



THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

February
2017
Issue 276

*This issue is kindly sponsored by Vicci Gillett of
Stable Bodies*

Vicci Gillett of Stable Bodies has been up and running since 2013, specialising in biomechanics, massage and Pilates. I moved to Kit Hill in March having been local to the area all my life.

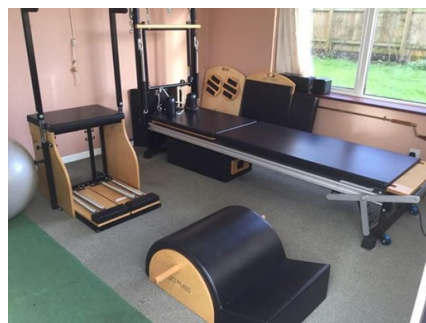
I get asked a lot about what are biomechanics, most are familiar with massage! And followed by what does pilates do?

Biomechanics is the study of the human body, the body's mechanics and how it moves in mechanical terms. Extrinsic Biomechanics looks at movement, the measurement of those movements or tasks and then establishes the most efficient way to maximise those movements and ultimately improve sports performance. *E.g. In horse riding, this would be how you sit on the horse.* Intrinsic Biomechanics is the study of how the body is able to perform those tasks in relation to the individual's mechanical makeup on the inside. *E.g. In horse riding, this is how you internally function in order to give the horse the correct messages using your body.*

Massage increases joint mobility, a key factor to improving any aches and pains you may have. Injured/tired and overused muscles will be relaxed and eased. Increased blood flow to muscles supplying them with vital oxygen for cell nutrition and repair. Boosted lymphatic system stimulating and detoxifying your body aiding in the removal of waste. I specialise in Deep Tissue/Sports Massage. An active, deep tissue massage to improve joint mobility, flexibility, muscle tone and functioning using a range of techniques. Occasionally, I like to use medical acupuncture, heat therapy and kinesiology taping within the treatments.

In Pilates, we focus on strengthening the body in an even way. Emphasis is placed on core strength to enable your limbs to move free and strong from a stable body. Nowadays, we put our bodies under a lot of strain. You may look down a lot to do your work or twist your body predominantly to one side. You may have suffered a previous injury or illness which has caused you to form a compensatory pattern within your body's movement or you could be an athlete looking to lessen your chance of injury and optimise your performance by supporting and stabilising your joints. Pilates is fully inclusive and can help beginners who have limited exercise experience right up to Olympic athletes.

With the massage playing a key role in releasing the tight areas highlighted by the biomechanical tests, Pilates then assists in strengthening those weak areas and



regaining mobility on those tight areas. I hold weekly Matwork classes locally in Fontmell Magna and Shaftesbury or you can come along and attend a private session using Pilates Studio Equipment which involves the reformer, Cadillac, chairs and barrels.

If you simply have aches and pains, I can offer 1 hour sports and remedial massage therapy treatments or you can relax with a 1 hour hot stones massage.

For more details and up to date classes

and prices, visit my website www.stable-bodies.co.uk or call 07940 961221.

Fontmell Film Nights

Our film on Wednesday 8th February is the romantic comedy 'Bridget Jones's Baby' (15) starring Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Patrick Dempsey and Emma Thompson. Following on from 'Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason' Bridget's focus is now on a single life and her career but this is interrupted when she finds herself pregnant, with one slight hitch.....she can only be fifty per cent sure of the identity of her baby's father!

Tickets £6 from Fontmell Post Office or £6.50 on the door. Doors and the bar open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you and don't forget your cushion! For more details please call Libby on 811551

Future film dates:

Wednesday 8th March "The Girl on the Train" (15)

Wednesday 12th April "A Streetcat named Bob" (12a)

Jumble Sale

Please come and support the Jumble Sale on Saturday 25th from 10am to 12 noon at the Village Hall in aid of the play area.

