



# THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

October  
2024  
Issue 367

## News from the Village Hall

Improvements are slowly being made at the Village Hall and we are working our way through the developer contributions that we received through the s.106 payments.

It was agreed by the Village Hall Management Committee and the Community Infrastructure Levy Team (who administer this agreement) that we could spend the remaining funds in the outdoor sports area fund on refurbishing the Tennis Court at the Village Hall. We are delighted to let you know that work will begin on the Tennis Court w/c 28 October and is expected to take approximately 3 weeks (weather dependent). Once completed the new tennis court will have been resurfaced and re-painted to LTA standards with new netting and a wider gate making it accessible for wheelchair users.

In line with the refurbishment and upgrading of the court we will be increasing our hire fees from January 2025 to a fixed price of £6 per hour to cover maintenance.

The Village Hall also been looking at ways to save money and over the summer we cleared the hall of many items that have accumulated over the years. This enabled us to empty the container storage unit on the overflow car park and move items stored in there back into the Village Hall thus saving us a monthly hire charge.

As a consequence we have been looking for a new home for our Stage, which has not been used by the Village Hall for many, many years.

Ideally we would like to sell it to raise some funds but equally if there is anyone who would be happy to store it for future use by the community then please get in touch.

Rosie-Anne Yates

Chairman, Fontmell Magna Village Hall (tel no: 07710326339)

email: [ra@yatesmail.org](mailto:ra@yatesmail.org))

## WESSEX INTERNET COMMUNITY MEETING

**TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER AT  
FONTMELL MAGNA VILLAGE HALL  
1830 START**

Wessex Internet will be hosting a meeting at Fontmell Magna Village Hall on Tuesday 8th October from 6.30pm where there will be a presentation on the full fibre network that is currently being built in the village and the benefits that will bring.



## Notices – October 2024

St. Andrew's Church - Services for October

6th 0900 Church Breakfast—Village Hall

13th 0930 Worship for all

20th 0930 Sung Communion

27th 0930 Holy Communion b

Parish Council Meeting

Next PC meeting

Tues 12th November 2024 in the village hall at 1830. Tea and coffee will be served from 6.00pm

Parish clerk: Katie Cooper  
[clerk@fontmellmagnapc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@fontmellmagnapc.co.uk)

Local Councillor—Jane Somper

Email: [cllrjane.somper@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllrjane.somper@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07710 395359

Village Shop & Post Office

Normal opening hours:

Mon - Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm

Sat 8.30am - 4.00pm

Sun Closed

Enquiries: 01747 811201

Hillarnias Tearoom & Gift Shop

Enquiries: 01747 811201

The Fontmell Crafters

Meet at The Writer's Block, Clayesmore School

2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month

2pm to 3.30pm

Enquiries: Jenny White 01747 812042

The Fontmell

Arnie & Sarah

Enquiries: 01747 812208

Fontmell Magna Toddler Group & Under 5s

Enquiries: 01747 812773

Iwerne Valley Walking Group

Next walk: Saturday October 19th a.m. For details please contact Helen English on 01747 853472

Bell-ringing

Enquiries: Caroline Rhodes 01747 812002

**Fontmell St Andrew - Fundraising - Just Giving Page LIVE:**

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/fontmellmagnachurch>

## **Events in the Village Hall**

Fontmell Friendship Garden—Pop up Café

Returns in 2025

Contact Sian Highnam 01747 811028 or  
garden.fmvh@mail.com

### Sunday Breakfast

1st Sunday of the month  
Enquiries: Sue Keen 01747 812282  
Email: [susanannekeen@gmail.com](mailto:susanannekeen@gmail.com)

### Archive Society

3rd Thursday of each month in the village hall  
4.00 to 5.30pm.  
Enquiries: Roger Hillman 01747 811878

### Fontmell Magna & District Garden Club

Enquiries: Sue Chippington 01747 811520  
[sue.chippington@outlook.com](mailto:sue.chippington@outlook.com)

### Fontmell Magna Art Club

Meetings weekly on Tuesdays between 2-4pm.  
Enquiries: Sandra Jelbart 01747 812468

### Carpet Bowls Club

Thursdays 7.00-9.00pm  
Enquiries: Derek Bone 01747 812505

### Dru Yoga

Friday mornings at 0930 and 1100  
Enquiries: Kirsty Elliot 01747 829281  
[Kirsty@vhadevelopments.co.uk](mailto:Kirsty@vhadevelopments.co.uk)

### Pilates

Mon 1730-1930 Tues 1000-1100.  
STOTT Pilates Matwork with props Enquiries: Vicci  
Gillett 07940 961221 [stablebodies@gmail.com](mailto:stablebodies@gmail.com)

Pilates with Sam Whitford – Monday mornings term-  
time

*Mondays 10.30 to 11.30am. Contact Sam Whitford  
07740 906515 email: [s.whitford@btinternet.com](mailto:s.whitford@btinternet.com)*

