts turn again to the gift of Christmas Shoe Boxes. Over the last few years readers of The Villager have given very generous support to this Appeal and have donated hundreds of boxes to this caring, humanitarian cause. Last year over 20,000 boxes were collected by the Rotary movement in Hampshire alone and distributed by members of Rotary.

See full details on page 14

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.

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Cover Photo: Foxgloves from an original watercolour by Lindsay Berry

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Future Events

September 2015

1	SSJ Women's Fellowship Annual Outing	
7	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
7	Pelican Film Society, Birdman, The Ark, Guests welcome £5, Supper available	7.30pm
13	Monk Sherborne Fete and Informal Horticultural Show, MS Village Hall NOTE DATE CHANGE	TBC
19	Sherborne St John Village Market, SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
21	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
30	Bridge and Tea in aid of Ungureni Trust, Sherborne St John Village Hall	1.30pm-4.30pm

October 2015

5	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
5	Pelican Film Society, Still Alice, The Ark, Guests welcome £5, Supper available	7.30pm
6	SSJ Women's Fellowship, A Passion for Pearls, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
9	Monk Sherborne Village Murder Mystery Night, MS Village Hall	7.30pm
17	Sherborne St John Village Market, SSJ Village Hall	10am – 1pm
19	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
31	Odiham Art Group Annual Art Exhibition, Robert Mays School, West Street, Odiham	10am – 5pm

November 2015

1	Odiham Art Group Annual Art Exhibition, Robert Mays School, West Street, Odiham	10am – 5pm
2	Pelican Film Society, Woman in Gold, The Ark, Guests welcome £5, Supper available	7.30pm
2	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
3	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Christmas Table Settings, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
6 & 7	CPRE Art Exhibition, Swallick Farmhouse, Winslade, Basingstoke RG25 2NG	10.30am – 5.00pm
16	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am
28	NSPCC Christmas Fair, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10am to 4pm,
30	60+Club, Sherborne St John Village Hall. Contact 01256 850577 for transport	10.00am

December 2015

1	SSJ Women's Fellowship, Christmas Lunch TBA	2.00pm
7	Pelican Film Society, The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window, The Ark	7.30pm
14	60+Club, Christmas Lunch at the Swan. Contact 01256 850577 to book	12 noon

January 2016

5	SSJ Women's Fellowship, World Cruise Adventure, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
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February 2016

5	SSJ Women's Fellowship, AGM, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
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(Fun mixture of Latin & American line)

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2:00pm - 4:00pm

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Tuesdays

Intermediate

Ballroom & Latin

7:15pm - 8:15pm

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

Stage 2 Beginners

Ballroom & Latin

8:15pm - 9:15pm

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

Fridays

Line Dancing

(Fun mixture of Latin & American line)

7:15pm - 8:00pm

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

Sequence Class

8:00pm - 9:00pm

(Class not suitable for complete beginners)

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PRACTICE NIGHT

(Ballroom, Latin & Popular Sequence)

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£6.00 per person (Including Cup of Tea / Coffee)

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Join us for free-play, craft, stories and song-time and get to know others in the area. There are teas and coffees for grown ups and a fruit snack-time for the children.

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Wednesday mornings
(during school term time)

9:45-11.15am

Sherborne St John Village Hall



Phone Barbara on 850173 or Angela 851563.

Church Matters September

“The rich man in his castle, the poor man at his gate

God made them high or lowly, and ordered their estate.”

Some may be familiar with these words! They come from the well-known hymn “All things bright and beautiful” written by Mrs C. F. Alexander when Queen Victoria was on the throne. We probably know verses about “the tall trees in the greenwood and the meadows where we play” rather better – the verse quoted above is rarely sung today. It was in fact banned by the Inner London Education Authority in 1982! And no wonder – it is something of an anachronism to our ears.

Doubtless the hymn breathes the atmosphere of a former day. It is a day which remains a prominent part of our nostalgia if the popularity of so-called “costume dramas” is anything to go by. But how should we regard the proscribed lines – as a lovely reminder of the communal security and stability of a vanished age or as an offensively complacent attitude to social division?

From a Bible point of view there two angles from which we might approach this: the sovereignty of God and the

selfishness of man. The sovereignty of God is the name we give to the doctrine that God is in control of everything. He is the sovereign Lord of heaven and earth: he made everything and he rules over it. He is all knowing and all powerful – omniscient and omnipotent. Anything less and he would not be God. I am not saying that this doctrine does not create problems for us sometimes. Nor am I suggesting that it means we can explain everything – of course we can’t – to do that we would have to be God himself.

The sovereignty of God is a truth we must believe in if we profess to worship him. On the other hand there is no way that the Bible justifies complacency with regard to the plight of the seriously disadvantaged. Such selfishness which contentedly leaves the poor man at the rich man’s gate – lying in the dust – is condemned, for example in the story of the rich man & Lazarus¹. You remember, the rich man was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. Lazarus, the only one of the two who has a name by the way, is left at his gate. The rich man does nothing for him.

In Jesus’ story both die and the rich man finds himself in hell – “this place of torment”². There is no suggestion that he could claim that God had caused him to be rich or to sit there in total indifference to Lazarus: he had chosen to do nothing for him. Considering this, I could not but think of the awful plight of the migrants, who figure on the news almost everyday. Of course no one is saved, or put right with God, by being poor – any more than an individual is automatically condemned for being rich:

the Bible does not say that. But the fact is that the contrasting situations of rich and poor provide a stage on which our actions and reactions are displayed. And if we are honest (and I include myself in this) we are mostly negative toward these desperate people. They frighten us. They seem to be capable of violence – they must be tough to have made it to Calais – and they are prepared to take the most incredible risks to reach the UK.