Details Emma Reeman 811120

Notices – February 2017

St. Andrew's Church

Sun	5th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sun	12th	11.00am	Family Service
Sun	19th	11.00am	Holy Communion with choir
Sun	26th	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)

Fri	3rd	10.30am	'In Home' coffee morning at 61a West Street (Jane Wallace)
Tue	21st	10.30am	Open House in the Tea Room

Prayers each Tuesday at 9.00am

Parish Council

No meeting this month

Acting Parish Clerk: Details Robin East 812349

Neighbourhood Plan

Mon 20th at 7.00pm St Andrew's School
Details Mike Humphreys 07850 875429

The Surgery

Mon - Thu 8.00am - 12 noon
Enquiries 812058

Village Shop & Post Office

Mon - Fri 8.00am to 6.00pm
Sat 9.00am to 1.00pm
Sun 9.00am to 12.00 noon
Enquiries 811201

The Fontmell – Opening Hours

Bar 11.00am to 11.00pm (12.00 midnight Fri & Sat)
Kitchen 12.00 noon to 2.00pm (2.30pm Fri & Sat) &
6.00 to 9.00pm (9.30pm Fri & Sat); Sun 12.00 noon
to 8.00pm

Iwerne Valley Walking Group

Sat 18th 10.00am, probably starting from The Silent
Woman, Wareham BH20 7PA. For confirmation,
please contact leaders Phyl on 811713 or Jane on
811895.

Bell-ringing

Tue 21st Practice 7.30 to 8.30pm
Details Chris Bellers 811734

Bin Collection Dates

W/C 6th & 20th - Recycling & Food
W/C 13th & 27th - Rubbish & Food

St Andrew's School

Fri 10th - Break up for Half Term
Mon 20th - Back from Half Term
Fri 7th April - Break up for Easter

Village Hall events - see over

Neighbourhood Plan: Options Consultation Event

The Neighbourhood Plan working group will be holding an Options Consultation event on Saturday 18th March in the Village Hall which will be open to all members of the parish community. The purpose of the consultation is to seek the views of Fontmell Magna Parish residents on some of the proposals for development of the village and wider parish which may go forward into the plan. There will be displays of the ideas being considered and members of the working group will be available to answer any questions that may arise. Michael Humphreys

Events in the Village Hall

Fontmell Magna & District Society
Fri 3rd at 7.30pm. 'The Buddhist Kingdom of Bhutan' by Dick Stainer
Details Dick Stainer 811153

Fontmell Film Group
Wed 8th - 'Bridget Jones's Baby' (15)
Doors open 7.00pm.
Details Libby Gendall 811551

North Dorset Wildlife Trust
Wed 15th - illustrated talk on Wildlife Photography by Stewart Canham of DWT's Photographic and Video group. 7.30pm.
Details Geoff Peters 811546

Archive Society
Thurs 16th 4.00pm to 5.50pm.
Details Roger Hillman 811878

Garden Club
Thurs 16th 7.30pm. Talk on Propagation. Speaker from Castle Gardens.
Details Robert McCurrach 812077

Jumble Sale
Sat 25th 10am to 12 noon in aid of the play area.
Details Emma Reeman 811120

Pilates
Mon 6.30 to 7.30pm.
STOTT Pilates Matwork with props.
Details Vicci Gillett 07940 961221
www.stable-bodies.co.uk

Tues 9.15 to 10.15am and 10.30 to 11.30am.
Details Lyn O'Neill 07989 192424

Fontmell Magna Art Club
Tues 2.00 to 4.00pm.
Details Sandra Jelbart 812468

Carpet Bowls Club
Thurs 2nd, 9th and 23rd, and Fri 17th 7.30pm.
Details Gerry Bone 811814

Dru Yoga
Fri 9.30 to 11.00am.
Details Kirsty Elliot 07783 780128

Taekwon-do
Tues 8.00 to 9.00pm.
Fri 6.00 to 7.00pm.
Details Andy Dobbs 07833 252771

To book the Hall, call Catherine Allard on 812047 or email catherineallard1980@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council

The following items were discussed at the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 9th January 2017.

Public Questions

Chris Bellers asked when the pile of rubble in the chalk pit carpark at the top of Fontmell Hill would be cleared (it had been there for at least 3 months). Cllr. East said he would make enquiries.

Parish Council Meeting

Six parish councillors were present, and 3 members of the public. Apologies for absence from Cllr. J. Crompton, DCC Cllr. D. Croney and NDDC Cllr. C. Langham.