### Taekwon-do

Friday 5.30 to 6.30—suitable for adults and children  
from 6 years. Enquiries:  
Sam Donohoo 07388 342625 or  
[sam.donohoo@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sam.donohoo@hotmail.co.uk)

### Tennis court

Booking: Louise Murchie, 27 Orchard Close –  
[murchie25@btinternet.com](mailto:murchie25@btinternet.com) Adults £1 per hour,  
Children/Students 50p per hour

**To book the Hall, please contact :**

**Sian Highnam on 01747 811028 or email  
[bookings.fmvh@mail.com](mailto:bookings.fmvh@mail.com)**

## **Fontmell Magna and District Garden Club**

The next talk on the Fontmell Magna and District  
Garden Club programme is on Thursday 21st  
November at 7.30pm at FM Village Hall.

The talk is 'Tresco Abbey Garden', by Ian  
Condon.

Guests are welcome (£3.00 payable on the  
door) and refreshments are available.

For further details on the Garden Club please  
contact Sue Chippington 811520.

# You are invited to a Bridge and Afternoon Tea Charity Event

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

From 2:30pm – 5:30pm

At Fontmell Magna Village Hall

A pleasant afternoon of bridge, tea and cakes and raffles in aid  
of raising funds for St Andrew's Church Roof in Fontmell  
Magna

Entry Fee is £20 per player (booking as a pair)  
£80 per table of four

For further information contact: [howcrofrita@gmail.com](mailto:howcrofrita@gmail.com)

[07766 706210](tel:07766706210)

[For booking a place follow the link or use QR code below](#)



[or request a form and return it to me once completed.](#)

With the kind support of **Dorset Bridge** ♣

## **Hillarnias Vintage Tearoom & Giftshop**

Our summer season is now drawing to a close so the Tearoom is  
moving over to Winter hours from October. Although a lot of  
Tearooms are seasonal and close completely during the Winter, we  
don't want to do this so we will simply reduce the days. October to  
March we will be open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm. Our  
usual summer hours will resume from April. Please note the  
Tearoom hours do not affect the village shop that remains open  
Monday to Saturday throughout the year.

Our gift shop is growing with quite a bit of interest so please do come  
and take a look. There is a lot of great talent in the local area. If you  
are a crafter or know someone who is, and would like to sell in the  
gift shop, please come and chat with Tarnia.

And some exciting news to share... From April, we will also be open-  
ing a summer community hub above the Tearooms. This space can  
be also be used for private hire. We want to provide the village with  
a space for small meetings or hobby groups, such as book clubs,  
games clubs and arts and craft clubs. We will be busy over the  
Winter getting this ready and will announce more in due course. If  
you already have a group or want to create a new group and reserve  
a space, please come and chat with Tarnia or Duane. The hub will  
be available during our summer hours Wednesday through to  
Saturday, 10am to 4pm daily.

## **BUDDLEIAS**

Help welcome for the autumn cut of the buddleias at Prince's Field.

Starting Monday 7 October to Thursday 10th October. 2-4pm



**BRYANSTON AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2024**



Date	Show	Genre	Time
Tuesday 15 October	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Royal Ballet & Opera	19:15
Saturday 26 October	Kung Fu Panda 4	Family Films	10:30
Saturday 26 October	Bob Marley - One Love	Silver Screen	14:00
Sunday 27 October	Wolf Witch Giant Fairy	Royal Ballet & Opera	14:00
Thursday 31 October	Halloween Special: Coco	Family Films	14:00
Thursday 31 October	Halloween Special: Scream VI	Horror	19:30
Saturday 16 November	Trolls Band Together	Family Films	10:30
Saturday 16 November	Hamlet	Silver Screen	14:00

Programme correct at time of printing, please keep checking the website for the up-to-date information and additional events.

We have an amazing line up for our Christmas programme **COMING SOON** with films hand picked for everyone! To join our mailing list please email [tickets@bryanston.co.uk](mailto:tickets@bryanston.co.uk)

For more information and to book tickets go to [tickets.bryanston.co.uk](https://tickets.bryanston.co.uk) 01258 484669 (Office hours)  
Coades Hall, Bryanston School, Blandford, DT11 0PX

[facebook.com/bryanston.events](https://facebook.com/bryanston.events) [instagram.com/bryanston.events](https://instagram.com/bryanston.events)



**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, FONTMELL MAGNA**

News of upcoming fundraising events

**LES MISERABLES:** An illustrated lecture on Victor Hugo's masterpiece. In this lecture Chris Jervis will look at the historic background to the novel, the situation of the author and the major themes which the novel, the musical and the film all explore.

Saturday 5th October 2024 at 7.30pm. in St Andrew's Parish Church, Fontmell Magna.

Free entry. Refreshments.

Retiring Voluntary Collection for St Andrew's Fabric Fund.