Not only is that so but they are lawless, constantly attempting to bypass the standard routes of entry into the country because they know they will be turned back. Indeed we feel, surely they should be: back to Syria or Eritrea or Libya or France or Greece or wherever they came from. Anywhere but staying with us. And yet, I suggest we have to admit that this attitude is unacceptable for Christian people. Indeed we should remember that there are Christians among the migrants – what are we saying about hospitality to them? We have to recognize that this population shift is a fact of the world scene and it may have far further to go before the situation stabilizes. Trying to stem the tide is likely to be as successful as King Canute telling the incoming sea to go into reverse. We need a much more positive approach. We need arrangements to be made urgently that will enlarge our capacity to accept, introduce and educate those who want to come here. If we welcome them they may well become fruitful members of society. If we reject them and leave them at the gate of the tunnel we align ourselves with the rich man who left Lazarus at his gate.

John Hamilton

PS Barnabas Fund are trying to do something about it. I have just seen and signed the petition on their website:

www.barnabasfund.org/safe-havens-for-christians-petition May I encourage you to sign it too?

¹ Luke 16: 19-31

² verse 28

Services for September

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

6 September

10am	Family Service	St Andrew's
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13 September

8am	Holy Communion	The 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 September

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

27 September

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

4 October

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

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM...

After one more parable in Luke we spend 2 weeks considering the authority of the Bible. We then begin a series in the letter of James.

06-Sep	The great banquet	Luke 14:15-24	Warren Trask
13-Sep	Authority of the Bible (1)		John Hamilton & Ian Roberts
20-Sep	Authority of the Bible (2)		John Hamilton
27-Sep	Christian maturity	James 1:1-8	John Hamilton & Steve Howe

.. AND AT SIX PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL:

We are in the Old Testament looking at the unfolding drama of the book of 2 Kings.

13-Sep	No God in Israel?	2Kings 1	John Hamilton
20-Sep	Handover time	2Kings 2	John Hamilton
27-Sep	The authority of Elisha	2Kings 4	John Hamilton

MIDWEEK

Home Groups meet on the weeks beginning 7 & 21 September: they will be following up the Sunday morning teaching: this month looking at Luke's parables and the authority of the Bible.

THE HUMAN JOURNEY

A series of talks produced by the Christian Medical Fellowship. It tackles questions such as:

- what it means to be human
- beginning and end of life issues
- aspects of health & illness.

These are topics we don't think about very often. The course includes video material. The first will be on 15th Sept and then 29th Sept from 8-9pm in the Parish Room.

PRAYING TOGETHER

While there should always be time for prayer at all our meetings we will meet specifically to pray on THURSDAY afternoons at 2.15 pm. (Please note the new timing – the aim is to meet each week to focus on the weekend coming up as well as other needs) This month we plan to meet on Thursday 10, 17 & 24th September and finish before 3 pm. Do join us

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The Monk Sherborne Fete

The date for Monk Sherborne Village fete (Sunday Septembers 13th) is getting closer and hopefully your tomatoes should be beginning to ripen, ready for the competition. The classes are below.

To enter, simply turn up at the Village Hall between 09.00 and 11.00 with your entries. You will be asked to make out a card for each entry, with the category number and description on one side and your name on the other. Then you will be shown where to place your entries. Simple!

Entries are free and there will be a first prize of £1 and a rosette for each winner.

Don't be shy if you are worried your veggies are not up to scratch - you could be happily surprised. By the way I've opened up the largest marrow competition to include courgettes as both my neighbour and I have monstrous courgettes because we had forgotten to pick them.

Lots of people have said they would like to help and if you would also like to, please give me a ring on 851743 or email uelsltd@aol.com. We will need help setting up the marquees on Saturday and packing them away again on Monday, also manning the tea stand, the Pimms tent, BBQ, and helping with the Children's games.

Vegetables

1. Five potatoes
2. Five large or medium tomatoes
3. Five cherry or plum tomatoes
4. Three carrots
5. Three leeks
6. Two courgettes
7. Five beans (any sort)

Fruit

8. Five apples (any sort)
9. Dish of raspberries
10. Three figs
11. Five pears (any sort)

Novelty

12. Heaviest marrow or courgette
13. Heaviest carrot
14. Ugliest vegetable
15. Longest runner bean

Flowers

16. A vase of five flowers (any one sort)
17. Two roses
18. A flower arrangement (60cms diam max)
19. Three dahlias

Children's classes

20. A miniature garden
21. A flower arrangement
22. A Mr Potato head
23. A painting
24. Best scarecrow

Home cooking

25. A chocolate cake (men only)
26. A fruit cake
27. A jar of jam
28. A jar of marmalade

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

Report for the Monk Sherborne Parish Council

This is the report from Cllr Stan Gibson, Monk Sherborne Parish Council:

Well here we are again, the spring has come and gone leaving us with a reasonable summer not the best but certainly not the worst, the gardens this year have looked very colourful.

As I write this report, it seems the time has flown by, the longest day has gone lets hope for an Indian summer when the sun has it final flourish.

Weather and seasons apart, let's move on.

A brief resume of the portfolio's starting with my portfolio planning as at our meeting held on 15th July 2015

Applications Received

15/01845/HSE – April Cottage, Charter Alley Erection of a part two storey part single storey rear extension, with alterations to the roof, replacement bay windows and change of roof tiles

T/00201/15/TCA – Appletree House, Monk Sherborne Road To fell a Horse Chestnut

15/01927/LDEU – Jonathans Thatch, Ramsdell Road, Monk Sherborne Certificate of lawful development – existing use/condition in respect of garden curtilage

15/01378/FUL – Land near Shothanger Works, Shothanger Lane Construction and operation of a solar farm to generate renewable electricity for 25 years with restoration of land to its existing condition and arable agricultural use after the solar farm use has ended

Priory Oaks, Salters Heath Road, Monk Sherborne Notice of intent to fell 2 Sycamore, 1 Hawthorn, various self-seeded Elm, Sycamore and Hawthorn and coppice 2 Hazel

15/02209/ROC – Land at Hill End Farm, Aldermaston Road, Salters Heath Retrospective application for the variation of condition 1 of 14/02512/ROC to regularise the built equipment on site (Relates to the installation of a solar farm)

15/01733/FUL – Blackberries, Salters Heath Road, Monk Sherborne Erection of a day room and 2 metre high wall