The minutes of the last PC meeting on 14th November were approved and signed.

Matters arising

Cllr. East reported that the contractor had promised to repaint the Bedchester phone box by the end of February. Bedchester residents were intending to use it to display historical items about the locality, and would notify the PC of their plans.

County/District Councillor's Report

There will be a meeting on 25th January at Pimperne to hear the Wiltshire experience of moving to a unitary authority. NDDC Cllr. C. Langham encouraged all parishes to spring clean their lanes.

Planning

BT has stated its intention of removing the phone box by the shop/Post Office unless the community agrees to buy it for £1. As there was not 100% mobile phone coverage in the village, Cllr. Roberts proposed that BT be asked to keep the box so it could be used for emergency calls. If this is not acceptable to BT, the PC was minded to accede to its removal as otherwise the PC would have to pay for its maintenance. There were strong views from the public present that the phone box was an important village landmark and should stay. Alternative ownership would therefore be sought. [Since the meeting, The Public Amenity Site Trust, the owners of the Middle Mill dam site, has agreed to buy the box.] There is also a phone box at Bleax Close, but further enquiry shows it to be in East Orchard parish.

The PC had no objection to the planning applications in respect of Green View (Bedchester), Binegar Farm (Hartgrove), Little Orchard (Parsonage Street) or Pump Cottage (West Street), or to the tree application (14 trees) at Fontmell House.

Finance

The acting RFO reported that the PC's accounts were currently £10,717.04 of which £3,800 were grants in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Parish Precept for 2017/18

The Precept was currently £2,050 but the PC is budgeting to pay £3,050 for a paid Clerk for the 8 months from 1st August 2017/18, and also £1,000 towards the Neighbourhood Plan.

Including a contingency of £1,180 to cover the maintenance costs of road signs, verges and even, perhaps, gullies, should these not continue to be undertaken by the Local/County Council, the PC proposed a Precept for 2017/18 of £7,000. It was recognised that further support for the Neighbourhood Plan, and the cost of gates on the A350, would have to be met from reserves, and that the Precept may well have to rise further the following year to meet the full annual cost of a paid Clerk. After some discussion, the PC agreed to the proposed Precept of £7,000.

Other Parish Matters

Highways

Cllr. East reported that there is a meeting at Iwerne on Thursday setting out proposals for interim measures to address traffic between Shaftesbury and Blandford. He also confirmed that Dorset Highways had a plan to replace all road signs in Dorset (though this may not include placing additional signs).

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Humphreys reported that the assessment of preferred sites for housing development is continuing, and that the assessment of sites to designate as Local Green Spaces is nearing completion. The Fete had kindly donated £250 towards the costs of developing the Plan. An Options Consultation on development sites and green spaces will take place on Saturday 18th March in the Village Hall, open to the whole parish community. The Plan's statement of Vision and Objectives will be on the agenda of the next PC meeting for approval.

Reshaping your Councils

Following extensive consultation there is strong support for a proposal to amalgamate nine County and District Councils into two Unitary Authorities (UA), one UA comprising Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, and the other UA comprising all the other (rural) districts in Dorset. The change, if approved, would come into effect in April 2019 and is likely to mean an increase in Council Tax from 2019 (as rates in North Dorset have been low historically).

The Gossip Tree

It was agreed that no report was required this month from the PC, as these meeting notes would be sufficient.

Other business

Cllr. East said considerable correspondence was being received on health issues (e.g. possible closure of Shaftesbury Hospital) and a councillor ought to be responsible for this subject. Cllr. East also said that he had been approached by a parishioner on a planning matter. The PC felt it was inappropriate to comment on planning matters until a formal application has been made.

Cllr. Horstead thanked those Cllrs. who had taken on extra work in the absence of a Clerk/RFO.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm. The next PC meeting will be on Monday 13th March 2017.