**THE METROPOLITAN POLICE AND ME:** The 'ME' is our Vicar, the Reverend David John, who served with distinction as a Metropolitan Police Officer for 26 years between 1988 and 2014.

On **Saturday 12 October 2024** David will be talking about this Police career in the Fontmell Magna Village Hall

*Drinks and nibbles from 6.30 pm, talk from 7 pm for approximately an hour followed by Q+A*

*No tickets. Retiring Collection for the St Andrew's Church Fabric Fund*

**IWERNE VALLEY WALKING GROUP—IBBERTON Walk 21.9.24**

Led by Claire Watson This was a 4.25 mile walk from the AA book '50 Walks in Dorset', slightly modified to start and end at 'The Ibberton' pub (previously the Crown). Fifteen humans and 2 dogs did the walk and 21 had a delicious lunch at the pub (they had to put up a notice to say it wasn't open for lunch, there were so many of us and we were in two rooms).

Weather forecasts predicted rain and storms but we were dry throughout the walk, the views were a little overcast but the sun came out towards the end of the walk. We started with a very steep climb up to the church which walkers took time to explore before braving the rest of the climb. We then walked up a less steep incline through fields of gorse on Woolland Hill up towards Bulbarrow, along the Wessex Ridgeway road. Unfortunately, both hedges and the mist meant we couldn't see the Blackmore Vale and then we started our descent towards Woolland past woods to our right. In Woolland we passed the home and studio of artist, Elizabeth Frink, then turned into a field of sycamores, crossing two footbridges under which the dogs enjoyed a swim and drink.

Photographs of the walk will be sent as a separate attachment along with the Gossip Tree.



## A Fontmell Friends Event

### 'NEVER LATE FOR SCHOOL'

An entertaining evening with  
**TIM LAYCOCK**

Fontmell's own folk musician, actor and storyteller

The captivating evening will include performances of some of the songs, stories and poems that he associates with the village.

"You will not want this evening to end, it's magic...."

7.00 pm Wednesday 9th October, Fontmell Village Hall

Doors open 6.15 pm for pop-up bar and soft drinks.

Tickets £3.00 from Fontmell Village Shop or £4.00 on the door.

Further details from Andrew Davis 07831 162446



## Fun Fontmell Nature Quiz

7 pm, Wednesday 13 November, Fontmell Magna Village Hall

The quiz with a difference! Multiple choice answers plus lifelines, 50:50 and Ask for a Clue - just like 'Millionaire' on TV. Make up a team [maximum of 4] or just come along and we'll get you organised.

Prizes, fun and maybe learn a thing or two about the local flora and fauna!

Tickets £4 per person from Fontmell Village Shop or £5 on the door if still available.

Doors open 6.15 pm for pop-up bar and soft drinks  
Further details from Andrew Davis 07831 162446

A Fontmell Friends Event

### Compost Corner

We owe a lot to a father and son from the 17C, John Tradescant and his son....John Tradescant. They introduced dozens of plants from their travels round the world, many that are the mainstay of our gardens today and John, the elder created the first museum open to the public, showcasing his finds both botanical, zoological, historical and artistic for 6d a visit. It was also because of this extraordinary family that a beautiful church was saved from demolition.

St Mary-in-Lambeth is a church on the banks of the river Thames and the resting place of the Tradescants. However, a keen horticulturist, Rosemary Nicholson, was horrified to learn that the site was due for redevelopment in the early 1970s and managed to raise enough money to save the church and turn it into a museum not only celebrate the Tradescants but also garden history.

The inner courtyard, now known as The Sackler Garden (formerly a graveyard including the spectacular tomb of John Tradescant) was re-designed by the renowned Dan Pearson and is a delightful place to have lunch. It really is a fascinating museum and well worth a visit.

Alison Main



### Village Weather for August 2024

August was an unsettled month. 11 rain days but several trace entries .less than 0.2 mm.  
Total 43.2mm most 22.2 mm on 23 August.

Comp. Figures	August 2024	August 2023
Rain		1
Sunshine	hours Avg hrs	hrs Avg hrs
Max mean temp. (highest on 12th )	°C	°C
Min mean temp. (lowest on )	°C	C

This October issue of The Gossip Tree was edited by: **Graham Eames.**

We apologise in advance if we have made any errors or omissions

Please would regular contributors for the issue contact me via email:

**([fmgosstree@gmail.com](mailto:fmgosstree@gmail.com) )**

Alternatively, contact the **Chairman, Barbara Humphreys**, email: [blueletterbox@btinternet.com](mailto:blueletterbox@btinternet.com) for further information.  
**Submissions for the November issue by Tuesday 22nd October please.**

The views expressed in this publication by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editors or of the Committee of The Gossip Tree.

*If you would always like to receive The Gossip Tree by email, please let us know at [fmgosstree@gmail.com](mailto:fmgosstree@gmail.com)*