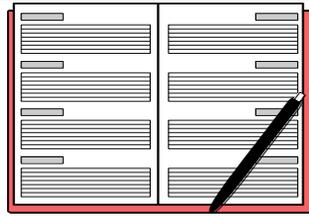


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2020



Key: FG-Floral Group, AL-Autumn Leaves, TA- Twinning, WI-Women's Institute, PiP-Pop in Place, GC-Gardening Club

November

- 10th CommuniBus - Street Shopping Village
- 10th FG: Pauline Hurren: It's Beginning to Look a Bit Like Christmas, venue Tarrant Keyneston village hall
- 11th AL: Wash Day Blues by 'the Button Lady' - Thelma Johns
- 17th CommuniBus - Street Shopping Village
- 19th Salt and Pepper
- 20th PiP - Children in Need, Lower Hall 10.00-12.00
- 24th CommuniBus - Winchester Christmas Market

December

- 8th CommuniBus - Salisbury Christmas Market
- 9th AL: Christmas Afternoon
- 10th PiP - Christmas Show 6.00pm
- 11th PiP - Christmas Show 7.00pm
- 12th PiP - Christmas Show 2.00pm
- 18th PiP - Carols and Mince Pies 10.00-12.00

THE PARISHES of BERE REGIS and AFFPUDDLE with TURNERSPUDDLE

Our Vision:

To make Christ's love known in the world today and to live out his teaching



Our Mission:

To encourage awareness of the presence of God through worship music and the arts;

To encourage everyone in the Christian faith through example, learning and spiritual growth;

To make our churches open and welcoming to all, and supportive of those in need;

To challenge injustice at home and abroad and to balance our care for the environment.

A LETTER FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Dear Friends

It was Ride and Stride Saturday last Saturday (12th September), this is the annual sponsored cycle ride or walk around churches in the county you live. It's been going for years and is organised by, in our case The Dorset Historic Churches Trust, but just insert any county into the front, I've done it in Shropshire and Hampshire for example. The trust receive half of the sponsorship raised which enables them to award grants for bigger projects that a church might apply for. The other half comes back into the parish to help with running costs, a very necessary need, particularly this year, when our parish churches have had little or no income since March. There were a few representatives out striding or cycling from our two parishes, they clocked up many miles and



churches between them, thank you to them and thank you if you sponsored any of them. Zinnie and I joined in by walking from East Stoke Church, which is part of the parish of Wool, we found a lovely route to Wool that went by a nature reserve and the river. I, of course, got slightly lost in one field and we had to back track, we saw some amazing fungi and picked some delicious blackberries that kept us going.

At Wool Church we had a chat with Rev Jenny who was waiting for the bride to arrive, saw some very excited bridesmaids and did wave to the bride as she passed us as we sat on a bench having a snack and a drink. We walked on over the railway crossing, just in time, and then followed the path to Bovington. I pointed out to Zinnie where her human Mum and Dad had met (that Cub trip to Bovington Tank Museum!), she didn't seem very impressed, but it was quite warm and the pavement harder than the grassy tracks she's used to.

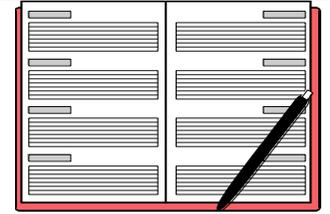


We then got on to the Lawrence Trail out of Bovington towards Moreton. A couple of horses and their riders passed us, but we didn't see many other people. We stopped for lunch, sitting on what looked like a pile of telegraph poles, all was well until Zinnie decided she wanted to sniff the grass

the other side and proceeded to climb over the pile of poles! Fortunately, she's much nimbler than I and managed to get back over with no mishaps and I decided we had better move on. The ford at Moreton was a bit busier, with children happily splashing in the water. Zinnie went in for a paddle and was happy to play for a while. We then found Moreton Church and had a look around the outside, I'd love to get in one day and see those lovely windows properly. It was only right and proper that we should then go and pay our respects to the Lawrence of the Lawrence trail and found him at the back of the



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2020



Key: FG-Floral Group, AL-Autumn Leaves, TA-Twinning, WI-Women's Institute, PiP-Pop in Place, GC-Gardening Club

To all our readers,

Please be aware that many meetings, services and events are now cancelled or postponed as a result of the current Coronavirus situation. It is not possible to ensure that this magazine is completely up to date, so please check with club secretaries/event organisers/websites to find out if things have been affected.

October

- 6th Communibus - Bridport
- 13th FG: Denise Jones: Floral Dreams
- 14th AL: Alex Betts, guitar entertainment
- 15th Salt and Pepper Club
- 20th Hillier Gardens, Romsey

ADVERTISING RATES *for the year 2020*

(Cheques to be made payable to Bere Regis PCC)

Rates for charitable, community or non-profit organisations are charged at 50% of above.

Full year advertising is based on complete calendar years. Adverts inserted for part years are charged at a pro-rata rate of the full year cost. Full year advertisers are automatically included on both village websites.

<i>Full page, full year</i>	<i>£260</i>	<i>Full page, one month</i>	<i>£38</i>
<i>Half page, full year</i>	<i>£160</i>	<i>Half page, one month</i>	<i>£22</i>
<i>Third page, full year</i>	<i>£120</i>	<i>Third page, one month</i>	<i>£16</i>
<i>Quarter page, full year</i>	<i>£98</i>	<i>Quarter page, one month</i>	<i>£13</i>
<i>Small-ads, full year</i>	<i>£70</i>	<i>Small-ads, one month</i>	<i>£11</i>

For all advertising enquiries, contact the Editor, details on inside back cover.

THANK YOU

TO ALL THOSE NEW CONTRIBUTORS WHO HAVE PROVIDED ARTICLES, STORIES AND POEMS DURING THE PAST FIVE MONTHS.

THIS HAS HELPED KEEP THIS MAGAZINE VIBRANT AND INTERESTING AND THERE HAVE BEEN MANY COMPLIMENTARY COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SUBMIT, WHICH YOU FEEL MAY BE OF INTEREST TO OUR COMMUNITIES, PLEASE DO LET ME KNOW. THE COPY DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

Email: alison@culverdell.co.uk

lovely little cemetery further up the road. We then waited for our lift back to Bere Regis, 7 miles was quite enough for one day!

And now some Benefice news...

The churches continue to open for Private Prayer on a Wednesday and Sunday. You might think it strange that they can't be open all the time, but this is the safest way for the time being to make sure they are covid secure places and if we suddenly had a funeral for example the day before we might then not be able to open the next day. It's recommended that we leave the building empty for 72 hours, otherwise it would need a deep clean and we simply haven't got the resources, both financial and human, for that to happen.

The service pattern is still a work in progress, so there is no definitive pattern I'm afraid, especially this month because of the APCM's. We are having a communion in one of the churches at the hopefully more friendly time of 9am, we continue to stream a service live on a Sunday via Zoom at 10:45am and there are opportunities to join in with streamed worship in the week. Please do get in touch with me or the Church Wardens if you want to know more. You'll see elsewhere that we are trying to keep the festival traditions alive where we can. Sarah Welton has put together a lovely Harvest Thanksgiving, please do support her and book your place at that service. There will be news about Remembrance Day in November's magazine, and we are starting to think about how we can celebrate Christmas in a safe way.

Sadly, we are also having to work without our Rector, Revd Carol Langford, as she is off on long term sick having been diagnosed with a brain tumour. Unsurprisingly, this has come as a great shock, especially to Carol and her family, please keep them in your prayers and we wish them God's comfort and peace.

Life continues to throw us 'wobblies', doesn't it? If it's not one thing, it's another. If you are struggling and want to talk or need a listening ear, please do get in touch.

When I'm struggling, I look to the Bible for comfort. It is full of wise words, laments when we need them, joy, hope, psalmist crying out to God. I leave you with these words from Psalm 33 verse 22,

'May your constant love be with us Lord, as we put our hope in you.'

With hope and blessings

Sandra



The West Purbeck Benefice

Holy Rood Wool, St John the Baptist Bere Regis St Laurence Affpuddle
with
The Lulworth Parishes of East and West Lulworth,
Winfrith Newburgh and Chaldon Herring

SUNDAY SERVICES OCTOBER 2020

Sunday 4 th October 17 th after Trinity	9am Holy Communion CW	Holy Trinity West Lulworth
	9am Holy Communion CW	St Nicholas, Chaldon Herring
	10.45am Harvest Café Church with Bishop Nicholas	Live Streamed Service
	6pm Benefice Harvest Thanksgiving	St John the Baptist, Bere Regis
Sunday 11 th October 18 th after Trinity	9am Holy Communion CW	St John the Baptist Bere Regis Followed by APCM
	9am Holy Communion BCP	St Andrews, East Lulworth
	10.45am Holy Communion CW	Live Streamed Service
	6pm Harvest Thanksgiving	St Nicholas, Chaldon Herring
Sunday 18 th October St Luke the Evangelist 19 th after Trinity	9am Holy Communion CW	St Laurence, Affpuddle Followed by APCM
	9am Holy Communion CW	Holy Rood, Wool Followed by APCM
	10.45am All Age Worship	Live Streamed Service
Sunday 25 th October Bible Sunday Last Sunday after Trinity	9am Holy Communion CW	St Laurence, Affpuddle
	9am Holy Communion CW	St Christopher's Winfrith Newburgh Lulworth Combined Parish Followed by APCM
	10.45am Holy Communion CW	Live Streamed Service

Log on for Streamed Worship from 10:30am.

Mid-week streamed worship

Contact Sandra, Church Warden or Benefice Office
(woochurchoffice@gmail.com) for details:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:30am Morning Prayer

Thursday 9pm, Night Prayer

Wed 7th and 21st 10am, Holy Communion

Please note that the requirements of social distancing mean that the number who can attend the church services at this time is restricted. You must let us know in advance that you will be coming to the Service via the Church Office

October 2020

CHURCH AND VILLAGE

ACTIVITIES, SOCIETIES, CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS and CONTACTS

Association	Contact	Tel	Address	E-mail	Meetings/Info
Mobile Library	Dorset County Council	01305 224440		dorchestermobilelibrary@dorsetcc.gov.uk	Alternate fortnights Car park Mondays 9.20- 9.50 Fridays 10.50 - 12.15
Neighbour Car Scheme	Brenda House	01929 471255		stockleyfarmpartners@gmail.com	Community run transport option
Pop in Place	Alison Bennett	472023	3 Rye Hill Close BH20 7LU	popinplace@gmail.com	Weekly. Drax Hall Monday and Friday mornings 10.00 - 12.00
Bere Regis Pre-School 'Pebbles'		471334	Southbrook Bere Regis BH20 7DB	preschool@bereregis.dorset.sch.uk	Providing care and education for children from 2 to 8 years, including breakfast club from 7.45 a.m. and after-school club until 5 p.m.
Rotary Club of Wareham	David King	01929 471087	Hyde Woods, Hyde Wareham, BH20 7NT	david.king@gbpltd.co.uk www.warehamrotary.co.uk	
Salt and Pepper Lunch Club	Brenda House	471255		stockleyfarmpartners@gmail.com	Monthly. Scout Hut, 3rd Thursday. 12.30p.m.
Twinning Association	Jackie Ahern	07876 577012		Jackie.ahern@hotmail.co.uk	Meetings and events arranged as and when.
W.I. (Bere Regis)	Mrs Dian Pitts	471322		pitts.dian@gmail.com	Monthly, Bere Regis Sports Club 3rd Wednesday @ 7.30 pm

CHURCH AND VILLAGE
ACTIVITIES, SOCIETIES, CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS and CONTACTS

Association	Contact	Tel	Address	E-mail	Meetings/Info
Bere Regis Scout Group (Beavers)	Liz Teather	01929 471216		lizteather@hotmail.com	Wednesdays 6 - 7 pm 5½ - 8 years Scout Hut, Elder Road
Bere Regis Scout Group (Scouts)	Neal Unitt-Jones	01929 472273			Mondays 7.30 - 9 pm 10½ or 11 to 14 years Scout Hut, Elder Road
General or group enquiries	Chris Gall	01305 772634			
Bere Regis Scout Group (Cubs)	Kate Willis	01929 472787			Thursdays 6.30 - 8 pm 8- 10½ or 11 years Scout Hut, Elder Road
Kingsbere Explorer Scout Unit	Helen Unitt-Jones	01929 472273			Tuesdays 7.30 pm-9.30 pm. 14-18 years, male and female. Scout Hut, Elder Road
Briantspuddle Book Let	Angie Talbot	472483	19 Bladen Valley	angie@ptalbot.plus.com	2nd Saturday 10 - 12 noon Briantspuddle Village Hall, in conjunction with Coffee Shop
Chapel Toddlers Group	Suzie Gee	472484	Rose Cottage, Butt Land	suziegitus3v4@talktalk.net	Tuesdays - 9.15 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. at the Congregational Chapel, Butt Lane
Cyril Wood Court Monthly Coffee Stop					1st Saturday of every month from 10.00 - 12.00
Drax Hall (hire)	Lyn Simmonds	471528			
Dorset Councillor	Peter Wharf	472246	The Old Vicarage West Street	peterwharf@hotmail.com	
Kingsbere Quilters	Mrs Diane Edmonds	472331	10 Boswell's Close BH20 7JE		Monthly Scout Hut 1st Wednesday 9.30 am - 12.30p.m.
Milborne St Andrew Allotment Society	Secretary: Sue Gould (28 Stieham Bank, MSA DT11 0LE)	01258 837575	Lane End, Milborne St Andrew.	Msa.allotments@yahoo.co.uk	A new allotment site adjacent to the Sports Club in the village, whole plot £30, half plot £20 per year.