Applications Waiting Decision

15/00669/HSE – Jonathons Thatch, Ramsdell Road, Monk Sherborne Conversion and extension of existing garage to provide ancillary accommodation

Rookery Farm, Monk Sherborne Planning application for the development of a picking station and associated plant with the variation of conditions 10 (Site layout) and 11 (to allow screening activities) at Rookery Farm Lane, Monk Sherborne

Planning Decisions

15/01365/HSE – Priory Oaks, Salters Heath Road, Monk Sherborne Erection of external staircase to rear of garage first floor. Alterations to garage roof to form gable **No Objection - Granted**

Portfolio reports

Finance & Health – The grass cutting contract is due for renewal. Quotations are to be requested for review at the next scheduled meeting in September. Discussions were held regarding the potential splitting of the main contract in to two separate areas following the offer of Charter Alley potentially being maintained by a volunteer. Further discussions are to be held once all the quotations have been received.

Planning – Members present considered the application submitted for the Blackberries site to install a 2m high fence and a dayroom. A detailed response is to be prepared and forwarded to BDBC for their consideration highlighting the visibility splays and non-compliance of the original permission granted.

Concerns have been raised by a number of local residents regarding the noise levels from Manor Farm. The Environmental Health team at BDBC have been alerted accordingly. Local residents are encouraged to report any noise incidents via the BDBC reporting page online.

Local Authority & Rural strategy – Cllr Du Boulay gave a verbal update following the BDBC Local Plan

Examination meeting scheduled for 21st July. A 6 week period testing legal compliance and duty to co-operate and soundness of the Local Plan is being undertaken.

The Local Government Boundary Commission has formally commenced an electoral review The review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Hampshire. Comments are to be submitted prior to 3rd August 2015.

Village hall – Lord Hayter provided an update to members of current work in hand for various improvements at the village hall. The new kitchen will be installed w/c 19th July. Some of the external cladding has come loose and a contractor is being sought to fix it - hopefully a volunteer from the village! Work is being undertaken with regard to the renewal of the village hall lease. Legal advice is to be sought to ensure the village hall is protected accordingly.

Highways Transport and footpaths – Cllr Spencer advised that work continues on ensuring the pot holes within the parish are chased accordingly. HCC were advised that two of the cast iron footpath signs had been broken by the hedge cutting contractor. Replacements are on order. HCC are still being chased regarding the problem of water pooling on the footpath at the end of Kiln Lane.

Playground – Cllr Du Boulay advised that a quotation had been obtained for some minor works, including the replacement of the top rail on the swings and various timbers on the multi play unit. The works are to be carried out as soon as possible.

Rural Policing & Neighbourhood Watch – PCSO J Dullingham continues to forward a monthly update, indicating that crime remains low within the parish.

Last but not least

The Council would like to express their thanks to those in the parish who have volunteered their help with jobs small and large within our parish.

Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 16th September 2015

Cllr Stan Gibson



SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Plan

An initial Neighbourhood Draft Plan has been submitted to Consultants for review and comment.

Following a recent meeting with Rydon Homes, a revised proposal has been submitted - for 16No. houses (plus shop) on land next to the A340, to the south of Cranes Rd. The SSJ N Plan Committee has been unable to obtain an assurance from BDBC that it will oppose development applications which are not included in the Neighbourhood Plan. However, we have received a reply from the Principle Planning Officer of the Planning Policy & Implementation Team, that SSJ003, 005 & 006 (sites in and around Cranesfield) were listed as Category 2 sites in the SHLAA and are therefore not suitable for strategic allocation through the Local Plan. Development of these sites could therefore only be via the Neighbourhood Plan.

Chute Maintenance

Orders have now been placed for some work to be carried out at the Chute Pavilion, these include new flooring, hiring of a storage container, and hedge cutting and strimming of the vegetation to allow for external painting. More maintenance work is planned including painting inside and outside the building and further quotes are being obtained for carpentry and plumbing.

The football club have offered to remove the old storage shed and lay the new concrete base for the Parish Council. The Parish Clerk has received a communication from BDBC planning department that planning permission would not be necessary if the new building did not exceed 4 metres in height or 200cubic metres in capacity. The Parish Council is in the process of investigating the cost of a replacement concrete storage building and will get quotes to be compared with the steel unit before any decision is made.

Tennis Court fencing work is

progressing and quotes will be obtained from 3 fencing contractors, using the type of fencing recommended by the BDBC representative, together with a higher piece of fencing next to the basketball court.

Voluntary job at the Chute.

Dr Judith Darmady is stepping down after many years as Booking Secretary and Keyholder at The Chute Pavilion. The Parish Council wish to thank Judith for all her hard work over the years, she has been fantastic.

As such this now leaves an opportunity for a resident who would like to do some voluntary community work which involves taking telephone and email bookings for the Chute Pavilion. A full job description is available from the Parish Clerk so please contact her if you are interested in this role.

Allotments

There are two vacant allotments at present. They will be ready in 4 weeks, once they have been put in good condition. If you are interested in taking an allotment please contact the Parish Clerk. Ted Wilkinson, Allotment Warden, is currently looking at how we keep rabbit numbers low on Moss Hill. A new addendum to the tenancy agreement will be issued as there has been a problem with some ad-hoc fencing erected around some new plots. It will state that in future no fences can be erected or repaired/ re-erected without agreement from the Warden and Parish Clerk first.

Transport

The situation with the 53 service on Friday is currently unsatisfactory and the Parish Council will be contacting Basingstoke Community Transport to express the Parish Council's dissatisfaction and to ensure new arrangements are put in place by the contractor.

Rights of Way

If you would like to report any problems with rights of way please contact the

email the Parish Clerk on ssjclerk@gmail.com or telephone on 0118 9332379.

Hedge Trimming and Clear Road Signs

We would like to remind residents to cut back their hedges if they obstruct any road signs. This is particularly important around speed signs which need to be clearly seen as we wish to slow the traffic down through the village to ensure residents safety. We would also be grateful if residents would wish to clean any signs close to their property to keep the signs in good order.