Remembrance Poppy Wreath

Thank you very much indeed to all those of you who donated so generously to the village Poppy Wreath. We raised **£35**, which I am sure British Legion will be very pleased with. Sue Mercer

Food Bank

Many people who saw the film 'I, Daniel Blake' at the Moviola showing in January were moved by the picture it painted of a person unable to work because of heart problems trying to obtain the benefits to which he was entitled but coming up against Tick-box bureaucracy. Although the story was fiction, the facts behind it were all too real. One of the things that the people in the story benefitted from was a food bank. This is just to remind you that you can help a local food bank by contributing to the food collection which is based in St Andrew's church. It is open every day and contributions are welcome. A list in the church tells you what is needed. Thank you in anticipation. Philip Smith

North Dorset Wildlife Trust

New technology has opened up the world of photography to many more people, but sometimes with varying success. Whilst most of us are happy to simply 'point and shoot' to capture a special moment, others strive to create an image of the living world around us, and that takes a great deal of patience and preparation.

Stewart Canham leads DWT's Photographic and Video group and is an experienced wildlife photographer. On Wednesday 15th February, he will give an illustrated talk on Wildlife Photography at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. This will be the perfect opportunity to discover the art of wildlife photography and learn from a highly skilled practitioner. We ask for a small donation of £2 (including tea/coffee & biscuits) to help cover expenses, but there is no charge for children under 16.

Date for your diary: Wednesday 15th March – An illustrated talk on 'Gardening for Wildlife' by DWT Community Conservation Officer, Briony Baxter, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. £2 (including refreshments); no charge for children under 16.

Garden Club

In December, the Garden Club welcomed Mark Hinsley to talk about "Trees in your Garden". Mark has worked as a tree surgeon, a Local Authority Tree Officer (in Wimborne), and is now a consultant. He answered questions over a wide range of topics, beginning with subsidence and its causes. He talked about the structure of tree roots, and all the activity that takes place around the tree within the top two feet of soil, with oxygen, worms and moisture. He stressed the incompatibility of trees and grass. We also heard about the bad and the good effects of various fungi such as honey fungus, and this led to a rather gloomy assessment of the prospects for our native trees. Mark felt that biosecurity is a big problem and that disease and hostile organisms can pass too easily around the world. It was an interesting and very well informed talk, for which our thanks to Mark.

In January, we had a talk by K Price who, with her husband and family, runs the Ansty PYO and Farm Shop. K, who had studied agriculture at Cirencester and viticulture in the South of France, moved to Ansty in 1998. In addition to running the farm, they developed the vegetable and fruit side of the business with a big range of products which now provide fresh produce throughout the year. Unlike the "all the year round" imported products sold in supermarkets, Ansty produce is all seasonal and, not surprisingly, tastes all the better for that. K answered a number of questions on the different varieties they grow, and how they cope with pests such as slugs and pigeons (not to mention people who come to pick fruit, and eat excessive amounts as they do so!). K's talk was very entertaining and informative, and we are grateful to her for an enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 16th February, when a speaker from Castle Gardens will talk on "Propagation".

Robert McCurrach

Common Land

Following the fascinating article by The Gossip Tree Legal Department in last month's issue, the question arose as to whether there is any common land in Fontmell parish. The answer is - there does not appear to be. After the Commons Registration Act 1965, three pieces of land in the parish were provisionally registered as common land: Gore Clump, to the west of Compton Airfield; Sutton Clump (where there is a radio mast disguised as a tree – the parish boundary between Fontmell and Sutton runs down the middle of the triangle of land); and Marsh Common (on the north-western boundary adjoining Margaret Marsh). All three registrations were later challenged and private ownership established. Even if any of the pieces of land are still registered as common land, no common rights in connection with them have been registered.

Springhead

Wednesday 15th February

Garden and Flower Photography Course with award winning photographer Edward Parker, 10-1, £25. For all abilities. Please book on info@springheadtrust.org.uk

Wednesday 15th February

Open garden with stalls, 10-5, admission £3.50, Friends of Springhead & U16 free, dogs on leads welcome, light lunches & refreshments.

Kate Partridge

Coordinator - Friends of Springhead – Tel. 811853, www.springheadtrust.org.uk

Swing Train Fitness Class - Shroton

Every Sunday from 7.00 to 8.00pm in Shroton Village Hall: Swing Train - a chance to get fit to fun dance moves from Jazz & Charleston in a friendly setting. Only £4 and a free taster class. Come along or phone Claire on 07708 473568. Claire has been dancing Lindyhop for many years and has recently trained to be a Swing Train trainer - she's excited about bringing this great work-out to Shroton. Swing Train evolved from Swing Patrol who you may have seen pitching on the Dragon's Den when Deborah Meaden snapped them up.