(details below) or your local Churchwarden please.

NB Face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship. These will be available at the church for those who need them.

The Church Office, The D'Urberville Centre, Colliers Lane, Wool BH20 6DL

woolchurchoffice@gmail.com

CHURCH NEWS

MAINTAINING YOUR PARISH CHURCH

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we had to postpone our annual meetings.

Now that the churches are open for some limited worship we need to have these meetings by the end of October.

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners, open to anyone who lives in the parish or worships in the church. The only business is to elect the churchwardens.

And the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which follows on straight away, is open to those who are on the church electoral roll.

For **St John the Baptist, Bere Regis** – following the 9am Holy Communion service on **Sunday 11th October, so from about 9:45am.**

For **St Laurence, Affpuddle** – following the 9am Holy Communion on **Sunday 18th October, so from about 9:45am.**

The business – to keep an overview of how the church is being run by receiving reports on changes to the electoral roll, financial statements of the PCC (Parochial Church Council) for year ending Dec 31st 2019, the state of the church building (fabric), goods and ornaments, the activities of the parish and proceedings of the PCC. To elect representatives to the PCC, appoint sidespeople and the auditor, and to question and discuss issues relating to the parish and its life, ministry and mission.

We are always looking for more willing volunteers to join one of the Parochial Church Council's (PCC) in the benefice and If you would like to offer some time please do get in touch with either me or one of the Church wardens. It really is a case of many hands make light work.

Rev Sandra



CHURCH TREASURER – BERE REGIS

I will be standing down as Treasurer to Bere Regis Parochial Church Council (PCC) on 31st January 2021, and so the PCC will be looking for a new person to take up the position from February.

After 13 years in the role, the time is now overdue for me to hand over the reins. To assist a new person as Treasurer, I will be completing everything for the financial year to December 2020, and so a fresh start can be made at the beginning of 2021. Everything will be up to date on handover, all details of the role will be fully explained and I am happy to provide help, if it is needed, during the changeover period.

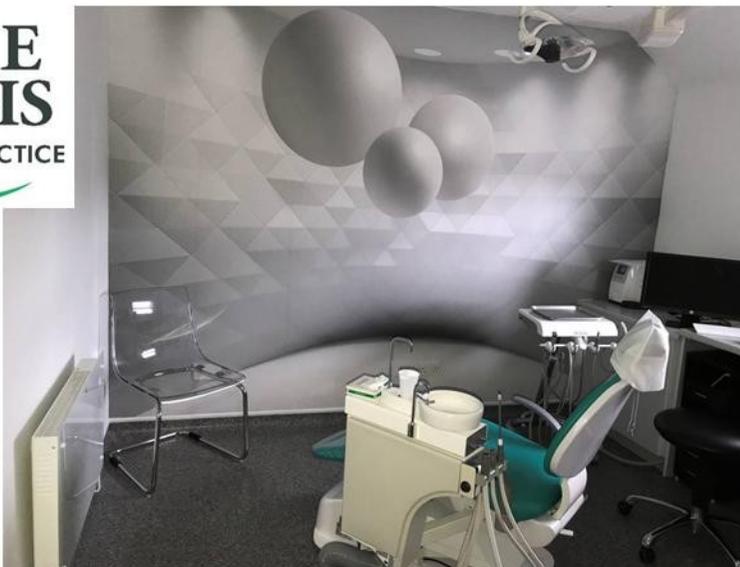
If you are interested in taking on the PCC Treasurer role, please contact me (my details are on the inside cover of this parish magazine), or through Revd Sandra, Sarah or Joan as Churchwardens, or any PCC member, and they will pass the details on to me.

Richard Smith



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CHURCH AND VILLAGE

ACTIVITIES, SOCIETIES, CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS and CONTACTS

Association	Contact	Tel	Address	E-mail	Meetings/Info
Ancient Order of Foresters Court Prospect 6575	Andrew Jones		19 Louise Road, Dorchester, DT1 2LT	andrew@joneser.freeserve.co.uk	Monthly Turberville Court 1st Monday - 7.30 pm
Autumn Leaves	Sylvia Bayliss	472697		sbayliss194@outlook.com	Monthly - Scout Hut 2nd Wednesday @ 2.30 pm
Bere Regis Bell Ringers	Adrian Standfield Jenny Clifford	471774			Normal practice night - Wednesdays 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
Bere Regis Book Group	Janet Gilpin	01929 471829			First Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.. Various locations
Bere Regis Primary School and Pre-School	Rachael Brown - Headteacher	471334	Southbrook Bere Regis BH20 7DB	office@bereregis.dorset.sch.uk	Pre-school and Primary School for pupils aged 2+ to 11 years
Bere Regis Floral Group	Sue Stone	472083	97 North Street, Bere Regis, BH20 7LD	susan97stone@gmail.com	2nd Tuesday at Winterborne Kingston village hall
Bere Regis Gardening Club	Sue Stone	472083	97 North Street, Bere Regis, BH20 7LD	susan97stone@gmail.com	Monthly. Drax Hall 1st Tuesday. 7.30 p.m.
Bere Regis Strollers	Lynda Crisford	471180	11 Bitchams Mead BH20 7ND	Michael.crisford@btinternet.com	Every Tuesday 10.30 a.m. Bere Regis Car Park
Bere Regis Junior Church	Pat Wharf	472246	The Old Vicarage, West Street	peterwharf@btinternet.com	Second Sunday of every month in Church 10.00-11.00 a.m.
Bere Regis Parish Council	Ian Ventham Chairman	471480	Wateredge, 5A Shitterton, BH20 7HU		Monthly, Drax Hall 2nd Thursday
Bere Regis Sports Club Cricket Football	Andy Kent Herbie Swann	471079 472812	94 North Street	andy@contact.go-plus.net	Village football and cricket teams for all ages
Bere Regis Swimming club	Bob Holman	01305 848262	Camelot, Affpuddle DT2 7HH	bobdiholman@btinternet.com	5.15 p.m.—7.00 p.m. at the Purbeck Leisure Centre, Wareham
Bere Regis Wildlife Group	Tony Bates Mike Gee	471563 07759 884942	The Beeches, Barrow Hill	tonybates19@gmail.com mike.n.g@outlook.com	Meetings arranged as and when

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Simmonds
01929 471528

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October 2020

HARVEST THANKSGIVING THROUGH WORDS AND MUSIC

St. John the Baptist Church, Bere Regis
At 6pm on Sunday 4th October

During 'lockdown', did you
find yourself saying: 'Aren't
we lucky living here,
surrounded by stunning
countryside, wildlife and
local produce'?



Please come and join us in
our beautiful church,
especially decorated for
the occasion, for a short
service to say thank-you to
God.

Sadly we won't be able to share a harvest supper together, this year or sing our favourite harvest hymns... but we can hum!

N.B. Please could you let me know, if you are planning to come, so that we can ensure you are suitably distanced and safe.

Sarah Welton, Churchwarden Tel. 471562 Email: sarahwelton@oceans.f9.co.uk

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

This has been a sad time for our little group as we have lost our friend Elaine Standfield who led and organised us for over 10 years. She inspired everyone with her love of flowers.



During this year I have stood in for her, organising the rota and contacting members and I felt very privileged when they accepted my offer to continue in her footsteps.

That said I assured the group that I would continue to follow two of Elaine's strict rules. One, that no one should be asked to do an arrangement where they are

October 2020

not comfortable working. And secondly that no volunteers will be turned away if they are not skilled flower arrangers.

It has been difficult for the group during lockdown, making their arrangements at home, popping in to water them in the few times the church has been open and buying flowers at a time when they have not been so readily available.

Five members of the group will be doing arrangements in the church for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. This is something to look forward to for us. It feels like normal!

Hopefully life will continue to get back to normal and we will be able to decorate the church with flowers for Christmas.

We are a small group and would welcome anyone interested in joining us. So if you are reading this and think that you would like to join us, please give me a ring. We can always pair you with an experienced flower arranger if you like.

Diane Edmonds, 01929 472331

Evening Talks at BPVH

We are going to do whatever we can to hold the winter series of talks in Briantspuddle Village Hall this winter. The dates we have booked are: -

21st October

18th November

16th December

20th January 2021

17th February

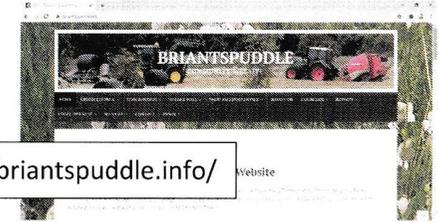
17th March

21st April

These are all Wednesdays but we may change it to suit the speaker.

Please check with the Briantspuddle Web Site for further details.

<https://briantspuddle.info/> Website



One of the ideas suggested to meet the regulations is to include wine & cheese tasting. We would be pleased to hear your comments and suggestions,

So, please, because the events will have to be Advance Bookings Only, and because we will need everyone's contact details (to meet "track & trace" requirements), please email or message us – and check the Briantspuddle web site.

Mike Menzies

Tel: 01929 471263 Mob: 07 419 312 517

Email: michael.menzies@talk21.com

Affpuddle with Turnerspuddle PCC
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
2020

ON

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER 2020

Following Communion Service at 9AM

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME!

Please let Elizabeth Whatley (Churchwarden) (Tel: 01305 848959)

know if you will be attending so that all current guidelines re social distancing etc can be safely followed.

Did you Know?

You can have your parish magazine delivered to your door each month if you live within the parishes.

We have a fantastic team of volunteer distributors who undertake the delivery of this magazine, and for just £8 a year, you could be included on one of these rounds.

Contact the Editor, for more information: Alison Debenham
alison@culverdell.co.uk or 01929 471780

BRIANTSPUDDLE COMMUNITY GROUP

To all our friends who may be missing our Saturday Coffee Shop and monthly lunches this is an update on the current situation.

Whilst we would like to be able to provide the convivial atmosphere at these events which everyone so enjoyed, we cannot do so at present while strictly applying the COVID Safe rules, therefore these events are not taking place. Please be assured that as soon as conditions allow we look forward to running these popular events once more.



The Book-Let, which has been open on a daily basis for a while, will return to its usual 2nd Saturday in the month slot from 10th October, and will be open from 10am to 12

noon in the village hall.

We look forward to seeing you all again as and when we are able, meanwhile keep safe.

Angie Talbot, Briantspuddle Community Group

AFPUDDLE CHURCH ROTAS

Mowing Rota

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
28 Sep – 11 Oct	Richard Hall	David Hallatt	Roger Smith	Campbell De Burgh
12 – 25 Oct	Marek Cropper	Richard Talbot	Chris Parker	Adam Hallmark

In order to maintain safe handling procedures for the use of the mowing equipment the following measures will remain in effect until further notice:

1. When you wish to mow the churchyard please contact me on my mobile telephone 07790 033596 to arrange a time to be let into the container.
2. Sanitising spray and paper towels will be kept inside the container and are to be used to clean the points of contact, handles etc, on all the equipment to be used. Sanitising is to be carried out before and after using the mowing equipment.
3. Let me know when you have finished mowing and I will ensure that all mowing equipment has been sanitised and the container locked.

It is completely understood that some individuals may be unwilling to resume mowing until the COVID-19 crisis is over and I only ask that they let me know if this is the case.

Stephen Sanderson





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OTHER CHURCHES NEWS

BERE REGIS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sundays 10.30am Morning Service taken each week by visiting preachers.

Mondays at 7pm STS (Search the Scriptures) Youth meeting

Tuesdays at 9.15am (during term time) Chapel Toddlers Group

Tuesdays at 7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer

Our Sunday morning service is shown live on you tube for those unable to attend. Our Youth meeting and Bible study are held via zoom, with others joining us, a number of whom live too far away to ever be able to join us in person. God has brought good out of the current situation, via modern technology.

I recently came across the two following short articles which were written a number of years ago, yet their contents are still relevant – and challenging, so it seemed good to reproduce them here.

Top Tonic by Derek Osborne in the English Churchman



“You can take it from me,” said my friend the barber, “if there was a cure for baldness there would be no bald-headed barbers.” His point was irrefutable. Every barber who was thin on top would be a let down – if they really had discovered how to stimulate growth on a cranial desert.

The best advertisement for a new discovery is in the lives of those who know about it. If they

don't demonstrate its effectiveness other people are not likely to have any faith in it.