Village Party

The Parish Council wish to thank all the residents who attended the SSJ Village Summer Party. It was a really lovely summer's evening event with a delicious hog roast and super music from the Jazz Band and Sharp Practice.

School Crossing

The Parish Council are still looking into improvements around the school crossing area but we probably will not see any work in this area until at least March 2016 when we are into next year's financial budget.

Litterpicker Job- salaried position

Shelia Cooper has stepped down as our wonderful Litterpicker around the village. This now leaves a vacancy so if you fancy getting out in the fresh air for 6 hours a week picking up litter, with all equipment provided then please contact the Parish Clerk on ssjclerk@gmail.com or telephone on 0118 9332379.

Parish Council Meetings reminder

We have routine planning meetings on the second Tuesday of the month and a planning section prior to the regular Parish Council meetings, generally the 4th Monday of the month. Members of the public are free to attend on these occasions, all we ask is that the public contact the Parish Clerk to let her know of their intention to attend.

The dates are published widely on the notice board outside the Village Hall, on the website and in the Villager. Our next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 28 September in the Village Hall.

Jayne Tomlinson
SSJ Parish Council

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Pamber Parish Council

There was no meeting in August.

Planning Decisions made by the Borough Council:

15/01005/FUL: Erection of dwelling
Ramblers Aldermaston Road Pamber End. **REFUSED**

14/02951/LDEU: Certificate of lawfulness for the use of part of the site for the recycling of non-ferrous scrap metal. The Old Brickyard Aldermaston Road Pamber Green. **GRANTED**

15/01527/HSE: Two storey side extension & replacement Garage/ Gym following demolition of existing

Garage. 1 Cherry Tree Cottages New Road Pamber Green. **GRANTED**

15/01308/LBC and 15/01307/FUL: Creation of an external Patio landscape scheme, erection of single storey side extension and timber store following demolition of existing garage block, various internal and external alterations including amendments to parking and relocation of the existing gas tanks
Queens College Arms Aldermaston Road Pamber End. **GRANTED**

The next meetings of Pamber Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 14th September in St. Stephen's Hall, Little London. Please note that the following meeting will be held on Monday, 19th October 2015 in the Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Details of meetings are displayed on the notice boards and on the website www.pamber-pc.gov.uk

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

Notes from Pamber Green and Pamber End

Looking back on the previous articles I have written for the Villager, I am amazed it is over two years since I started writing them. I made the mistake of emailing Julie, our Editor, early in 2013 and voicing my disappointment over how few items relating to Pamber Green and Pamber End ever appeared. Understandably, she quickly pointed out it was because no-one ever wrote anything! She suggested I might wish to become the Pamber Correspondent and, under the circumstances, I could hardly refuse having well and truly shot myself in the foot. Overall, I have enjoyed my time writing for the Villager but am always happy to stand down if someone would like to take up the mantle. I sometimes think I have exhausted my pool of ideas and thoughts and, particularly as at this moment in time, can think of nothing Pamber related to write about. These are the difficult times for me as the Pamber Correspondent when I have no real idea of what to write about.

I am currently (early August) sitting in mid France listening to the rain and thunder, thus I have no excuse for not finding some time to commit some ideas to print. Today has registered a high of 17 degrees which is relatively Arctic next to the usual minimum of mid 20 degrees and highs of 38 degrees that we have become used to. I have

had to dispense with the shorts, tee shirt and sandals and don trousers, a hoodie, fleece and socks in my efforts to feel warm. I've even had to take the bottle of red wine out of the cool box which found its' home there when 'room temperature' became similar to a slightly cooling cup of tea. What has the world come to! My sole consolation is I'm sure it must be worse at home.

Summer, if that is what it can be called, has resulted in its usual cessation of my usual life. My two choirs (Tadley Singers and Basingstoke Ladies Choir) have closed for their summer breaks and won't resume until early September. The little work I still do in schools has also, obviously, closed down until the new academic year starts. While I'm away my garden is probably running to wrack and ruin although my son, Thomas, assures me he has cut the grass once since we've been away. Plenty to do on my return to get the garden back under control no doubt.

A number of concerts are already scheduled which adds a special edge to all of the choir practising. Basingstoke Ladies Choir is holding another Quiz and Supper night on Friday 11th September at the Carnival Hall, Basingstoke. Always enjoyable and great fun. Email me for details on attending. Also, the Basingstoke Festival of Choirs will be singing at the Basingstoke

Cenotaph to mark the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain on Thursday 17th September in the morning. It will be a moving and fitting tribute to those who participated.

When I last walked through Pamber Forest back in late July, the tracks and paths were bone dry but very overgrown with brambles following the series of heavy cutting of trees over the recent years. It's a real shame that the usual natural undergrowth is now being stifled by these unwelcome invaders. They tear at arms and legs leaving many nasty grazes.

In the last Villager it was reported that applicants to fill the Pamber Parish Council South Ward vacancy were going to be invited to the July Council meeting to discuss the matter further. Hopefully, by the time you read this there will be a full compliment of Councillors on the Parish Council. Please try and attend the next scheduled Council meeting on 14th September 2015 in St Stephen's Hall, Little London.

Please try and put 'pen to paper' and email me any items of interest. Your support makes the life of the Correspondent so much easier and is gratefully received.

Ann Ellis
annjellis@googlemail.com



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2015

This Christmas Rotary will again be collecting and transporting Christmas shoe boxes for children who live in the mountains and very poor regions of Montenegro, Albania, Romania and in the cold foothills of Mt Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. You are invited to make up and donate shoeboxes, which will bring joy and delight to these children who have virtually nothing.

If you would like to make up a box here are some helpful suggestions:

Choose the sex and age range for the child you would like to receive your box.

The age ranges for boxes are: 1- 3 years, 4 - 7 years, 8 -11 years, 12 - 15 years.

Please ensure that all items included are new or 'as new'.

Last year there was a great shortage of boxes for children in the older age groups.

