



THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

OCTOBER
2020
Issue 320

From the Gossip Tree Committee & Team

A big thank you to everyone who responded with their preference on how they wish to receive future editions of The Gossip Tree.

We received a number of replies:

160 people chose to have the GT delivered by email

7 people would specifically like to collect a copy from the Village Shop - these copies will have the recipient's name on them

15 people would like a copy delivered to their home

In addition to the above we will place a number of unnamed copies at the Village Shop for any resident to collect. The team will continue to monitor the quantities on a monthly basis to ensure we are printing the required number of hard copies.

If you did not respond to the request last month—don't worry it is not too late! There are three options:

1) By Email— if you already receive the GT by email and are happy for that to continue, you don't need to do anything. If you haven't received the GT by email before, but would like to do so in future, please let us know at:

fmgossiptree@gmail.com

2) Paper edition collected from the Village Shop - Rick and Jan have very kindly said that they will take copies of the GT for people to collect, so if you are happy to go and collect your copy at the start of each month, please let us know either by email at the address above, by mail to Graham Eames at 59 West Street, Fontmell Magna SP7 0PF or call Graham on 07767 810674.

3) If you are not able or don't feel confident collecting from the shop in the current circumstances, then we are happy to deliver your copy each month if you live in the Fontmell Magna Parish. Please let us know your name and address details either by email at the email address above, by mail to Graham at 59 West Street, Fontmell Magna SP7 0PF or call Graham on 07767 810674 to advise if you would prefer to have your copy delivered.

Sponsorship

We are currently seeking sponsors for the Christmas Edition of 'The Chimes' and the Local Directory, which will be published in the Spring 2021. If you would like to sponsor either of these publications, please use the contact details above - email, mail or phone.

Ann Ashford on behalf of The Gossip Tree Team



Aerial view of Fontmell Magna in the autumn seen from above the Lychets with Springhead in the foreground.

Courtesy of the Fontmell Magna Village Archive Society.

St Andrew's Church, Fontmell Magna

4th 08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)
11th 09.30 Morning Worship
18th 09.30 Holy Communion (CW)
25rd 09.30 Holy Communion (CW)
Social distancing will be observed



Notices – October 2020

St. Andrew's Church - Services for October
Services now resumed—see more details below

Parish Council Meeting

Date TBA — please contact Clerk for more information.

Parish Clerk: Marianne Wheatley
clerk@fontmellmagnapc.co.uk

Local Councillor—Jane Somper

Email: cllrjane.somper@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 07710 395359

The Surgery

Currently closed till further notice
Enquiries: 856700

Village Shop & Post Office

Normal opening hours:
Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.30pm
Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm
Sun 9.00am - 11.00am
Enquiries: 811201

The Tea Room Crafters

Meetings resumed:
Wed 14th & 28th October at 2.30pm
Enquiries: Jenny White 812042

The Fontmell

Enquiries: 811441 or john@thefontmell.com

St. Andrew's School

Enquiries: 811500

Fontmell Magna Toddler Group

Enquiries: Kelly Oakley 07792 425609

Fontmell Magna Under 5's

Enquiries: 812773

Iwerne Valley Walking Group

For details contact Claire on: 07708473568.
Enquiries: Helen English: 853472 or 07789 845498

Bell-ringing

Meetings cancelled till further notice.
Enquiries: Caroline Rhodes 812002

Bin Collection Dates – October

W/C 12th & 26th - Recycling & Food
W/C 5th & 19th - Rubbish & Food
W/C 12th & 26th—Garden Waste

Buddleia haircut at Princes' Field

Any help welcome to give the buddleias a tidy up before the winter gales. From Monday 5th October - Thursday 8th October 10.00am - 4.00pm

Plenty of room for social distancing!