So, I ask myself, what kind of an advertisement is my life for the Christian Gospel – the greatest discovery any person can make? The heart of the discovery is a personal encounter with the risen, living Lord Jesus Christ, and the experience of the Holy Spirit as a transforming inner power releasing new joy, love and boldness. May the Lord Jesus help us to live out what He has put within!

Mediterranean al fresco setting by the excellent catering team at the Club.

The golfers are most grateful to Martha and others who shouldered the organizational burden, to the aforementioned Club staff, and to General Manager Graham Packer for generously agreeing to allow us the “Eat Out to Help Out” discount for the meal!

The 2021 event is already booked: by then we should be allowed spectators, so put it in your diaries.



(L to R: Henry Hogger (MC), David Beardsley, Martha Tucker, Ted Brown. Seated: Robin Gainsford, Briantspuddle).

Photo credit: Honor Brown

Firewood Logs

Are you familiar with The Environment Act 1995 and the Clean Air Act 1993 and the Local Air Quality Management framework? - Well they are being updated. Watch out for the Clean Air Strategy 2019.

Fairly soon you will not be able to buy in logs unless they have been kiln dried and have a moisture content of less than 17%.



Dried logs are a more efficient fuel but, more important, they are cleaner for the environment. Wet logs burn with a lower flame temperature and increase the unburnt particulate content of the exhaust. The worst particulates are c.2.5µ or PM_{2.5}. Wood fires are blamed for 38% of the particulates in the atmosphere.

So the latest legislation makes it an "offence for customers to acquire controlled solid fuel ... if it is to be burned in a fire place ... such as an open fire ..."

You are not even allowed to buy a new replacement log burner unless it is "approved". It also requires the retailers to notify customers of this legislation.



Well we can help. We have a kiln dryer which is currently full of 4 tonnes of logs, all with less than 7% moisture. We have loads more seasoned logs ready to go into the dryer (We can even dry your logs if you have got a pile.)

Contact us for a quote for Logs, kindling, & lighter material.

The ELM Branch

Tel: 01929 471263, Mob: 07 419 312 517

Email: michael.menzies@talk21.com

"Be a Christian, You get a better deal," by a Teenager

If you go up to any normal teenager in the street (if 'normal' is how you can describe us!), and ask them for their views on Christianity, you will probably receive replies of "boring" and "outdated" or "not interested".

"Christianity is boring". Boring? Christianity is love, and has love ever been boring?! Many teenagers know the joy of being 'in love', and here we have a love that goes far deeper than any relationship with boy and girl friends. Christ's love.

It is a love that will never fade or turn bitter. It is always forgiving, no matter how bad the deed. There is a trust and security that no other love can claim. Oh yes, everyone can fall in love, but the Christian gets the better deal of it ... and it certainly isn't boring

Just as some young people copy their favourite pop star, so we aim to copy the life of Jesus, His goodness, love and faith. The difference between the two? Jesus is everlasting, constantly supporting and being our guide. But out-dated? Never.

The difficulties He faced over 2000 years ago, are just as relevant today – hypocrisy, swindling, betrayal, cowardice and hatred. It's not much different now. Underneath our modern trappings we are just the same. No, Christianity is not old fashioned!

Perhaps you may agree with some of those negative ideas about Christianity, but have you ever tried the real thing – that personal relationship with Jesus?

Just A Smile

Local Newspaper Report. "The sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the Vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site."

A child overheard his parents discussing a friend who was coming for lunch. Halfway through the meal his mother rebuked him for staring at the friend. He defended himself by saying, "But Mummy, he doesn't drink like a fish at all."



BERE HEATH METHODIST CHAPEL

Our next service will be our Harvest Festival service on Sunday 4th October at 3.00pm. It will be led by our new Superintendent Minister, Revd John Yarrien.

As we cannot have our usual harvest auction this year, we are asking for a shoe box size donation for our foodbanks in Dorchester and Bere Regis. Please give what you can. A few luxury items would be greatly appreciated. A table will be outside the Chapel if you would like to leave a donation but cannot be at the service.

We can only seat 12 people with the Covid-19 safety precautions in place so if you would like to come to the Harvest Service, would you phone me and let me know and a place will be kept for you.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you on the 4th October.

Karen Smith, Steward
01929 471339



Mark Harris, one of our resident artists and the proprietor of the Briantspuddle Art Gallery at Queen Post, graciously accepted the challenge of judging the entries to the photographic competition. Mark is a new resident in our community and was very pleased to accept the task and to be included in village activities. Many thanks Mark

Unfortunately there was only one entry for the Best Garden competition. The garden had to be visible from the road or a public track, to accommodate the restrictions arising from Covid-19, which maybe a reason why there were no other entries?

That entry came from Sandra Harrison a well-deserved winner of the competition for such a delightful and colourful display of shrubs and potted plants.

Picture of Sandra and Peter Harrison's garden:

All the entries to the photographic competition will be on display in the foyer of Briantspuddle village hall until mid-October.



Peter Talbot, Secretary – Bladen Social Club

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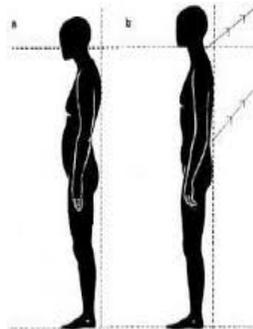
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Jeannette Martin MSTAT



THE BRIANTSPUDDLE OPEN 2020

As is now traditional on August Bank Holiday Monday, a dozen intrepid golfers took the field at the Dorset Golf and Country Club on 31 August, to compete for the prestigious claret jug in the world-famous (?world-beating) Briantspuddle Open Golf Tournament.

The competition this year took the form of a "Bowmaker", with the top two scores per hole in each three-person team counting toward the result.

Top honours (and the privilege of organizing next year's event) went to an out-of-village team comprising Martha Tucker (formerly of Briantspuddle!), David Beardsley and Ted (The Bandit) Brown, with an outstanding team score of 82 points. An all-Briantspuddle/Throop combo, Gainsford/Armitage/Hogger, came a carefully calculated second – thus missing the fun of organizing the next one.

For once, the weather co-operated, and both golf and subsequent meal took place in blazing sunshine, the latter a delicious affair, provided in an almost

BLADEN SOCIAL CLUB SUMMER COMPETITION

Thank you to all those who entered the Bladen Social Club Summer 2020 Photographic and Best garden competitions, from which £36 was raised for Julia's House children's charity.

In all there were 15 entries for Class 1 of the photographic competition, Local Wildlife, and 7 entries for Class 2, Village Theme.

The quality of entries reflected the keen interest residents take in the village and the local wildlife, which is already so apparent in the content of the Parish Wildlife newsletter.



The winner of Class 1 was Roger Hewitt with this photograph of a Red Kite

The runner up in Class 1 was Adam Fletcher with this photograph of a Dunnock



In Class 2 the winner was Adam Fletcher with this photograph

The runner up in Class 2 was Angie Talbot with this picture of the Erica Trust Heath restoration project



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NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER

Parliament has now re-started following the summer recess, so as before, I will be spending most of my week in London. As MPs return to Westminster, and more people return to working in offices, I have re-opened my London and constituency offices. My staff will still be doing some work from home to ensure social distancing, so please do email rather than phone if you need to get in touch.



It's great to see pupils in Dorset and Poole returning to school, and I know that local schools and teachers have worked hard to put procedures in place to keep everyone safe. Over the summer I was in contact with many of the local headteachers, as well as ministers within the Department for Education. In my opinion, it is vital that schools are kept open, so that our children and young people receive both education, and the chance to socialise with their peers. This year has been very difficult for many people, but we must not forget that this virus is very unlikely to significantly affect people under 18.

As I write, the Prime Minister has just announced the rule of six – that for social meetings, groups must be kept to a maximum of six people. I know this is challenging, and none of us like being told how to live our lives. But we must try and ensure that the transmission of the virus is reduced. There are exemptions of course, with detailed guidance available online for workplaces, youth groups, places of worship and others. You can find this at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



In the constituency I recently visited local farmers during Love Lamb week, to hear about the issues and opportunities in British farming at the moment. I have also visited wedding venues, and talked to people in the arts and entertainment industry. They have all shared with me the

many challenges facing their particular industries during the Corona crisis. It's incredibly helpful to hear from constituents, and to be able to then speak directly to government ministers about where the government can help. If you

the need to travel into the surgery itself and another group are using it for some safe group exercise. The hall is also still being used to enable safe access to the village shop 9-12 Monday to Saturday and 10-12 Sunday.

The village hall trustees are also running a cafe on a Tuesday and a Saturday from 10-12 where you can meet up and enjoy a nice cup of tea or coffee, homemade cake or a freshly prepared bacon roll the aroma of which is sure to entice you. These mornings are all laid out according to social distancing regulations and while the weather permits most people choose to make use of the open space outside, however, the main hall is also being laid out to enable a maximum of 30 people to sit in groups of up to 6 and still maintain a **2 metre** space between each group not 1 metre plus mitigation but the original suggested 2 metres so please come along and feel safe whilst enjoying getting out without the risk of having to deal with masses of people and also help the village hall raise some much needed funds during this time of severely restricted hall hiring. The tables are sanitised between users and the fabric chairs have plastic covers that are changed each time they are used.



Hopefully, as regulations permit, we will be able to see one or two other activities going on safely that will provide some sense of normality. If you'd like to discuss any of the activities currently taking place or chat about the potential for other things to happen please don't hesitate to give me a call or pop in on a Tuesday or Saturday I am nearly always there.

In the meantime take care and stay safe.

Stuart Chorley, Chairman of Briantspuddle Village Hall Trustees

100 CLUB

July draw 82
August draw 108

It's an opportunity to feed the birds, the seeds and fat balls are some of our best sellers.

It's an opportunity for me to ramble in the parish magazine each month!

Please continue to make the most of these opportunities.

You can contact us on 01929 472000 during opening hours and by email Briantspuddle.shop@gmail.com

Ali Chorley, Chair, The friends of Briantspuddle post office and village shop

VILLAGE HALL NEWS



Universities are starting the new academic era with students returning, our local schools have returned to teaching our youngsters in class and the sun has come out again in September after the school holidays finish. You'd be forgiven for thinking that life is as normal as it ever was.

It isn't and we are all still getting used to new and constantly changing ways of conducting day to day living. The new plain speaking clear to understand rules have come into force and sure as eggs is eggs everyone's as confused as before. (That isn't intended as a political comment just a reflection on how it is in practice)

It's the same for us as trustees of the village hall as we continue to try and make sense of current rules and implement them as best we can. So you will see some changes at the hall. There is now a sign at the front door asking you to wear a mask when inside the building unless you are eating and drinking of course. Footprints have appeared on the floor in the corridor and jubilee room to show you how to stand safely distanced from one another and a screen is being installed over the servery hatch to enable you to see the goodies on offer in the kitchen without the risk of breathing or coughing over them.



The hall remains a covid safe building and as such with certain procedures in place is available for hire, indeed one or two hirings are taking place or soon to happen. We welcomed Bere Regis surgery into the main hall to hold a session for flu vaccinations to be given without

run a business, and would like me to visit, please do get in touch with my office.

The government is consulting on possible changes to the planning system. I have had several meetings with individuals and community groups about this, and I encourage people to read the possible changes and contribute to the consultation. You can find details of how to contribute on my website www.michaeltomlinson.org.uk/public-consultations

Please do get in touch if you need help or support. You can contact me via email michael.tomlinson.mp@parliament.uk or call my office on 01202 624216. I send out a regular email update – you can sign up on my website www.michaeltomlinson.org.uk where you can also find links to the latest coronavirus advice.

LOCAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Michael Tomlinson MP holds regular surgeries in the constituency. For details of forthcoming surgeries or to make an appointment, please contact his office.

-  Michael.tomlinson.mp@parliament.uk
-  01202 624216
-  www.michaeltomlinson.org.uk
-  @Michael4MDNP

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DORSET COUNCIL- WEST PURBECK REPORT

Reaching Out to those who have been badly affected by Covid-19

Dorset Council is launching a joint campaign with Citizens Advice to raise awareness of the range of support available to people financially affected by COVID-19 so they can seek advice and support before they reach crisis point. Hopefully this will result in fewer people becoming homeless, becoming ill, or hurting others. The campaign will run initially until the end of March 2021, and will be structured around three themes:



- Work and skills - employment rights, careers advice, access to training
 - Money and home - rent or mortgage advice, managing debt, accessing benefits, finding somewhere to live, foodbanks, other financial help
 - Health and relationships - health & wellbeing advice including signposting to mental health and domestic abuse support
- Who do we want to reach? For many people in Dorset, this will be the first time they have experienced such financial difficulties. We want to reach anyone who is worried about, or is facing redundancy; especially young people aged 16-25 (who are most at risk of unemployment or reduced hours); anyone struggling with finances such as paying their rent or mortgage or other bills such as car or household, education or childcare costs.