Claire Watson

Brain-teaser

Congratulations to the Ayres family (Maggie, Gareth, Kieran and Cerys) for sending in the solution to last month's brain teaser, which is as follows: 2 & 1 go over the bridge taking 2 minutes, 1 goes back taking 1 minute (3 total), 10 & 5 go over taking 10 minutes (13 total), 2 goes back taking 2 minutes (15 total), 2 & 1 go over taking 2 minutes (17 total). Train caught with 1 minute to spare!

Village weather for December 2016

A cold start. A lot of calm, grey days with only small amounts of rain. A few lovely sunny days to brighten up winter.

13 rain days. 7 air frost. 17 ground frost. 1 gale.

Comp. Figures	2016	2015
Rain (most 4.5 mm on 10th & 15th)	22.2 mm	83.8 mm
Sunshine	36.5 hr (av. 1.26)	32.7 hr
Max mean temp. (highest 14.9 °C on 9th)	10.02 °C	13.3 °C
Min mean temp. (lowest - 6.8 °C on 1st)	3.38 °C	8.45 °C

Total rainfall for 2016 was 810.8 mm (813.9 mm in 2015). This compares with 1,179.2 mm in 2012 and 1,135 mm in 2014.

Full Snow Moon – Saturday 11th February

The Full Moon in February was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Snow Moon because the heaviest snows usually fell during this time of the year. It was also known by some tribes as the Full Hunger Moon, since the harsh weather made hunting difficult.

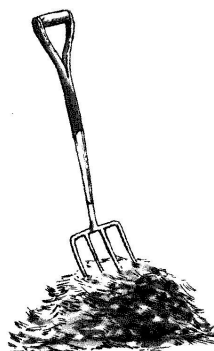


The Full Moon occurs half an hour after midnight during the night of the 10th/11th. For about two hours either side of that time, there will be a Penumbral Lunar Eclipse - when the Moon passes through the Earth's partial shadow, or penumbra. During this type of eclipse the Moon will darken slightly but not completely. Later in the month, on Sunday 26th, there will be an Annular Solar Eclipse. This eclipse occurs when the Moon is too far away from the Earth to completely cover the Sun, and results in a ring of light around the darkened Moon. While the Penumbral Lunar Eclipse is visible from the UK, the Annular Solar Eclipse is not.

Fontmell Directory

The Gossip Tree Committee thanks Gay Mole for again updating the Fontmell Directory for 2017.

The new Directory is included with this issue.

Compost Corner

Holly trees were covered in berries in mid-autumn, then we had a very cold spell, the birds were hungry and in no time at all, the berries had almost all been gobbled up.

Frustrating if you were hoping to make festive flower arrangements. But there are shrubs which reliably retain their berries which you could consider instead of holly.

And one of the best ones is Skimmia. However, as there are many varieties (some with attractive flowers but no berries), make sure you choose the right one.

Skimmia japonica subsp. reevesiana is a good



choice: not only does it have masses of deep red berries, it grows in partial sun or light shade (although the soil should be reliably moist and well drained).

I've seen them planted

as low hedges and they look stunning but they're not cheap plants, so you could just opt for a couple in containers either side of your front door - stylish throughout the year, not just at Christmas.

Alison Main

Continuing our series of articles featuring Bedchester.

Woodbridge Farm

Isaac Bolwell (described in the 1841 census a 'yeoman') appears to have lived here for many years until his death in November 1841, aged 82. Living with him was John Bradley then aged 13 (more about the Bradleys in a future issue).

From at least 1861, the Galpin family lived at Woodbridge Farm. This consisted of James Galpin (1809-1892) and his wife Sarah née Martin (1808-1869). James had originally been an agricultural labourer but, by 1871, he was described as a farmer of 7 acres. James and Sarah had four children: Mary Ann (born 1839), a housekeeper, Sarah (born 1843), a pupil teacher, Edwin (born 1848), a bricklayer, and William (born 1852), a blacksmith's apprentice. Living with them was James' grandson, George (born 1856-1929) – it is unclear who his parents were.