Thank you
Judy Westgate 811302

Events in the Village HallFontmell Magna & District Society

1st Friday of each month
October - May from 7.30pm
Enquiries: Dick Stainer 811153

Fontmell Films

2nd Wednesday of each month
September - April 7.00 for 7.30pm
Enquires: Libby Gendall 811551

North Dorset Wildlife Trust

3rd Wednesday of each month
October - April from 7.30pm
www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk

Archive Society

3rd Thursday of each month
4.00 - 5.30pm
Enquiries: Roger Hillman 811878

Garden Club

3rd Thursday of each month
October - April 7.30pm
Enquiries: Sue East 812349

Fontmell Magna Art Club

Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00pm
Enquiries: Sandra Jelbart 812468

Carpet Bowls Club

Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30pm
3rd week of month—Friday 7.30 - 9.30
Enquiries: Gerry Bone 811814

Dru Yoga

Fridays 9.30 - 11.00am &
11.30am - 1.00pm
Enquiries: Kirsty Elliot 829281

Pilates

STOTT Pilates Matwork & props
Mondays 5.30 - 6.30pm; 6.45 - 7.45pm
Enquiries: Vicci Gillett 07940 961221

www.stable-bodies.co.uk

Pilates

Tuesdays 9.15 - 10.15am
& 10.30 - 11.30am
Enquiries: Vicci Gillett 07940 961221

www.stable-bodies.co.uk

Taekwon-do

Tuesdays 7.00 - 8.00pm &
Fridays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Enquiries:
Sam Donohoo 07388 342625
Sam.donohoo@hotmail.co.uk

Zumba

Medium/High Impact
Thursdays 9.00 - 9.45am
Low Impact
Thursdays 10.15 - 11.00am
Enquiries: Abby Down 850867
zumbawithabbyd@gmail.com

Tennis Court

Enquiries: Louise Murchie
murchie25@btinternet.com

To book the Hall, please contact:
Sian Highnam on 811028 or email
bookings.fmvh@mail.com

SPRINGHEAD

After being under embargo the Monteverdi Choir performed at Springhead - the first time anywhere in five months. It was an amazingly beautiful event in the high winds of Friday 21st August. At the same time it took weeks of detailed planning so that it could be made COVID secure. It was a steep learning curve for both Monteverdi and us at Springhead.

Keep well and Safe.

Edward Parker
Trust Director, Springhead Trust

**FIRST EVENT AT VILLAGE HALL!**

Paint your own pottery

(bring your own mask)



SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER

10AM - 12 NOON

FONTMELL MAGNA, VILLAGE HALL, SP7 OPS

*Choose a piece of pottery. Have a go. Create a masterpiece.
Make a unique gift eg for Christmas
Create your own plate, bowl or mug.*



Booking required by 2nd October

(name and phone number) to join in the fun.

AMANDA HOTTINGER 07951 062473 or
amandarty@hotmail.co.uk

Village Hall

Please be aware that whilst many of the clubs/events at the Village Hall have restarted, many are still cancelled till further notice. Those running at the time of going to press are: Archive Society, Fontmell Magna Art Group, Dru Yoga, Pilates, Taekwon-do and Zumba. If you interested in joining any of these groups, or indeed any of those that are not running at the present time - please use the contact details shown.

Lisa Le Druillenec & Ann Ashford

Early Christmas Market at Fontmell Magna Village Hall and Grounds
Saturday 17th October 11 am to 3 pm



Since our Announcement of the Early Christmas Fair last month, great progress has been made and we now have a fantastic selection of stall holders. We have also re-named it:

The Early Christmas Market!

Our **Community Lunch Team** have come up with a terrific table service menu for the **Pop-Up Café** – but we are still trying to borrow or hire (at a reasonable price) a 12 x 6 metre Marquee – so if you know anyone who can supply please get in touch.

Stall Holders include:

The Real Cure – A selection of cured meats and gifting
 Handmade by Lizzie – Soaps, lotions, body butters and soy wax candles
 Casterbridge Planters – Elegant metal plant supports for your garden
 Annings of Dorset – Handmade soaps and exfoliators
 Real Kid – Children's clothing and homeware boutique
 Shaston Studio – Painted Pottery
 Fran Deeming – Hand crafted silver jewellery, glass pendants, earrings, rings and bracelets
 Pennys Daughter – Beeswax Food Wraps
 Children's Books and New and Nearly New Toys
 Bud's Bites – pick n' mix style treats for dog.