Key messages:
A problem shared is a problem halved – help, support and advice is available whatever challenges COVID-19 has thrown at you

Lots of people are in the same boat - you're not alone and shouldn't be afraid to ask for help or advice, before things get more difficult

Help is available online at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/reaching-out

If you would like to talk call 03444 111 444, calls charged at a local rate Specialist advisers can help with immediate problems and offer advice for the longer term

All advice is free, confidential and impartial

BRIANTSPUDDLE VILLAGE SHOP – NOT JUST FOR COVID-19

What is the purpose of the village shop? You may think its there for the forgotten loaf of bread or the "I've run out of milk" scenario. And for some that is the case but for so many it is so much more.



It's the opportunity to meet with friends and neighbours, exchange a brief update on life, even politics gets an airing. We've had some lively debates on the rights and wrongs, the do's and don'ts. To share news of new arrivals or the loss of someone dear.

It's an opportunity to play a part in the community. Whether its serving in the shop, cleaning behind the scenes, collecting supplies from butchers and bakers..... we don't sell candles Yet !!! Being part of the committee who keep it all in line.

It's an opportunity as a young person to have your first job. To learn how to interact with members from across the community, build relationships and prepare for adulthood. I am absolutely convinced as I have watched Eloise grow and now go and live away whilst she's at college, that the village shop and the customers who have helped to nurture her played an important part in her readiness. And for those younger ones who are at the start of their part in the village shop history we will all play a part in preparing them. Please continue to take an interest in them – it is so important.



It's an opportunity to "save the planet". Well at least play a little part. We source as much as possible locally and if shopping in Briantspuddle saves a trip into the supermarket or town then we are doing our bit. And because of the arrangements we have with suppliers for the most part it is no more expensive than buying it elsewhere. You will be amazed at what you can find in the village shop these days..... from passion fruit to fennel, bobbly onion squash and pineapples, figs and risotto rice.



It's an opportunity as a local artist to sell your wares. We have a wide variety of unique cards by local people. If you have a craft that you think we might be interested in selling please get in touch.

Parish Council contact details			
Name	Email	Phone (home)	Phone (mobile)
Anna Bendall (Clerk)	clerk@briantspuddle.info affpuddleandturnerspuddleclerk@outlook.com	01305 849596	07921 334258
Graham Lightfoot	glightfoot@glightfoot.plus.com		07760 202858
Emily Hall	emilyahall121@gmail.com		07551 007880
Andrew J Monro	amonro@symondsandsampson.co.uk	01929 472047	07867 555838
Charles Barter	charlesbarter5@gmail.com		07795 343171
Lizzie Guinn	lizzieguinn@hotmail.com		07711 280976
Sue Jones	Sue.Jones@silversands.co.uk	01929 471375	
Stuart Chorley	schorley30@gmail.com	01929 472869	
Trevor Poole	trevorpoole100@hotmail.com	01929 471496	

How are we getting the message out?

The campaign will run across a number of channels including: Dorsetcouncil.gov.uk. Targeted digital advertising, including pop ups and banners Social media - organic and paid for E-newsletters Media relations Dorset Council News magazine Via Dorset Councillors, town and parish councils and partner organisations Posters at customer contact points e.g. libraries, schools, GP surgeries and pharmacies Customer facing council employees We'll be featuring a series of 'experts' from partner organisations such as Citizens Advice and Job Centre Plus, as well as case studies of real people so that others can recognise and identify with situations and circumstances, prompting them to get help sooner rather than later. The key spokespeople will be Cllr Laura Miller, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health, Cllr Graham Carr -Jones, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Housing and Daniel Cadisch, Lead representative for Citizens Advice

Please share this campaign with friends, family and your local community. As a trusted voice, you can get the word out that help and support is available for people at this time. Watch out for our social media posts, news releases, e-newsletters and other activities.

A campaign toolkit is also available on our website at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/reaching-out

To find out more information, visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/reaching-out, or contact Claire Lodge, Senior Communications Officer by emailing claire.lodge@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Dorset Adult Social Care

A new website is now live and ready to help people find joined-up information from local NHS, council and community organisations.

Developed by Dorset Council, Our Dorset Adult Social Care can help people with:

applying for or renewing their Blue Badge, reporting a concern about someone who is vulnerable, finding and paying for care and getting equipment and other support to live independently at home. The site aims to help people live safe independent lives for longer. Please take a look and help us spread the word to residents in your ward areas.

Durlston Country Park

Congratulations to colleagues at Durlston Country Park who I know are delighted to have received Gold in the Accessible and Inclusive Tourism category at the National Visit England Awards. This is a great achievement and we hope it will encourage more visitors to discover Durlston and the range of excellent facilities it



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has to offer. Well done to the team on this fabulous and well-deserved award.

Planning Reforms

A number if you have asked what affect the Planning reforms touted by government are likely to have on Planning and other issues such as formative Neighbourhood Plans. The short answer is that we are not sure. The longer answer is that we are not at all convinced that Government is not just announcing something that they may find extremely difficult to deliver. The Planning System is regularly criticised but for all its faults it does allow considerable scope for consultation and the idea of fast track procedures with reduced consultation does not appeal to many of us. There is currently a national consultation on this and we are working with our MP s to express our concerns.

Bus Services

We have been instructed that services that take school children are not now to be available to the public and must not take pupils from more than one school. This has very unfortunately led to the cancellation of some services that are already subsidized and for which the Service provider will not put on an additional service.

Following government guidance we have developed a detailed travel plan for schools which amongst other things advises Bus companies to use the same driver for the same routes to provide consistency for pupils, regular cleaning of Buses, no face to face seating for pupils and one route one school mantra. This means we are incurring additional costs of around £2M which is not covered by the additional grant so far of £333K.

Surgery

We are not holding face to face meetings now. However, we would be delighted to ring and talk to you. Please ring or email us with the subject matter so that we can prepare ourselves. Peter's email address is peterwharf@hotmail.com telephone 07986600799 and Laura's is cllrlaura.miller@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk telephone 07814 569563.

Peter Wharf & Laura Miller, Dorset Councillors for West Purbeck

Agreements between The Parish Council, Bladen Social Club and Briantspuddle Village Hall

At its September meeting Councillors considered agreements between the various parties, in particular, how the Heads of Agreement dated 1986 between all three parties and the Memorandum of Agreement between Bladen Social Club and Briantspuddle Village Hall Committee sit together.

It was noted that the effects of the pandemic continue to limit opportunities for community use of the Village Hall amenity, and this is frustrating for all concerned. Councillors considered that this quieter time presents a good opportunity for all parties to come together to discuss the future. The Parish Council recognises that circumstances change over time and Covid – 19 has brought this fact into sharp relief.

The Parish Clerk will write to The Village Hall Committee and Bladen Social Club Committee to invite them, together with the Parish Council, to form a working group.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 14th October. Please check the Parish Council section of the Community Website nearer the time for the agenda and information about how to join the meeting if it is once again to be held remotely. Members of the public wishing to raise issues or make representation in respect of any agenda item will have an opportunity to do so at the meeting. Alternatively, anyone who wishes to may contact the Parish Clerk in advance of the meeting. Ideally correspondence should be received at least a week in advance as it will not be possible to add items to the agenda once it has been set.

Sue Jones, Chairman

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BRIANTSPUDDLE AND AFFPUDDLE NEWS

AFFPUDDLE AND TURNERSPUDDLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting on 9th September was once again held remotely in order to comply with Government social distancing guidance. Until restrictions around movement and public gatherings are lifted, the Parish Council will be holding all meetings remotely.

Bus Service

The bus that passes through Briantspuddle from Dorchester in the afternoon is operating at reduced capacity due to Coronavirus restrictions and is now only available to school students. This is understandably frustrating, but the number of other users would not be enough for an alternative service to be provided at this time. Buses are still running at other times of day. To support those who are less able to travel with restrictions in place, Briantspuddle Village Shop has increased its stock and the Post Office is continuing to operate. **The COVID-19 Response Group is still running and anyone who is need of support with shopping, collecting prescriptions or similar can contact the group on 07745 796 118 or by emailing parishhelpline@gmail.com.**

Surface Flooding

On Thursday 27th August there was an unusual amount of rainfall which led to flash flooding in some areas. Councillor Graham Lightfoot is the Flood Warden for the Parish and is working with Dorset Council to arrange for clearing of drains and other measures which will help to reduce flooding before the onset of winter.

Camping at Throop

The Parish Council has received a number of letters from residents who are concerned about the effects on the parish of the large campsite at Throop Hollow Farm over the summer. This correspondence will be discussed at the October Parish Council meeting.

Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle website: www.briantspuddle.info

BERE REGIS NEWS

THANK YOU TO WYNNE UNDERHILL

Wynne has been delivering the parish magazine to the residents of Shitterton for many, many years. This is one of the largest rounds in the village and Wynne has never failed to ensure that all the households that subscribe to the delivery service received their copy. She is now leaving the village and we all wish Wynne every happiness in her new home in Swanage.

Jill Hutchings, kindly offered to take over this round earlier in the year and being a postie, knows all the houses well - there are some funny letterboxes in Shitterton! Thank you Jill

<p style="text-align: center;">Dorset Property Care Allan Slater Based in Briantspuddle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Services ◆ Building maintenance ◆ General joinery ◆ Garden maintenance ◆ Ground works <p style="text-align: center;">07973 158092</p> <p style="text-align: center;">allan@dorsetpropertycare.co.uk www.dorsetpropertycare.co.uk</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>VIP Luxury Toilet Hire</p> </div> <p>Are you planning a summer wedding, birthday party, anniversary or just an outdoor shindig? Look no further for the best luxury loos for your special event. 2+1 and 3+1 size units are available.</p> <p>Contact us at your convenience: 01929 473818 info@viptoilethire.co.uk www.viptoilethire.co.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VIP Toilet Hire Chamberlaynes Farm Workshop Bere Regis BH20 7LS (we operate within a 50-mile radius)</p>
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BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:	Ian Ventham	471480	ianrventham@gmail.com
Vice Chairman:	Bryan Benjafield	07969 770890	bryan@cheapprintingdorset.co.uk
Parish Clerk:	Amanda Crocker	472327	bereregispc@gmail.com
Websites:	www.bereregisparishcouncil.co.uk www.bereregis.org		

The Parish Council met remotely via Zoom on Thursday 10th September 2020. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th October, again remotely. If you wish to join the meeting, or wish to send in a question to be read out, please contact the clerk beforehand.

Food & Drink Market

The first Sunday of September saw the inaugural Food & Drink Pop-Up Market on Souls' Moor. With approximately 12 visiting traders supplying their wares, the event was a great opportunity for people to access suppliers and products they wouldn't always have the opportunity to. We are looking to hold another, similar event around the Christmas period, restrictions allowing.

Buses

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic, Dorset Council have had to close the 4pm bus from Dorchester to Winterborne Kingston (via Bere Regis) to the general public, due to the need to take School Children, and not being able to mix them. We will try and notify people when this eventually resumes. The new timetable can be found here: <https://passenger-line-assets.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/morebus/DAM/187-timetable-20200902-06f36277.pdf>

Benches

The Council are considering purchasing some picnic benches to be sited near the stream and Souls' Bridge on the Elder Road open space, along with another bench in the Play Park. If you would be interested in making a donation in memory of a loved one towards the cost of these, and placing a plaque with the name of your loved one(s) on the bench, please contact the Clerk, Amanda Crocker on bereregispc@gmail.com.



meeting. Twenty people sat down two metres apart with masks for a floral demonstration. There were discussions about a reduced Salt and Pepper club and thoughts about reopening the Garden Club in November. All of this was dashed when the Government introduced the "Rule of Six" My owner took down the card received from the Pop in saying 'Better days are coming', as it no longer seemed so apt. She hopes Alison Bennett can think of another inspiring phrase to keep us all being positive.

My owner is working out how the rule of six works for her and she has about six different groups of six. It is better than family bubbles and adopting people but rather defeats the object. Families of six must find it very hard. I think this rule was only introduced so that social distancing can be easily monitored by police and landlords. It's a good job dogs are not included as I would not be taken anywhere.

Jenny Stone



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cupboard is still overflowing. She was hoping to do another stall at the FOBRs garage sale but that has been cancelled. I think people will get a lot of chutney for Christmas but we are given fruit, jars etc and my owner likes making it.



One good thing about living here is that there are lots of different walks. I think one of the village's most popular leisure activities is walking and one can never go out without meeting other people and their dogs. With the pandemic people are walking more, working from home and now want dogs.



Puppies are hard to find and very expensive. I have lost another pair of friendly 'fair weather' dog walkers as they have now purchased a puppy. 'Dexter'. He is a "cockerpoo" (Cross between cocker spaniel and poodle) and is rather cute. My owner looked



up a picture of me to remind me that once upon a time I was cute too. There is another black cockerpoo puppy living nearby 'Hudson' making three living at "Cockerpoo Court" I hear there is another household in Shitterton about to take delivery of a "Cavapoo" (Cross between Cavalier Spaniel and a poodle). Designer Dogs or cross breeds are fashionable. Once upon a time in this village people had collies, chocolate Labradors or spaniels. A cross breed is a really only a planned mongrel. At least I am a planned pure bred collie.