Suggested items you might include:

Learning toys, mosaics, Lego, games, balls, jigsaws, modeling clay, sticky tape, coloured paper, skipping ropes, playing cards, dominoes, chess sets and clothing

such as socks, gloves, pants, tights, hats, scarves.

Depending on the age you select you may like to include items for use at school, e.g. ball point pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, paper, colouring pencils, solar powered calculators, geometry sets.

Soap, combs, face cloths, hand cream, talc, football memorabilia of famous teams, sports magazines, books, especially paper-back English Classics.

Please do not include:

Food, drinks, liquids, items for the bath, sweets, large soft toys. swimwear, toilet rolls, large items of clothing, toy soldiers, toy guns and other military-type toys, penknives, anything breakable or anything which needs a battery.

While you are making up your box think of the delight on the face of 'your child' when they open their box that you have sent to them.

Please cover your box and lid **separately** with decorative paper and secure the

lid with strong elastic bands (the boxes need to be opened easily as they may be inspected by Customs). Put a sticky label on the outside of your box and indicate **the sex and age range** you have chosen. Please donate £1 per box to help to cover the cost of transportation costs and attach the coin to the outside of the lid.

The maximum size for the shoeboxes is 13" x 8" x 6"

Boxes should be delivered by 15 October latest please to the Rotary collection points at Eden Fiat, A30, Old Basing, Basingstoke or The Bear Factory, Festival Place.

If you would like to contribute to this cause but you are unable to fill a complete box, donations of any of the items above would be very welcome because they can be used to make up extra boxes. These donations can be taken direct to the collection point or delivered to Paul Temple at 3 Bourne Field, Sherborne St John.

Sponsored Bike Ride

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLANDS
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The annual Sponsored Ride & Stride in aid of funds for the Hampshire & The Islands (Wight and Channel) Historic Churches Trust will be held on Saturday 12th September 2015.

ALL sponsorship money goes to the Trust (no expenses incurred), they will retain half of the sponsorship money for churches that require funds to maintain their historic condition; the other half of the money will be disbursed to the churches nominated by those being sponsored. The 2014 event raised just on £57,000, with the Basingstoke area providing £2,748 before Gift Aid; grants totalling £33,400 were made to 11 churches. Since 1988 the Trust has contributed funding to more than 300 churches.

The object of the event is to be sponsored to visit as many of the participating churches as one can during the day – either by walking or cycling or on horse

back. All counties participate, so you can cross county boundaries if so desired.

There are seven churches in the Basingstoke town area with a further six in Tadley as well as our three churches – a total of 29 in the Basingstoke District – that gives you plenty of scope.

Come on and get your bike out of mothballs and GET SPONSORED!

For further information and sponsorship forms, etc., contact:

David Cullum (01256 850315) or go online to www.hihct.org.uk.

HERITAGE WEEKEND

Come and visit Pamber Priory church.

The weekend of 10th -13th September is the Heritage Weekend, a Europe-wide event, when numerous places and houses which are not normally open to the public

open their gates/doors to all and sundry with many putting on special events or displays.

The Priory Church will be open on Saturday 12th Sept from 09.30am to 3pm and on Sunday 13th from midday to 5pm.

Come and learn about a little-known church in our area. It started out as a very large Benedictine Priory consecrated in the year 1128. It was used by Kings and Queens of England with Queen Eleanor (Henry III's queen) having special accommodation built there between 1247 and about 1260. The Priory was largely destroyed by Eton College between 1452 and 1463 but the local population appealed to King Edward VI who took it away from Eton and gave it to The Queen's College in Oxford who re-instated it and had it consecrated in 1478 as a church. Come and visit us and find out more of its history.

David Cullum (01256 850315).

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- Kids races - under sevens (infants) 400m, seven to nines (Years 3&4) 500m, nine to tens (Years 5&6) 600m. Entry fee £2.00 payable on the day
- Entry forms available from the Priory School website (Parents' Assn page) or by emailing rachandstu@me.com

www.theprioryprimaryschool.org.uk

Come and join us – races for all ages and standards!

BRIDGE AFTERNOON

**SHERBORNE ST JOHN
VILLAGE HALL**

Wednesday 30th September
1.30pm to 4.30 pm

Proceeds in aid of Ungureni
Trust (Registered Charity no
1005712) which celebrates its
25th birthday in September

Come and enjoy a game of
Bridge and a Delicious
Afternoon Tea

Tables (£60 per table) limited,
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Bookings:

Judith Darmady, Meadow View,
26 Vyne Road, Sherborne St John,
Hants RG24 9HX, Tel 01256 850029

Sue Burlingham, Manor Farm
Stables, Sherborne St John, Hants
RG24 9HX, Tel 01256 850068

Angela McArt, Field View, 26a Vyne
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Other dates for your diary:

Saturday 17 October

On Screen Race Night

Saturday 31 October

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Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School

Congratulations to all the Juniors on a wonderful performance of Disney's Aladdin!





A summary of the twenty five years of work of the Sherborne St John based Charity

Twenty –five years ago on the 9th September 1990 the first team of twelve volunteers left Sherborne St John on their journey to the orphanage in Ungureni village near Bacău in Romania. They found 172 children in the orphanage living in awful conditions. They were scarcely clothed in wet dirty rags and their rooms were cold and poorly furnished. It was difficult to know the ages as they were severely undernourished. There were no toys and activities of any sort were discouraged.

It was quickly apparent that to make any long term improvement more time and help would be needed than the few weeks originally planned. The Ungureni Trust was therefore started and further volunteers were recruited and gradually the life in the orphanage improved. In about 2000 the Ungureni home was closed for children.

It was though also apparent that with Ceausescu's ambition for all adults to be in full time employment, the actual needs of children were not taken into consideration. The Ungureni Trust therefore enlarged their work. Various projects have supported and helped children and young people over the years. These are some of them: 3 homes were built in the countryside for 30 young people leaving Ungureni orphanage to learn to farm and gain more independence and better health. Thanks to many peoples generosity a school sponsoring programme enabled about 170 village children to attend High School. A programme was set up to help teach life skills to young people leaving orphanages to cope with the outside world and to support them with their initial employment. About 40 children benefited from this.