By 1891, George Galpin, now a bricklayer, was head of the household and remained at the farm until his death. He married Louisa Andrews (1862-1934), the daughter of James Andrews, a mason, who lived at the end of Woodbridge Lane (possibly at what is now Dragonflies).

George and Louisa had five daughters: Annie (1884-1963), Ellen (1887-1959), Eliza (1894-1971),

Louisa (1897-1978) and Margaret (1900-1971).

Annie married Ernest Golton, a builder from Bournemouth, in 1911. They do not appear to have had any children. Ellen married Harold Newland, an engineer from Bournemouth, in 1914, and they had four daughters.

Eliza married Eldon Frank Jesse (1895-1974) from Little Hartgrove Farm, in 1930. They had no children. Eliza appears to be the only woman from Fontmell Magna to have been awarded a First World War medal. During the war, she worked at a hospital in Bournemouth. In the September/October 1920 Parish Magazine, she was described as "Sister Galpin" and, on 17th March 1920, received the Royal Red Cross (Second Class) from King George V at Buckingham Palace. Later she had an audience with Queen Alexandria. "The women of Fontmell may be proud that they were represented, as well as our men, amongst the recipients of War Honours. We congratulate Miss Galpin – and her parents – on this well-deserved recognition of her arduous services".

After James Hart's death in 1921, Louisa and Margaret together ran the Bedchester shop and Post Office. In 1928, Louisa married Frank William Churchill Day, and Margaret then ran the shop on her own until the 1960's.

Louisa continued to live at Woodbridge Farm with Frank, who was both a blacksmith and cow-keeper.

In the June 1941 Farm Survey, Frank described himself as a farmer and blacksmith. There were 10¼ acres, virtually all grass. There were nine cows, 23 piglets, 250 chickens, 60 ducks, and 3 geese. Frank had one horse, and employed no workers.

The Day family appear to have remained at Woodbridge Farm until relatively recently, but it became vacant and increasingly dilapidated.

In 2012, the property, with 15 acres, was sold at auction and later demolished.

Welcome

We welcome to the village: Elspeth and Andrew Vaughan and their dog Jack who have moved from Hampshire to 'Far Hills', North Street; Maura Falkner and son Jack who have moved from Okeford Fitzpaine to Plum Tree Cottage, West Street; and Harold Roberts who has moved from Malta to 'Hame', West View. We hope they will enjoy their new life in this beautiful part of Dorset.

Sidney Shute (1899-1917)

The church bells rang out a 'quarter peal' on Wednesday 11th January to commemorate the death of Lance Sergeant Sidney Shute, aged 18, exactly 100 years ago.

Sidney was the third parish bell ringer who died in action during WW1.

Chris Bellers

Village Fete

We had a great turn out at the AGM in November - thank you to all who attended. We had a total of £3,300 to distribute between the Church, Village Hall and Community Chest, therefore each received £1,100. The Community Chest was split as follows: Brookland Wood - £200; Playground - £550; Gossip Tree - £100; Neighbourhood Plan - £250. Thank you again to everyone for supporting the Fete and enabling these funds to be raised. The amount raised in 2016 was slightly down on the previous year's total. Discussions at the post-Fete meeting and AGM concluded that this was perhaps due to fewer people attending the Fete because the date clashed with the start of some school holidays and other fetes/events in the area. To avoid this happening again, it has been decided that the 2017 Fete will be held on Saturday 16th September. The first meeting to discuss the 2017 Fete will be held on Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We are very keen to see new faces and for as many local families as possible to be involved.

If you have any questions, please contact Hannah Lister on 811568.

*The views expressed in this publication by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Committee of The Gossip Tree. Last copy date for the next issue is **Monday 20th February 2017**. Contributions for consideration should be submitted as early as possible to the Editor, Chris Bellers, 70 West Street 811734 or via e-mail to chris.bellers@hotmail.co.uk. Please also contact the Editor if, rather than have your Gossip Tree delivered to you, **you would like to be emailed a copy** and benefit from seeing the pictures in colour (while also saving us printing costs), or if you would like to sponsor an issue (cost £30).*