She has finished knitting her blanket. Very bright yellow crocheted circles on brightly coloured squares certainly not muted colours. It is very snug for keeping one warm when it is cold.

As we go into winter my owner is trying to assess what happens next with the Covid crisis. The Pop In did not open as hoped. The Bere Regis Floral Group held their first

Play Park Opening

The Play Park has been open for over a month now with reinforced feet fitted to some of the equipment to prolong its life, and the new rubber chippings replacing the bark. We would like to extend our thanks to the Lengthsman for the number of hours he put into the project recently, with some major landscaping needed to lay the chippings and make the area safe. We hope everyone enjoys the area responsibly and as always if anyone spots any faults please contact the Clerk.

Tree Planting

It was agreed during the meeting to arrange for some trees to be planted on the area currently known as "no-mans land", just outside the school gates, where the road bends around. It is hoped we can do this at a heavily subsidised cost and this will greatly enhance the area. The wildlife group will be involved in the planting, so keep an eye out for any news on that if you'd like to be involved.

Grant for School

We were delighted to unanimously approve a grant application from Bere Regis School for £400 towards the cost of extra PPE and additional cleaning and cleaning materials, to help keep the school clean and the children as safe as possible. With fundraising events nearly impossible at the moment and increased costs for the school to fit in with current restrictions, all funding to them at the moment is vital to ensure the continued safe running and maximum benefit for the children.

Bryan Benjafield

BERECONNECT EMERGENCY FUND

Due to the huge generosity of the Bere Regis community, the Emergency Fund has now raised the magnificent total of £7291.

As at 12th September, £1250 has been paid to individuals in the parish as loans, and £866.37 has been given to, or spent on, food for the food bank run by Pop In Place.

Just recently we have donated £2500 to Bere Regis School to help cover the cost of free school meals before and through the summer holidays.

There is presently £2775 available in the account for individual loans.

If anyone needs a small loan to help tide them over a period of financial difficulty please email berereconnect@outlook.com in complete confidence.

BERE REGIS WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP

As summer merges into autumn we see fascinating changes in the wildlife around us. The swifts have long since set off for Africa and the swallows are starting to think about it. Some attractive migrants have made their way here including the Hummingbird Hawkmoth which can be seen hovering close to flowers taking nectar through its long proboscis.



Also this year there have been many sightings of the Jersey Tiger Moth. Originally confined to the Channel Islands this moth is spreading inland. The Tiger moths are a splash of colour as the fly. The common Scarlet Tiger and less common Garden Tiger moths with their brightly coloured underwings are on the wing in late June whilst the Jersey tiger is seen with its yellow underwing in September. There has also been a number of sightings of the Elephant Hawkmoth caterpillar usually found



on fuschia plants much to the concern of gardeners! It is one which always is of interest because of its size and its dramatic appearance due to large false eyes on its front end which are to deter predators.

Conservation Working Parties

We do need more volunteers for our Conservation Working Parties as many hands make for light work! The first Conservation Working Party of the Autumn season will be held on the morning of **Saturday 3rd October**. We will meet at the stream bridge near to the Scout Hut, Elder Road at 10am. We normally finish about 12.30. We can and will observe social distancing at all times.

SHAGGY DOG STORY - DOG BLOG

A shaggy dog story – a long and rambling story or joke typically one that is amusing only because it is inconsequential or pointless

Well who would have thought it this is my sixth article. I had no idea when I put my paws to my keyboard back in March that it would grow into a shaggy dog story. By popular demand I am told I must keep going.

A lot has happened this month. I have been following events on the news and it seems that there are wild fires burning the forests on the west coast of America and as I write hurricane 'Sally' is about to make landfall in Mississippi delta area. What is happening to our weather? Here in Dorset we are not immune. I have written about forest fires, heat waves, winds and this month we had the Dorset Deluge.

Well the heavens opened, it was coming down in stair rods. This is a north country expression as the rain was coming down so fast it would look like metal stair rods. This is different from raining cats and dogs. There has to be wind (dogs) and rain (cats) for that to be an accurate definition.

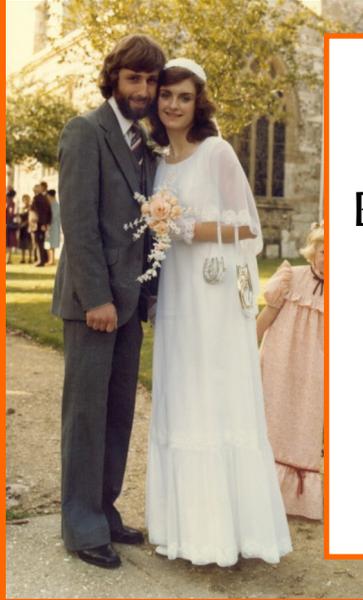
Fortunately we were in at the time but the noise on the back porch was deafening. About an hour later we had to go to Wareham and drove through several floods. When we got back I was taken for a walk round Mays wood. The water had gushed down the paths leaving great gullies with debris in ridges. The gravel bottoms to paths were pristine and glistening in the evening sun. I had a drink of fresh rainwater from the puddles. My owner was not so impressed when later I had a slurp from Bere Stream which was black with all the dust and mud which had flowed in off the hill.

We have been busy picking blackberries. I like that I am taken out for a walk and quite relaxing as I can lie down in the grass and just enjoy the countryside. We have stopped picking them now as there is no more room in the deep freeze as it is full of damsons. It has been a good year for damsons but poor one for blackberries. By the time you read this the blackberries will be over. By Michaelmas the Devil has spat on them and they have no flavour.



The tomatoes are over, just green tomato chutney to make. We have grown a large pumpkin for the Harvest Festival.

My owner had a stall at the pop up Farmers Market on Souls Moor selling preserves. I think she hoped to create space in the cupboard and although she sold a lot, the



**Wishing Paul
and Alison
Bennett a very
Happy Ruby
Wedding
Anniversary
on
4th October**



Our main task at this working party will be to erect some fencing around part of the pond on Souls Moor. The fencing will continue to allow access for the ponies to drinking water, but protect part of the pond and its surrounds from trampling by the ponies thus enabling pond vegetation to flourish. If you have a spade or hammer, please bring them with you. If not, spares will be available and other necessary tools provided.

All are welcome at our conservation working parties (under 16s should be accompanied by an adult). No experience is required, there's a friendly crowd, it is great fun and good exercise too!

Further Conservation Work Party will be held on Saturday 7th November and Saturday 5th December. Further dates in 2020 will be announced nearer the time.

Contact Us

If you would like to know more about the work of the Wildlife and Environment Group or to be included on our e-mailing list, please contact:

Tony Bates at tonybates19@gmail.com / 01929 471563

Amy Yates at AmyEyeats@hotmail.com or

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SAVE ME TRUST
 GIVING WILD ANIMALS A VOICE

SAVE ME TRUST WOODLAND RENOVATION AT MAY'S WOOD

The trust is committed to supporting wildlife and protecting wildlife habitat. There has been a 52% decline in wildlife over the last 30 years and it really is in trouble. This should be the litmus test that shows we are destroying our own home, after all we are just another species. We like to blame other species for Wildlife decline, yet the sad truth is it is us.



POP IN PLACE NEWS



Community Information Update

It is with much regret due to the latest Government announcements on social gatherings; we will not be able to open Bere Regis Village Hall as planned.

Sadly the Pop In Place Rainbow Café will not open as hoped.

The Village Hall AGM is postponed until further notice.

This is disappointing news for many people but we will be back, and better days will come!

Food Bank

If you are struggling to feed your family and need help from the food bank email popinplace@gmail.com



Bere Regis Memory Walk ... Walk your own Walk ...

Thank you to everyone who completed their own walks and made a donation to the Just Giving Page in aid of the Alzheimer's Society to date we have a total of £430.00 which is a great effort in such difficult times , well done everyone.

Thank you for Walking for a World without Dementia.



Please Check out Pop In Place Website popinplace.org where I will be posting all the up to date info about the group.

Alison Bennett Telephone 01929 472023

WE ARE LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY GOVERNORS FOR OUR VILLAGE SCHOOL

Are you...

- ◆ Looking for a new challenge?
- ◆ Willing to help your local community?
- ◆ Able to dedicate some spare time to improving outcomes for our children?
- ◆ Looking/willing to be part of OR someone who enjoys being a member of a proactive team of dedicated individuals?
- ◆ Able to make a real contribution to our school?



Bere Regis Primary and Pre-school has undergone significant change in the last three years; we are now in a very positive position. We need to broaden our Governing Board to include some additional individuals, who don't currently have children at the school. It is very important to have different perspectives and we would welcome someone who is able to dedicate some time to the school.

We are a strong team who are pro-actively involved in the school, and work to understand the challenges it faces, supporting it when required. Our role primarily involves being a 'critical friend'; questioning and challenging the head teacher and senior leaders to ensure every aspect of the provision is at its very best. We are fully supported by the Wessex Multi Academy Trust in our quest to ensure that Bere Regis has a positive outcome at our next Ofsted inspection.

The full governing body meet once per half term for approximately 2 hours. This would be the minimum time commitment, but ideally you would be able to spend some additional time in school, getting to know the culture and the children. No previous experience is needed as on-line training and 'on the job' support will be provided.

For an informal discussion about the roles and what you can do to help, please contact Lucy Roberts (Chair of Governors) robertsla@live.co.uk 07770733832. We would love to hear from you, so please get in touch.



Development and encroachment of green space in towns squeezes wildlife into ever decreasing margins. Wildlife is being put under pressure everywhere. Intensive

farming and modern practices see heavy machinery increase the field sizes by removing hedges. Field margins have been reduced and pesticides are used to produce more crops. Dense hedgerows are the breeding grounds of much of the food chain and without these dense safe havens many species simply don't survive. They are exposed, at easy risk of predation and whilst they complete the food chain, they are a vital link. They need these safe havens to do that in strength. In 2015, a bird survey showed that 52% of farmland birds had disappeared from farms.

We have worked tirelessly throughout the covid pandemic lockdown as we have a wildlife rescue on site. We received a higher number of calls than usual where people had observed wildlife they had never seen. Wildlife is around us and can in many situations adapt to change but it can rarely adapt to the speed in which we change our green spaces. Domestic garden clear outs and changing garden landscapes dramatically effects wildlife. That old compost heap in your garden can be a vital metropolis for all the insects and small mammals and birds that are essential for our ecosystem.

So, what to do? The planet has six billion people with another two billion on the way so we need to find ways to live alongside wildlife so that we can both thrive.



Our woodland renovation project provides safe havens for wildlife, where we can protect them in a sustainable way and for us it's wildlife first.

It was seven years ago that we planted our first tiny sapling in May's wood. I have made many trips to the woodland over the intervening years along with Brian and we have both enjoyed our time there. It's a great space to get back in touch with nature. It is an honour to be able to support nature and enhance habitat and help to build a more sustainable future. Wildlife continues to use the woodlands and thrive and we carry out regular surveys to monitor some of our more secretive residents. The young trees we planted seven years ago have become more noticeable in the landscape and are providing forever homes to numerous species.



The design and planning of a new woodland requires an holistic approach and wildlife is the first consideration when planning. Our contractors for the planting are UPM Tillhill headed up by Graham Preece in the region.

The habitats created have been in the main protected well. We use fences and dense planting to protect the wildlife and in the main these closed off areas have been respected. We have had a few incidents of damage over the last few years where fences have been cut for access, but in general it has been good.



It's an oak woodland at its core but the relative abundance of oak and the composition of 'other' species varies according to the underlying soil conditions. On the lighter more acidic soils you'll find a high proportion of sweet chestnut and in the base rich area's cherry, lime and beech are dominant elements in the wood. Species such as alder and birch help to 'fix' nitrogen in the soil so are also planted to help improve soil conditions. The native yew tree has also been

planted which adds variety and year-round colour.

Mixed species woodlands not only add variety and interest but also act as some insurance to meet and mitigate some of the threats posed by climate change by helping to establish more resilient woodland habitats.

Give us this day

Give us this day the sun to shine in the sky
 A friendly smile for every passer-by
 The birds with their song to sing in the trees
 For each of us the chance to help and please.

Give us this day the flowers that bloom in the park
 The stars at night when the world is growing dark
 Give us the fish to fill the fisherman's net
 And give us good memories, lest we forget.

Every day is another new chance
 Every day is another new start
 And every day could be a happy day
 If there's love in every heart.

Every day is another new chance
 Every day we start life again
 Every day could be a better day
 Just like sunshine after the rain.

Give us this day love to hold in every heart
 Give us faith in those who have to be far apart
 The answers we seek please help us to find
 And give us this day love for all mankind.