A further two homes were built for children abandoned by their families. After a few years to help them fully integrate into the community they were moved into flats in the town where they got better education. 18 young people with HIV (acquired from dirty needles) moved into these homes for two or three



Some of the children in the care of the Ungureni Trust

years and had support until they are were able to live independently. The homes are now lived in by elderly people cared for by a different charity

The Ungureni Trust opened a paediatric resource centre in the Bacău Children's Hospital for the medical education of all those involved with children. Initially this supported the doctors and nurses. 6 paediatricians visited hospitals in Great Britain and several medical conferences were organised plus medical equipment was donated. Now the majority of the work of the centre is with health education for parents & the children.

Play therapists were introduced on the children's wards. Initially these were funded by the Ungureni Trust but in the last few years they have been sponsored by local people.

Most of the work of these projects have now been taken over by the Romanian authorities but the Ungureni Trust's main work and responsibility are still with the care of the 12 children aged between 11 and 19 years old abandoned by their families. The Ungureni Trust has been their home and security for over ten years and the members of the Trust are very keen that they remain in their care until they are sufficiently able to care for themselves. Without the Trust they would be scattered amongst the other orphanages losing the valuable support and friendship they have gained over the past years. The three oldest ones are in the process of leaving to start their new lives now.

Like many charities our funding is becoming increasingly difficult as so many charities are needing help. The Ungureni Trust has three events in the next few months both to help the funds

but also to celebrate the past 25 years work in Romania.

Please do join us if you can. They will not only be enjoyable but will also be helping the children.

1. Judith Darmady, Dana Condrea and the Ungureni Committee invite you to join them at the Chute Pavilion, on **Saturday September 19th 2015 12 midday** onwards for a Reunion Lunch of the Ungureni Team and all supporters. Tickets £15/person from Nicola James 01256 889291 or Judith Darmady 01256 850029

2. Bridge afternoon and tea in Sherborne St John village hall 1.30 – 4.30 pm on **30th September**. Tickets £60/table. See additional notice.

3. 4 men & a quiz. An evening's entertainment of songs, supper and simple quiz on **Saturday 17th November 2015** at the Chute Pavilion. Tickets £20/person from Nicola James 01256 889291 or Judith Darmady 01256 850029

Thank you for all the support so many friends have given to the charity over the past 25 years. It is much appreciated by the Trustees and the children.

Judith Darmady

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Cow Talk by Lindsay Berry

There once were two cows in a field
Neither had much to say
One thought of her annual yield
The other, the taste of the hay.

One eyed up the bull in next door
The other ignored his loud bellows
She thought him a bit of a bore
And knew better, well hung, fellows.

When one cow sat down in the rain
The other followed suit pretty quick
Far be it for them to abstain
From that popular rainfall shtick.

To confuse all the motorists,
Who crawled by in jams nose to tail,
Would cause too much raising of fists
If promised forecast were to fail.

The boredom of green-field sites
Never changing except the taste
Meant bright conversation was slight,
Intelligent comments a waste.

One stuck to the usual moo
And the friend in quiet disgust
Said I was going to say that too
But you can go first if you must.

A date for your diary

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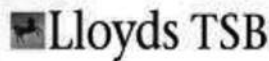
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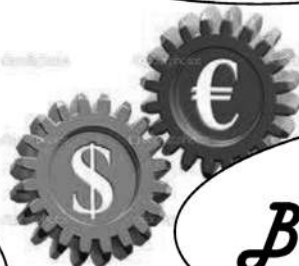
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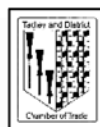
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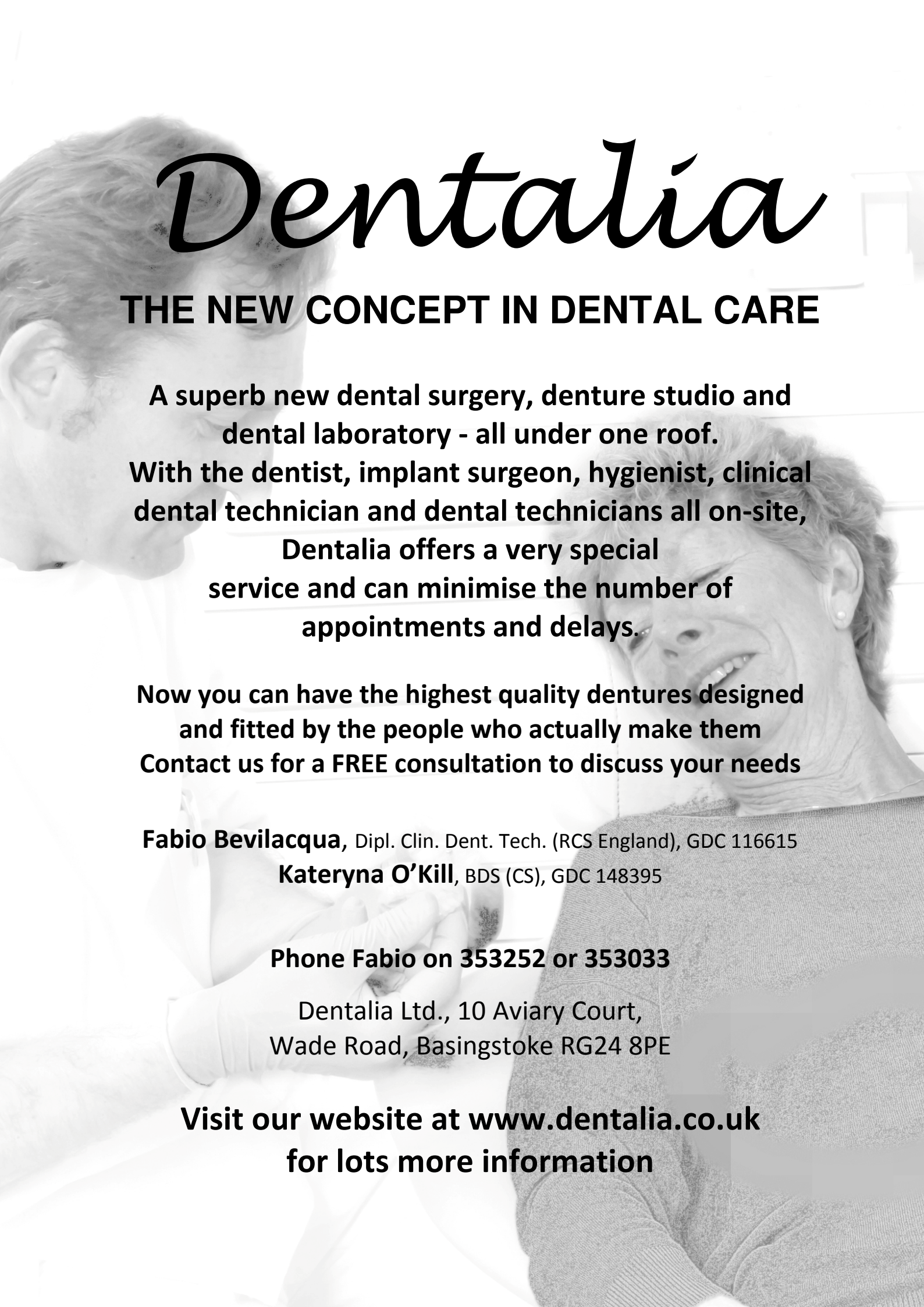
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Womans Fellowship