Regular readers will be aware that during the past six months the usual monthly reports from all our village organisations and societies have not been written as nearly all meetings and events have had to be cancelled due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

This is why, earlier this year, I requested that other contributors might like to submit articles for publication, hence we have had our 'Lockdown Stories' and our 'Poetry Corner', and, of course, the fabulous 'Dog Blog' from Jenny Stone.

The most recent advice from government means that gatherings are likely to not continue for the remainder of this year. As a result, I shall welcome additional contributions from anyone in our community who has an interesting story to tell.

All we ask is that the article should be original, for copyright reasons, and adhere to the formatting guidelines which are available from me. Photos are welcomed.

Many thanks, Alison - Editor alison@culverdell.co.uk

POETRY CORNER

Our local songwriter and poet, Eileen Richardson has given us another two poems which she has written during the current difficult times.

'Give us this day' reminds us of the many blessings that are to be found in the natural world around us. These have been particularly important to many people over the past few months when their normal routines have been interrupted.

'Today you'll be a success' is a really positive message that anything can be achieved if you set your set your mind to it and persevere.

Lesley Marshall for Eileen Richardson

Today you'll be a success

Nothing succeeds like success
You could be better than you guess
Come on get started don't leave it too late
Today you're going to be great.

Hitch your dream boat to a distant star
No matter how near no matter how far
Climb on high till you reach the sky
Today you'll be a success.

Set your heart on a distant peak
Don't turn back jump every creek
Put on a grin and up with that chin
Today you'll be a success.

Christopher Columbus was quite a guy
But he didn't know as much as you and I
Chopin found fame with many a tune
But he knew nothing 'bout trips to the moon.

Today's the day you'll reach the top
Don't ever think that you could flop
Come on get started, don't be downhearted
Today you'll be a success.

King Solomon was wise but you can see

He didn't know as much as you and me
With all you know about the micro chip
You could be a celebrity.

Nothing succeeds like success
You could be better than you guess
Come on get started don't leave it too late
Today you're going to be great.

Today you're depressed 'cos you're unemployed
The world's in a mess and cruise is deployed
Where's your hopeful streak, you could make it this week
Today you'll be a success.

Just now you're on drugs and taking to drink
Don't have another fix just have another think
It's there if you search don't be left in the lurch
Today you'll be a success.

Man is clever he's gone to the stars
Voyage to Saturn, Venus and Mars
These words you must say 'I shall make it today'
Today you will be a success!

The shrub margins create wildlife corridors running along the sides of the tracks and help to create a more graded and varied woodland edge with many shrub species producing berries and flowers sequentially throughout the year to support wildlife.

We continue to monitor our dormice which seem to love the woodland and thrive well there. Open pathways were incorporated into the planning so people could still have access to the wood by tracing the 'traditional' routes that people had walked permissively through the fields. As the woodland has developed new lines have been formed.



We have had an issue with dog waste, and we are finding increasing amounts on fences and hanging on branches in bags and we also find the access areas to the land may be high in dog waste around the gates. This is becoming an increasing problem in many areas. We respectfully ask all dog owners to take their waste away with them and are monitoring this ongoing issue. The waste cannot only be harmful to humans but to wildlife too as it carries many diseases. I am a dog owner and love dogs, but it is becoming an increasing problem. We won't go to the lengths of Switzerland where they take DNA and fine people £6,000 or Hinckley in Leicestershire who hired a team of private detectives, but we may consider restricting further access to both humans and dogs in the future. We would ask people to keep their dogs under control so that ground nesting birds are not disturbed during breeding seasons and are left to flourish. The dense hedgerows will be resting areas for wildlife away from humans and dogs to remain safe. We are monitoring the access and the use of the land, and as we close certain areas to help support wildlife habitats, I hope local walkers will support us in this by observing changes.

Whilst humans enjoy the wood our prime reason for preservation and enhancement is for the other creatures, we share our space with to make their mark on the woodlands.

There is a strip that runs from the river to the wood which includes a large proportion of open ground, now managed as a wildflower meadow and glade which acts as a transition zone from the village and creates a gradual change in structure, so the woodland is not too overbearing! This also allows the wildflowers which were already present to be retained and increased adding another layer of habitat and for the vital insect populations to flourish.

Trees planted within the buffer strip near the river include wetland species such as

willow and aspen to try and compliment the setting, whilst the wider open spaces found to the south and west (near the pond) are designed to blend in with the more open landscape characterised by the heath and open fields moving down from Black Hill. The edges of the wood are planted with a variety of minor tree species and shrubs which provide nectar and pollen for bees.

The long-term aim is to create a well-balanced and dynamic woodland environment and habitat that will support and sustain local wildlife species. Few could have predicted the way in which our landscape has changed in the last 100 years and the enormous loss of ancient woodland. The increasing number of trees nationally that are crops meaning the volume and speed of change plays havoc with wildlife communities.

We are hoping to keep this oasis for wildlife flourishing for a long time to come. It will not form part of an offset area for development or be used primarily for humans. The woodlands will remain a protected wildlife haven and an asset for the village. We hope visitors will continue to enjoy their time in the woodlands and support and respect the creatures that make it their forever home.

Anne Brummer , CEO - Save Me Trust



For more details on the woodland or to help with wildlife monitoring in the woodland then please contact us by email to: jo@savemetrust.org. You can follow Anne on Instagram @anneatsaveme and twitter @anneatsaveme and on her blog at anneswildlife.co.uk.

In my early dealings with Dorset farmers I was ignorant enough to remark to a stockman that the animal he was referring to as 'her, was in fact a young bull. I was enlightened by the surprised reply, "Well, he's a 'her' isn't her!"

'He's as skinny as a lizard' was a simile applied to a youthful farmhand by a farmer's wife, which bought the response from the farmer, "Well, you know what they say, a 'travelling' stallion never puts on any flesh!"

A pocket-knife that I'd offered to the same farmer (who was bedding down a stable) to unsuccessfully-cut the baler twine on the straw bale drew the retort. "'Tis that blunt you could ride bare-ar**d to London on it!"

I hope that this article encourages some of you to expand on the origins of other similes and metaphors that adorn our regional English language. It gives one something to think about during 'lockdown'?

"As the ox hath his bow, sir, the horse his curb and the falcon her bells, so man hath his desires." Shakespeare: As You Like it Act III Scene iii

David Gray 11/08/20

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'Stoop' A falcon circles around at about 300-400ft. When the prey is flushed out (grouse?) the falcon goes into a near-vertical dive (stoop), wings folded, at a speed of 130 mph, to strike the prey with the rear talon of its foot to the back of the neck, killing it in mid-air. We still use the term "Stoop to conquer", " I won't stoop...." (see it for yourselves at St Aldhelm's Head).

Bells Falcons wear two small discordant bells on their legs that allow the a falconer to find the bird when it is 'on the kill'. (Hawks wear them on the two central tail feathers.)



Cast off To allow the falcon to leave the wrist by letting it "off the leash". It is now free in its own environment. ("Casting off" a vessel to the freedom of the sea may also have its roots in this falconry term).

Most of the nautical terms that are in current usage have their roots in the days of 'square riggers' which, by virtue of the square rig, could only make progress through the water going across the wind or downwind.

'Sailing too close to the wind' is a metaphor often used in a critical way toward the likes of dodgy businessmen or MPs' relationship with their interpretation of 'allowable' expenses. The term is derived from a sailing ship attempting to get to windward, outside of its built-in parameters.

The sail start to *flog* and the ship loses way (speed) and fails to respond to the rudder.. If the wind shifts quickly across the bows of the vessel the sails will be pressed hard onto the ship forcing it to come to a halt and lean over, i.e. being *Taken aback*.

If the wind is sufficiently strong, the vessel may then be pushed flat on its side, i.e. *on its 'Beam ends'* and sink.

The Bitter end is the end of the anchor cable or chain that is attached to the ship. Failing to check that it is secure could ruin one's day when letting out a lot of anchor cable in deep water.

Nipper. When an anchor cable is being hauled in on a manual windlass, only so many turns can be wound in before the windlass needs clearing. Whilst this is happening, the cable has to be 'nipped' (jammed). The task of nipping was usually entrusted to the ship's boy (hence '*nipper*')
.....

Farming folk in the West Country make extensive use of similes and metaphors that reflect their traditions and way of life, not to mention the Dorset habit of calling cattle of both sexes 'her'.

DORSET DREAM BECOMES REALITY FOR UK'S PIONEERING CONSERVATION CHARITY

The long cherished Dorset Dream of pioneering conservation farmer Robin Page this week becomes reality as the Countryside Restoration Trust completes the most significant purchase in its 30 year history of wildlife friendly farming.



Bere Marsh Farm on the banks of the idyllic River Stour at Shillingstone, near Blandford Forum, Dorset, is set to become the Trust's national showcase for its holistic fusion of sustainable, traditional farming methods, habitat restoration and a dedicated education programme focused around the importance of food provenance.

Furthermore, its idyllic 92 acres of wetland, grassland and woodland, rich in butterflies, birds, wildflowers and rare mammals makes it the perfect setting to commemorate the Trust's co-founder and Dorset conservation icon, artist Gordon Beningfield.

'It is the perfect place for us where we can bring together everything we believe in whilst remembering Gordon and his devotion to the countryside. It represents our vision and why he and I decided to found the Trust all those years ago.

We've got a lot of work ahead of us to shape it into the showcase for our work and our vision but it's a challenge we have long wanted,' said Robin Page, Executive Chairman of the Countryside Restoration Trust.

The cornerstone of the CRT's philosophy is that both traditional and innovative farming methods can be made to work profitably and sustainably together in conjunction with the protection and restoration of wildlife habitats and precious eco-systems.

In all, it has 15 properties throughout the UK ranging from dairy and arable farms to sheep, rare breeds and woodland centres. Running in harmony with these sites is the curriculum based MOSAIC education programme for children at a network of nearby primary schools highlighting where food comes from, the value of its

sustainable production alongside wild flora and fauna and how they can play their part in connecting with Nature and the wild world.

All these key elements of the CRT's programme will be brought together at Bere Marsh Farm under the supervision and direction of Estate Manager, Elaine Spencer White, an agricultural consultant and specialist marketer who is also a Trustee of the CRT.



'Bere Marsh has everything we want and need to make it the exemplar farm of our estate. The setting is magnificent, the farmstead and land perfect but above all else it has a trailway, footpaths, car parks and a bridleway all running through it – in short, lots and lots of visitors walking by. You could not ask for more in terms of footfall and site awareness.'

Robin Page agrees. 'Our long term intention is to turn the farm into an education and visitor centre – to re-attach visitors, as well as ourselves, to the land, to our native wildlife and where our food comes from. This will be where we demonstrate everything that the Trust stands for.'

To this end the intention is to introduce a small herd of milking cows, free range hens, a small flock of sheep, an orchard and a nursery. It is even hoped to produce bread at the farm from wheat grown in the fields of other CRT farms as well as beer and cider from CRT barley and apples.

Existing barns and outbuildings will be specially converted to create the education centre alongside a dedicated art gallery devoted to the wildlife artwork of Gordon Beningfield.

'It is a highly ambitious plan but it will be where the Countryside Restoration Trust puts itself on the map and finally makes our Dorset Dream come true,' says Robin Page.

And the falcon her bells

To date my life has been shaped by three main influences (leaving Highland dancing to one side), namely falconry, seafaring and West Country agriculture.

Each of these disciplines has exposed me to the 'language of the trade', much which has become embedded in our English language and remains in common usage, mainly in the form of similes and metaphors.

Those derived from the practice of falconry and seafaring are still widely used, but there is not a widespread understanding of their original meaning.

Falconry (the use of long-winged, dark-eyed Falcons), as both a necessary endeavour and a sporting pleasure, has been around for centuries, both BC as well as AD.

Before the shotgun became sufficiently reliable, accurate and safe to use in the 17th and 18th centuries, the deployment of falcons was the only reliable way of catching edible birds on open countryside and moorland, (short-winged, yellow-eyed hawks, being used mainly catching ground game in woodland environments).



In England Falconry developed a language of its own (from many roots), some of which is still in general usage but the origin of which is not widely appreciated.

Here are a few falconry terms that are still in common usage:

Cadge, Cadger. Falcons are carried (hooded, to keep them quiet) to the hunting fields on a square frame perch (cadge) with shoulder straps. It was invariably borne on the shoulders of a young peasant lad (cadger) who would attempt to scrounge money from the wealthy (cadging).

'Booze' Birds of prey do not 'drink' they 'boose or bouse' (old Dutch term) A bird that drinks too much is –you guessed it– a 'Boozer'.

'Mews' Now regarded as a rather nice place to live, is the building in which falcons were housed and where they would 'mew' (moult their main flight feathers one at a time, to preserve 'airworthiness').

'Sharp set' Hungry and ready for action.

'Fed up' Overfed and showing no interest in flying.

passage in the King James authorised version of the bible, (Matthew chapter 20: verses 6 and 9).

As a phrase, it has permeated creative imagination to become a title for films, television, books and music. The list of "eleventh hour" examples is seemingly endless and ranges from a 1942 Superman cartoon film, to a well-documented 2010 episode of Doctor Who. It has also been used to describe Armistice Day, which happened to fall on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, when World War 1 hostilities finally ended.

If decimal time had taken a grip of the world, during the French Revolution, even though it comes from the deep authoritative reaches of the biblical timeline, the phrase "eleventh hour" would have evaporated, and a plethora of creative writing would not have been spawned.

Dolly Rebecca Parton was born on 19th January 1946. She was the fourth in a family of twelve children, and her start in life, to say the least was tough. She has been described as a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, record producer, actress, author, businesswoman and humanitarian known primarily for her work in country music. In early 1981, her song "9 to 5", topped the country and pop charts receiving, around that time, a nomination for best original song in the Academy Awards. When I think of Dolly Parton, I think of "9 to 5", and probably to many other people, it was and still is, her defining moment.



If decimal time had taken a grip of the world, during the French Revolution, then Dolly Parton could not have embraced the concept of am and pm with a song such as "9 to 5". Eight lengthy decimal time periods, straddling midnight, would mean absolutely nothing.



A historic athletic event took place on 6th May 1954, in Oxford, in front of three thousand people. This was when Roger G Bannister ran a record-breaking, sub four-minute mile.

Norris McWhirter (BBC commentator), apparently teased the stadium crowd, by delaying his announcement for as long as possible. "Ladies and Gentlemen, here is the result of event number 9, the one mile: first, number

BERE REGIS SURGERY NEWS



We are currently in the midst of this year's influenza vaccination campaign. We are urging all patients who are entitled to this vaccination to seriously consider taking up our offer this year even if you don't usually. Appointments can be made with our Reception Team on 01929 471268. We are hoping to conclude this year's campaign by the end of October so please don't delay in booking.

The Surgery is open! But not as you remember it! Our "new normal" means that **before** you have an appointment with a GP you will always be asked to speak to them on the phone. We will call you back, so it is important that you have your phone to hand and be able to take the call. The GP will then decide how best to deal with your problem. There are various options available to us now so as well as a face to face consultation you may be offered a video consultation or be asked to see another member of the clinical team first. Or we may just be able to help you without you needing to visit the Practice.



Although many different suggestions have been considered we have been advised that a gazebo is the best option as a shelter for patients waiting to collect medication. We expect it to arrive by the end of September. It is square! Please can we remind patients that they will still have to socially distance if sheltering underneath.

BERE REGIS WI

Since I wrote last month, I'm pleased to report that, since the weather was kind to us, Bere Regis WI has been able to hold two physical meetings – one for the first round of the Dorset Federation of WI's annual quiz and one for a general catch up meeting to discuss ongoing Dorset and National Federation business. Both were kindly hosted by members with large gardens and lots of outdoor furniture, so we were able to maintain appropriate social distancing at all times. Unfortunately, with the Rule of Six announcement, we don't anticipate any further meetings in the foreseeable future.

One of the items on discussion at our catch up meeting was how to follow up on this year's resolutions – *A call to increase potential stem cell donor registration and End modern slavery.*

Without the ability to meet and run events, we've decided simply to share some information on each topic, this month focusing on debunking the myths about stem cell donation.



Myth 1: Signing up to become a donor takes time

Registering to become a donor is a quick and easy process. First you need to check your eligibility (details are available on the Anthony Nolan website, www.anthonynolan.org, and the DKMS website, www.dkms.org.uk/en, but a key criteria is that you must be between 16 and 30 years old). If you're eligible, you can

request a swab kit from either of these organisations. Once completed, you send the swabs back to the registering organisation which will analyse your tissue type and enter your details on the UK Stem Cell Registry. Your details are then stored anonymously and can be searched for people all over the world who need matching stem cells.



He never turned up at the reception and was asked why he hadn't gone. He said he had but when he arrived at the housing estate, where his daughter was to live, he couldn't find the house. When his wife asked him why he didn't ask someone, he replied "I couldn't remember her address." When she went on to say "Well you could have asked by using her name". He replied "I couldn't do that. I couldn't remember her surname."

He was a wise man when it came to the countryside and re had a particular bent for gardening. He always grew enough potatoes for his own family and for many of the villagers besides. It was always a great joke at this time of year, when he began to lift his crop, when he was asked what the crop was like he always had the same answer "some's as big as peas, some as big as marbles and all the rest is littluns."

Ted Cox

The Decimal Clock

In 1792, during the French Revolution, probably gleaned from ideas, which came from China, a system was devised, to divide the day up into ten decimal hours. Each decimal hour was divided into one hundred decimal minutes, and then each decimal minute was further divided into one hundred decimal seconds. This equates to one hundred thousand decimal seconds per each calendar day, as opposed to the eighty-six thousand, four hundred seconds, to which we are



currently, universally acclimatised. It is needless to say, that the French decimal time did not really catch on, even though they ran with it for a couple of years until 7th April 1795. At that time, and in spite of the fact that the production of decimal clocks and watches was in full swing, mandatory use of this particular measurement mode was suspended, and that is where it has remained.

If the world had adopted the decimal clock, there would be no such thing as 24/7 and neither would there be an am or a pm. You would probably wake up at three o'clock in the morning, have lunch at five, which would in fact be noon. After that, dinner could be at half past seven, before going to bed at around nine o'clock, and then ten o'clock, well that's midnight.

The eleventh hour is a phrase, which means "at the last moment". It is taken from a

of the five colleges and gained a Nation Diploma in Agriculture, I expected to obtain a junior position in farm management, agricultural advisory work or in the provision and sales of the many types of feed, machinery medications and chemicals which were then becoming available at that time. So my time working on the home farm was essential.

We had working in our part of the estate an elderly horseman called Bob. Bob had grown up using horses for all the purposes that tractor were then. When I started work, Bob had almost reached retirement age and despite his age and complete ignorance of machinery there was much work for him, such as hedging, ditching, hoeing, feeding livestock, helping with livestock generally and handling bales. However despite not being able to manage a tractor in any way he did know his hand tools. It was prior to having a tractor drawn hoe, that a gang of some ten men were sent to hoe a field of young kale.



When we arrived at the field, Bob was in great concern. He said the Manager has sent us here but he didn't tell us how to hoe it. Were we to side hoe or flat hoe it? I had no idea what he meant and was promptly told. Flat hoeing meant hoeing between the rows and side hoeing involved hoeing along both side of the each row. Bob was very put out to not have received precise orders. He needed everything in detail as he was no scholar, not being able to read or write. But he could work, even when I knew him in his late sixties he was always digging his allotment or sawing logs for the fire. He didn't believe in machinery and when a new blue, Fordson Major became available at the farm at a price of £950.00 Bob called it "One of they thousand pound armchairs"..



He had never been further from the village of Blackmoor than on the bus to Petersfield some eight miles away. When his eldest daughter married, she had a house in Liss four miles away. The wedding was in the Blackmoor village church and the reception in the house at Liss. It was all arranged that transport would be available to take all the family and guests between the two places. But Bob had other ideas, he said he would ride his bike to Liss.

Myth 2: Donating stem cells is painful

According to Anthony Nolan, 90% of donations are carried out through a process similar to giving blood called peripheral blood stem cell donation (PBSC). This is a simple painless process. Some people experience mild flu-like symptoms, but these usually go away in a day or two. Only 10% of donations are from bone marrow and this procedure takes place under general anaesthetic, so you won't feel any pain. Afterwards, you may feel a bit tired and bruised, and could need to take a few days off work.

Myth 3: If I sign up to the register, I will have to donate

You'll only be asked to donate if you're a match for someone with blood cancer or a blood disorder who is in urgent need of a lifesaving transplant. According to Anthony Nolan, people who are on the register have a 1 in 800 chance of being asked to donate. However, these chances depend on age and sex. A young man aged 16-30 has a 1 in 200 chance of being chosen to donate. By signing up to the register though, you should be willing to donate.

Myth 4: Lesbian, gay or bisexual people cannot donate stem cells

Sexuality or gender identity does not impact eligibility to join the stem cell register. Everyone who wants to join must go through the same health and suitability checks.

Closing thought

By signing up to become a stem cell donor, or by helping us spread the word about registering, you will be helping to find a match for everyone in need of a potentially lifesaving blood stem cell donation. We do hope you'll take the time to consider getting involved in whatever way you can.

For details of future meetings, or further information about the WI, please contact Di Pitts on 01929 471322 or Moira Mathers on 07900 906278. You can see more about our past meetings and activities on our Facebook page [@BereRegisWI](#).



The many-coloured autumn berries on the young trees in May's Wood were looking wonderful in the sunshine – the girls were delighted with them and wanted to know all their names, and more importantly, "Can you eat those ?" "No, they're poisonous." "Can you eat those ones, then ?" "No, they're poisonous too." "Can you...?" "NO". I warned them that they must never, never eat any berries they find unless they are with a grownup who knows they are definitely safe to eat,

and told them the true story about how, when I was their age, I had spent a happy afternoon picking and eating elderberries, and then a miserable night being very, very sick. I hope it sank in !

(I have just googled "elderberries" – we didn't have that advantage sixty years ago – and discovered it was cyanide poisoning. Heck !)

What a lovely walk it was – I always do enjoy it, but all the more so for sharing it with two little girls enjoying it just as much, and being interested enough to ask so many questions. Perhaps the best moment was when one asked me, "Will we see any wildlife ?" and I said

"Yes, I hope so – we often see rabbits, and squirrels in the woods, and sometimes deer, and lots of birds, like magpies, rooks , buzzards.... Oh look up there ! There is a buzzard !" And amazingly there was, soaring above us just at the right time.

It really is delightful living here, isn't it ?

Rosemary Cleave

Over the Hill – October 2020

This time I am putting a different meaning to "Over the Hill" this time instead of a geographical expression I intend to use it in an historical connection; mainly my own personal memories of the past.

I grew up in Hampshire and went to Churchers College in Petersfield, where I spent my last two years in the sixth form studying botany and zoology. This, plus a life until then spending all my spare time in the countryside, it seemed obvious that I should find a career in agriculture. So I got a job working on Lord Selbourne's Blackmoor Estate, where my father was the estate carpenter.

At that time in the late nineteen sixties, you had to have experienced practical working for at least two years on a farm, to get into one of the five agricultural colleges, in the country. You needed 'A. levels to do this but there were farm institutes in each county for practical work in farming, while having attended one

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Thanks to our WI members for sharing their favourites

Curried Cream of Carrot/Parsnip Soup

Thinking towards Autumn and a warming bowl of soup to have with crusty bread.

Ingredients

- ◆ 25g (1oz) butter
- ◆ 450g (1lb) sliced carrots or parsnips
- ◆ 225g (1/2lb) chopped onions
- ◆ 2 level teaspoons curry powder
- ◆ 850ml (1 1/2pints) chicken stock
- ◆ 300ml (1/2pint) milk
- ◆ 2 tablespoons cream
- ◆ Seasoning



Method

1. Melt butter in a large saucepan, add carrots or parsnips, onions and curry powder and fry gently, stirring frequently.
 2. Add stock and bring to the boil and simmer for 30minutes, until veg is cooked.
 3. Liquidize or sieve and return to pan.
- Check seasoning. Add milk and cream and gentle warm.

LOCKDOWN STORIES

“Granny can I hug you?”

Recently we enjoyed a long-awaited weekend visit from our younger son, his wife and two little girls – we’d all kept away from each other ever since lockdown, but were missing each other badly. They were so determined not to pose any risk to us at all (mindful of the fact that they live in East London, and that the girls are now back at school) that they decided on staying in a nearby self-catering cottage and spending each day here with us, but out of doors. Wonderfully, it turned out to be the last brilliantly sunny weekend of this autumn, and we all thoroughly enjoyed lazing in the garden on rugs, chairs and cushions, barbecuing and picnicking. We did a treasure hunt for them (we’d all missed their usual Easter egg hunt, of course) and they did pretty well, although it turned out that little townies don’t know what a “five-barred gate” is!

It was certainly hard not to hug them all when they arrived, and hard to remember to keep our distance all the time, but I think we all did well – though I did nearly crack when the seven year old begged, “Oh Granny, please can I hug you, just once?”

When I suggested going for a walk up Black Hill, they gratifyingly thought that sounded really exciting, kitted themselves out with backpacks and drinks bottles and emergency rations, and off we went. As we walked past Church Green, the nine-year-old said, “Oh Granny, the church is singing!” - the clock just happened to be striking twelve. “Is that because it’s lunchtime?” I explained about our invisible church clock, and began to realise just how much we take for granted all that is delightful about living here in Bere Regis. As we crossed Malcolm’s bridge onto Souls’ Moor the nine-year-old suggested a game of Poohsticks, and happily wasn’t put out when the dogs playing in the water below decided to chase all our sticks, wrecking the race order.



Both girls were thrilled to see the two ponies in the field, and immediately christened them Thunder (the black one) and Lightning (the white one). Walking up past the school, I showed them all the playground and the huge playing field space our children have, and said they were lucky too to be able to have outdoor lessons, and nature walks. “And they can see the horses from their school!” they added.