The August meeting of Womens Fellowship was a talk given by Mr. M. Brook with the title 'Top of the Greasy Pole'.

We were asked if we had any suggestions as to what this title might mean, but had to be enlightened as no-one had the correct answer.

The title comes from the saying made by Queen Victoria's Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli who, when he was awarded his premiership, said: "I have climbed to the top of the greasy pole". The result was a stimulating talk on speeches and sayings by a number of politicians and Prime Ministers.

Mr. Brook began his career as a Speaker, first in Berkshire and now Hampshire too, as a result of his interest in amateur dramatics, and maintains that politicians perhaps need something of the actor in them in order to carry out political duties with amusement and entertainment, often needed for the job. From this beginning he specialised in the sayings by Prime Ministers.

Mr. Brook began with one of the favourite and most prolific Prime Ministers, Winston Churchill, who gave many speeches and whose wit is possibly unsurpassed.

On one occasion, at a formal Dinner at Buckingham Palace given in honour of an American Admiral, this gentleman decided to surreptitiously pocket a silver dessert spoon from the table. Winston Churchill was quietly informed of this and asked what should be done, as such behaviour was clearly unacceptable. Sir Winston replied that he probably just wanted a souvenir to take home. However, towards the end of the dinner, he put a silver spoon in his top pocket, the bowl of the spoon on show for everyone to see, walked round the table to the said gentleman and remarked: "We've been spotted. We'll have to put them back".

Clement Atlee was one person who became the butt of Sir Winston's quips. "He is a sheep in sheep's clothing". "There is less of him than meets the eye" and "yes, he has much to be modest about". Of himself he said "I'm ready to meet my Maker, but I'm not altogether sure that my Maker is ready to meet me".

Margaret Thatcher sometimes had difficulty with speeches that had been prepared for her. There was the incident of the speech that was akin to the Monty Python 'dead parrot' sketch. Margaret Thatcher had not heard of Monty Python and certainly knew nothing of the dead parrot sketch. A video was shown to her forthwith; when she delivered the particular speech, she had kept the sketch in, thus having the last laugh. A similar incident occurred with a speech prepared for Alec Douglas-Hume. The speech contained the words, verbatim, of the Beatles' song You Know It Can't Be Bad. Sir Alec read the speech without any knowledge of the Beatles' song.

Cars, especially the chauffeur driven cars allocated to the top politicians, were a significant feature in the lives of these men and women (woman). Harold Wilson was apparently a terrible driver, and this did not improve with the years he never had to drive himself. Knowing that the time for his stepping down (he resigned) was drawing ever closer, he passed a Bill of Parliament allowing ex-Prime Ministers to continue to have their chauffeur for life. This Bill was passed in 1975, Harold Wilson resigned in 1976, thus never having to drive himself again.

On one memorable occasion Lloyd George then Prime Minister was attending a Privy Council occasion where he wore his full regalia of hat, coat, breeches, shoes and waistcoat. After the meeting, his chauffeur drove him to his home in Surrey, but on the way the car broke down. Lloyd George saw a building not too far away, and ventured towards it while the chauffeur was left to sort out the car. What he did not realise was that the building was the local 'lunatic asylum' and when he knocked at the door and asked if he could go in as his car had broken down, he was told "of course you can....the rest of the Cabinet are waiting for you".

Mr. Brook spoke of a number of Prime Ministers, their strengths, weaknesses, flaws, friendships and parental influence. He concluded his Talk by reminding us of the well-known adage: A week is a long time in politics.

Mr. Brook was thanked for his humorous and interesting talk by Mrs Jean Linford.

The next meeting, in September, will be the Outing.

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Bert's Blog



Learning a new language is a tricky thing. Words like “half” come out in dog bark as “arf arf”. Now the Mrs wants to teach me

French! My picture shows me looking left but the Mrs says it is “gauche” which I think is extremely awkward..... it gets worse... she keeps telling me to “mange” my dinner, but I keep telling her “no, I am perfectly healthy, thank you” then “whoof” it back in a second – confusing! This apparent difficulty with languages came to the fore recently when assisting the Boss with depleting the pigeon population. Spending hours sitting waiting for the offenders to spot the preferred field of taste and descend for a snack can drive a dog ‘barking’ mad. I was half asleep dreaming of playing ball with the miniatures when I heard the bang and, being still in a drowsy state, mistook the command of “fetch” for “catch” and spent hours looking for the ball. Eventually I woke up properly, spotted the flying miscreants and we managed to get a good rhythm going resulting in a decent haul for the game dealers with some left over for the Mrs to cook pigeon breast in “whine”.... Most of the time I can tell what is being said regardless of what language it is in by the tone of the voice. I now know that “mechant” means “naughty” – this became obvious on holiday after I had inadvertently lifted my leg and was told in no uncertain terms to “allais” and spent a long time looking for a more narrow street but gave up eventually when it became increasingly obvious I had misunderstood the command! Luckily the gentle touch of a hand on my head and a tickle under the ear is universally appreciated wherever you are.