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VENUES 2020

Date	Venue	Trophy	Winner
6th March	Fishers Golf Club	Malcolm's Cup	Cancelled
27th March	Due to the Coronavirus our normal season has been postponed until 2021 but where golf clubs can accommodate us safely we are playing informally.		
24th April	Due to the Coronavirus our normal season has been postponed until 2021 but where golf clubs can accommodate us safely we are playing informally.		
29th March	Due to the Coronavirus our normal season has been postponed until 2021 but where golf clubs can accommodate us safely we are playing informally.		
26th June	Ashley Wood Golf Club	President's Cup	Cancelled
31st July	Bulbury Golf Club	Memorial Cup	
28th August	Dorset Golf and Country Club	Captain's Cup	
25th September	Lyme Regis Golf Club	Whitbread Pairs	Steve Carpenter
30th October	Dibden Golf Centre	Zoom Trophy	

Mini Tour - 12th-14th June - Llandhydrock GC | AGM - 11th November - Bere Regis Sports Club | Christmas Cup of Good Cheer and Presentation Evening - 5th December at Wareham Golf Club |

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Look out for possible Green Energy Grant scams

A government Green Homes Grant for homeowners in England is available from the end of September 2020 and runs until the end of January 2021. It aims to help pay for certain energy efficient home improvements including insulation. All homeowners can apply for funding for at least two thirds of the cost of eligible home improvements, up to a total value of £5,000. Some homeowners will qualify for the total cost of eligible home improvements, costing up to £10,000.



You must install either insulation, or low-carbon heating, of certain types to qualify. Funding is by Government voucher and to start with you need to make sure you are eligible for the scheme. Full details of the Green Homes Grant can be found at the Government endorsed web page <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/> or by phoning 0800 444202.

History has shown that unscrupulous traders may try to take advantage of schemes such as this, perhaps contacting people by phone, or on the doorstep, out of the blue, with the offer of discounted insulation or building work. Sometimes the sales talk may refer to previous work completed at the property. Traders may try to push the need for urgency as a selling point, the official scheme being a time limited offer.

The advice from trading standards is to visit the Simple Energy Advice webpage, or phone them on the number above, before you agree to any work starting so you know whether you are eligible for the grant and what that entitles you to. If

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October 2020

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BERE REGIS HISTORY SOCIETY

Our Society Bulletin is almost ready and will contain stories of our recent efforts researching the history of our village. It will also contain other pieces of study which document other aspects of our village life. Here is an example of one of the stories that will be in our first edition:

The telephone comes to Bere Regis

The predecessor to the telephone was the telegraph and this came to the Post Office at 12/13 North Street in 1885. The cables came to Bere on poles from Blandford and telegrams were able to be sent from Bere Regis from then. When the Post Office moved to No 88 West Street, in 1904, the poles were extended to that location. When the telephone reached Bere Regis it was decided to move the Post Office back to No 12/13 North Street and the connection to the national telephone network took place in 1928-29. There was a space of land opposite, where the old Fire Station was located, and in the South side of that plot a telephone exchange was built at that time. It was of reinforced concrete and about 18 feet by 26 feet.



By about 1929 there were several phones in the village of the "pyramid" type located at the Post Office, Vicarage, Royal Oak, Bemister's Stores, the Police Station, the Drax Arms, Hyde House, the Doctor and several other places.

Within a few years telephones were at Griffin's, the School at Rye Hill, Culeaze, Doddings and Central Stores. Then in about 1936 four telephone boxes, of the Sir Giles Gilbert Scott "K-6" type were installed at West Street, Rye Hill, Shitterton and Chapel Cross. The telephone exchange at North Street continued in operation until the 1970s until the new exchange was built on the new development on Manor Farm Road in 1976-77, by which time it was serving a significant proportion of Purbeck sectors including about 400 numbers in Bere Regis itself. The "471" was added in 1985 and the Exchange went digital in 1993.



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Another event — an epic one in our village happenings — occurred about now. One of our oldest inhabitants, an ex-soldier who had seen active service in the Crimea, died and was accorded a military funeral. This was too great an event to be missed and several of us lads followed the cortege to the cemetery and watched as the volley was fired over the grave, and the Last Post sounded. It was the first time I had heard the bugle call, and the mournful notes, the last phrase dying away so plaintively on the mediant, made a lasting impression on my mind. So much so, that even now when I hear the Last Post sounded my thoughts go back to the village cemetery and the Crimean War veteran.

As soon as the mourners moved off we moved in to search for the empty cartridge cases. I returned home triumphant with one which I kept for years as a memento of that memorable event.

Did you Know?

You can have your parish magazine delivered to your door each month if you live within the parishes.

We have a fantastic team of volunteer distributors who undertake the delivery of this magazine, and for just £8 a year (which is £1 less than you would pay at the retail price and no charge for delivery), you could be included on one of these rounds.

Contact the Editor, for more information: Alison Debenham
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THE STORY OF CHILDHOOD IN BERE REGIS IN THE YEARS AROUND THE TIME OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR - PART 6

Bill Lucas now tells us in his book, DORSET BORN, of his experiences during the war when food was short and amongst other things they had rook pie. Then just after the war he has his first ride in a car – a model T Ford.

The War

MY EARLY boyhood must have been greatly affected by the First World War — the Great War as we knew it then. Shortages there undoubtedly were after a time, and strict food rationing. No doubt it was of some help to us that three of the family, Cecil (until he was called up in 1916) Kit and Eva worked in the village grocery and bakery shop. I suspect that they managed to scrounge the odd extra item of food from time to time. And then of course, the fact that we kept cows, hens and pigs, meant that we were well supplied with butter, pork, eggs and chicken meat. I especially remember, though, the shortage of sugar, and the whole family learned to do without it in their tea — a habit, I believe, which we all retained throughout our lives.

Kit was employed in the bakery at this time, helping to mould the loaves, and she came home one day with the news that the wheat flour was being ‘stretched’ by the addition of boiled potatoes. As a result we were always able to buy bread, though it wouldn’t have won any prizes for quality.

Naturally butcher’s meat was in very short supply. However, the lord of the manor came to the rescue and deer from the herds in his private park were slaughtered, and we all had a taste of venison.

Father also took part in organised rook “shoots”. It seems that rook flesh is quite edible except the back of the bird, which has a bitter taste. So mother had the tedious job of plucking and cutting the carcasses. The finished product — rook pie — was, as I recall, a somewhat bony dish and probably consisted — like the nursery rhyme pie — of at least four and twenty black birds.

Cecil had great plans at one time to augment our diet. Occasionally we had pheasants roosting in the shrubbery and he constructed a “poacher’s noose” — a loop of wire attached to a long pole. After several

What the war-time fuel consisted of I don’t know, but it was certainly very inferior stuff, so that time after time on the steep switchback gradients of the west Dorset road the engine would stutter and die and would have to be coaxed back into life. So, what with swinging the starting handle and pushing behind, we were pretty tired by the end of the day. But for me it was a day of exciting adventure, of novel experience, a day which had given me my first glimpse of the quiet unspoiled beauty of that west Dorset coastline and countryside; a day never to be forgotten.

At long last came the announcement for which everyone was longing. The school was called to order and Joby proclaimed in solemn tones that an armistice was to be signed that day — on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month — and that in celebration we were given the afternoon off. A great cheer greeted the news — but more, I suspect, in appreciation of the half-holiday than of the end of war.

And then, a few months later, we all prepared for another great event — the signing of the peace treaty. Our most spectacular event was to be the lighting of a huge bonfire on Woodbury Hill. How it came about I don’t know, but Father was deputed to act as night-watchman on the night before the great day to ensure that no mischievous persons anticipated the event, and I persuaded him to allow me to keep him company. It was grand for the first hour or two, and fortunately the night was fine, but by the early hours I was overcome by torpor so Father spread a coat on the lee side of the pile and I slept. Strange to say, my recollection of the actual lighting of the fire and the jollifications that accompanied it have been far less enduring. I can vaguely recall the — to me — vast throng of people dancing around the blaze, singing — of all ridiculous things — the song “Cab bages, K — beans and carrots — some people like rhododendrons, but give me forget-me-nots!”

memory. Bob and Fanny Denning had written from Bournemouth to say that they would be coming through the village on their way to visit Bob's aunt who lived in a cottage just behind a cliff called Golden Cap, down in the west of the county, and would anyone of the family like to go along for the ride? Great was my excitement when, after some discussion, it was agreed that, since no-one else was free, I could go. This meant a journey of over thirty miles each way in a car. To most children today, I suppose, such a trip would be nothing but a bore, but to me then it was an undreamt of opportunity and not to be missed at any cost. I had certainly never been as far away from home as this before.

Since it was wartime and fuel was difficult to obtain, it was something of an achievement for Bob to be able to do the journey in his old Model T Ford. Bob was very proud of his car which he always kept in immaculate condition. He was especially particular about polishing the brass acetylene gas head-lamps and these always sparkled brightly in the sunlight — though they were often difficult to coax into providing their own light at night.



Watercress was, and is, the speciality crop of the clear, pure chalk waters below the village

fruitless late-night excursions he decided that pheasant meat wasn't really as desirable as all that, and the birds continued to roost unmolested.

The slogan "Dig for Victory" was coined to spur effort in a later war, but plenty of digging went on in this war too. I have a clear recollection of the unusual sight of two imposing steam traction engines stationed some three hundred yards apart, hauling a plough back and forth across the top of Black Hill. The soil there is thin, sour and acid, overlying gravel, and the experiment proved, as far as I can recall, a complete failure; within a short time the heather and gorse had reasserted their sway and things were as they had always been.

There was a large military camp at Bovington only a few miles away and the Tommies often used to walk over to our village on their days off. A few who were of similar religious views to my parents found their way to our cottage and the kitchen was often crowded with khaki.

Most of those who came to us were "conchies" — conscientious objectors — and they were members of the non-combatant corps. They were not very popular in the village — nor even, for that matter with other visitors to our home who belonged to fighting units. One night a group of the "Conchies" were waylaid on the way back to camp by a handful of village toughs. From the stories which we heard of the fight the N.C.C.'s gave a good account of themselves. Their consciences could not have been very active just then! Looking back on it now, one wonders why their assailants were not in the forces themselves if they felt so strongly about it.

It was, I suppose, inevitable that Kit and Eva should form close friendships with some of our visitors. Their special friends were — to my great approval — members of fighting regiments, and not "conchies". Eva's friend was a particular favourite of mine, for, from time to time, he would pass on to me various regimental badges of which I was making a

collection. His name was Arthur Emerson and he came from Tottenham. Because of this Tottenham Hotspur became “my” football team and throughout my boyhood I followed their fortunes with especial interest. Sadly, though, Arthur did not survive the war; he was killed not long after arriving at the front line.

After general conscription was introduced there were a few men in our area who claimed to have conscientious objection to fighting. One by one they were summoned to appear before the tribunal for investigation. One particularly vociferous objector was said to have averred that his objections were so strong that he would refuse to appear before the tribunal, and if any one was so silly as to come to get him he’d shoot them with his twelve-bore!

The big house in the village known as The Cedars was requisitioned by the army and occupied by a high-ranking officer. He was kept supplied from the camp stores, but there was a ghastly accident one day when two horses pulling the supply wagon took fright whilst it was being unloaded. They bolted down the Church Lane — a cul-de-sac — at the end of which was a row of spiked railings. These they tried to jump. Checked by the wagon they came down on the spikes with horrific results. Someone ran to fetch a gun and their sufferings were brought to a speedy end.

The War Ends

ONE OF the pleasanter aspects of the war effort resulted from a call for acorns. No-one seemed to be very sure why they were needed, but the generally accepted view was that they were to be used in the manufacture of explosives. At all events, it meant that on a number of pleasant autumn afternoons school, as such, was suspended and we set off in Joby’s charge for the woods. I do not know how many sacks were filled or what happened to them. Maybe they went just to fatten some farmer’s pigs, but it was good to be helping the war effort in such an enjoyable way when we might have been much less pleasantly occupied at our desks.

There came a time when a rumour began to circulate in the village that there was a new type of war machine in the local camp. Slowly the rumour grew until it was no longer just a rumour — Andy Phillips had seen them with his own eyes. They were, he said, called caterpillars because they had no wheels and just crawled along. It was all very exciting.

And, at last, one day, there came the news that there were lots of them only a couple of miles away, on the heath. This was enough for us boys; and off we went, to be met, eventually, by a cordon of troops; we could go no further. Even so, we could see enough to be sure that all we had heard was the truth. We watched as these strange monsters rumbled through the boggy heath land, and eventually, as dusk fell, were carefully camouflaged with netting and brushwood. I can still remember our excitement as we made our way home, full of what we had seen for ourselves and anxious to be the first to tell our families all about it. We were sure that we had seen something momentous; that history was being made here on our lonely heath. And we were right.

One red-letter day — it must have been towards the end of the war period — stands out in my