Tadley CAB

Tadley CAB are looking for volunteers in their office in Franklin Avenue, Tadley. They are now recruiting for volunteer advisers to start training in September. They provide all trainee advisers with a comprehensive accredited training programme that will give you the skills you need to deliver a high quality service to clients.

They also need more volunteer Trustees for their Trustee Board including a Treasurer and Book Keeper as a number of long serving members will be retiring in October. The Board meets quarterly in an evening and has a number of sub committees. The Board is responsible for ensuring that this valued service continues to be offered in Tadley and would welcome new members who would like to help in this work.

They are also looking for a volunteer IT support co-ordinator to assist and support them with the general maintenance of their IT network.

If you are interested in either of these roles, please either phone the office on their admin line

0118 981 7567 or email them on admin@tadleycab.cabnet.org.uk to discuss further.

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Grumpy Old Villagers!

email grumpyvillagers52@gmail.com

Just an observation this month, one to get you thinking..

Even if you are not politically minded you know the struggle the government has to balance the books. What has come to light in our circle of friends lately is the annoyance of being asked to pay cash for work done in our homes. Today everyone wants to be paid cash. There can only be one good reason for that and that is so they do not have to declare all their income and pay tax and national insurance due on their earnings. Granted, I know many people who take cash for their services and declare every penny but we fear they are a minority. So what does the odd £50/week you may pay your cleaner/ gardener/ childminder really matter? It's not your problem...but here's the thing (as reported on citywide.co.uk)

"A good cleaner earns £10 an hour in cash and gardeners probably more near £15 an hour and this undeclared income must clearly run into tens of billions of

pounds. If there are just three million families paying a cleaner £40 a week that is earnings of £6 billion a year on which tax of over a billion is being lost. The real figures are undoubtedly much higher. " This is money which could pay the NHS bill or increase local council budgets so it DOES affect you directly. I had to question why my wife was running around to cash dispensers to get cash to pay a builder recently, no receipt, no record...what benefit to us? you are aiding and abetting tax evasion. Someone in customs and excise also told me foreign workers are now often being stopped leaving the country with thousands of pounds of cash..none of which they paid tax on.

So the next time you go to pay your cleaner or gardener offer a cheque or direct bank payment..if they are genuinely declaring their income they will not mind...but if not.....

Just a thought. Comments welcome to grumpyvillagers52@gmail.com

Sherborne St John Speed Watch

Speed Watch has been successfully up and running in Sherborne St John for nearly 6 months now, with the Vyne Road team going out on a weekly basis to record speeding vehicles. This data is forward to the Neighbourhood Policing Team to be logged on their database, vehicle checks are then undertaken and letters sent to the registered keepers of those vehicles exceeding the speed limit.

So far over 200 letters have been issued and due to this high number the Neighbourhood Policing Team have recently been carrying out enforcement on Vyne Road. Speeding motorists have received Fixed Penalty Notices, Driver Awareness Training courses, Verbal warnings and in some cases a Court Summons.

If you are interested in setting up a Speed Watch group near you, please do contact Becky Jones on bexsterjones@hotmail.com for more information.

Neighbourhood Watch for Cranes Road

It is with great pleasure I announce that Margaret Paterson has volunteered her services to act as the scheme co-ordinator for Cranes Road, welcome to the team. Following the failure of a previous start up scheme this time we have a changed approach. We agreed to manage the start up ourselves but have had excellent support from the acting beat officer PCSO Antony Brady. Our plan being first to get police record checks done and their approval of Margaret's appointment before announcing the scheme in the Villager. We then follow up with house to house calls later in September largely by Margaret and myself but sometimes supported by Antony. I feel very confident that this time we will succeed.

Also I am very pleased to welcome Leslie Bone to the team as deputy co-ordinator for Elm Road.

We still need some volunteers for other schemes notably for Aldermaston Road / West End which has no cover at present. This could be launched as two separate schemes or one big one depending on the wishes of any volunteers. Surely there must be someone there who is willing to follow Margaret's example and put their name forward.

There is an existing scheme covering Dancers Meadow and Vidlers Farm which has had a co-ordinator vacancy for some time, if there were to be any volunteers we might divide this large scheme, what about giving it a go? At Weybrook Court and Monk Sherborne Road the existing co-ordinators are anxious to give up the job, any takers please.

Next month I will publish an updated scheme list with all co-ordinators contact details.

Not strictly NHW but a matter of considerable concern to the majority of us is the increase in dog fouling on pavements and the Church path. People who allow their dogs to do this and don't clear up are committing an offence, we are asking the beat officer what steps are needed in order to instigate prosecutions against the anti-social owners. Be warned you could be the first to be caught.

Ted Wilkinson (Area Co-ordinator Sherborne St John NHW)

(phone 850891 or ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com)



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By Rob Parker

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by Rob Parker, collaborative family lawyer

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For more information you can contact North Hants Collaborative Lawyers Group Chairman Rob Parker in the Phillips Family Law team on 01256 854604, email rob.parker@phillips-law.co.uk or visit our website at www.phillips-law.co.uk

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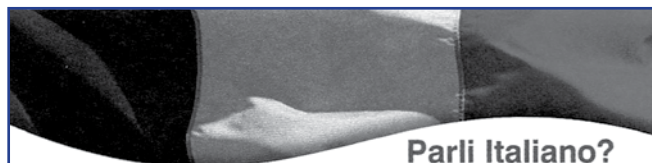
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