As well as these local independent and artisan businesses we also have many of our local handmade crafters selling a selection of:

Christmas Cards and Crafts, Bargain price antiques and collectibles, Stocking fillers, Handmade cushions, bags, aprons, face masks, candles, signs, key rings, bird boxes, felted creations.



Our Committee Stall will be selling items on behalf of Cranbournes of Shaftesbury, Wrap it up in Style, Dampneys Fruit Liqueurs, plus Christmas Crackers and the usual homemade cakes, jams, chutneys etc.

We will also have information stalls provided by Wessex Internet and the Blackmore Vale Surgery (who are kindly lending us the use of their facilities and land) – they will have information about their services and their social prescribing programme.

We have a Grand Hamper Raffle – tickets available to buy on the day or from the Village Shop.

As always, we are looking for helpers so please get in touch if you can spare some time to help, either with setting up the outside gazebos, helping on one of the outdoor stalls, or being a Covid-19 Marshall on the day or even; helping us to fill hampers in the weeks before the event.

Donations to the cake and jam stall and towards the raffle are always much appreciated. If you have a wicker basket or hamper you could donate for us to fill please get in touch.

For more information please contact: Lisa on 01747 812 500 or Rosie-Anne on 07710 326 339 or by email to: playground.fmvh@mail.com

Fontmell Magna Village Hall and Playground Appeal
 Registered Charity No: 301129

Village weather for August 2020

Dribs & drabs of rain early in the month then a real top up for gardens with some heavy rain and thunder storms - Ellen & Florence. Cooler at the end of the month.
 17 rain days, no frosts, 3 days of thunder, 1 day hail & 3 gales.

Comp. Figures	2020	2019
Rain (Most 25.1 mm on 27th)	115.7mm	35.2mm
Sunshine	147.4 hrs (ave 4.75 hrs)	213.7 hrs
Max mean temp. (highest 33.0 °C on 12th)	22.4 °C	23.6 °C
Min mean temp. (lowest – 5.3 °C on 4th)	12.6 °C	11.4 °C

WINTER IS COMING!

Don't forget that the clocks go back on Sunday 25th October.

British Summer Time (BST) ends at 2.00am on Sunday 25th October and we move back on to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

This means lighter mornings and darker evenings, but at least (some of us) might get an extra hour in bed on that Sunday!



Compost Corner



If you happened to walk up from the duck pond to the lynchets recently, you will have seen a warning sign of wasps. There was a nest at the base of the tree where dozens of wasps were buzzing in and out of the little hole; and we certainly gave it a wide berth.

Wasps are a huge group of insects - the most common are the social wasps which live in large colonies but there are solitary wasps that live alone. I came across a most unusual wasp in France,

the Mud Dauber Wasp which looked like a cross between a giant mosquito and a monster wasp. It had an extraordinary habit of making little cocoons down the side of chairs, on cushions and even in a handbag; with its love of soft furnishings, this was definitely the Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen of the wasp world. It may have wanted to share our living space but it was a benevolent creature and had no desire to hurt us.

We are naturally very wary of wasps with their painful sting but should they be so universally condemned? Their diet is varied and at this time of year they feast on windfall fruit but they are also carnivorous and prey on many insects including spiders and caterpillars and could be considered the gardener's friend.

However, there is one member of the wasp family we certainly don't want to encounter, the giant Asian hornet a formidable 6 cm also known as the murder hornet....enough said.

Alison Main

A hundred years ago

The 1920's, also known as the 'Roaring Twenties' was a decade of contrasts. The First World War had ended in victory, peace had returned and with it prosperity. For some the war had proved to be very profitable. Manufacturers and suppliers of goods needed for the war effort had prospered throughout the years and become very rich. For the 'Bright Young Things' from the aristocracy and wealthier classes, life had never been better. Nightclubs, jazz clubs and cocktail bars flourished. How different a hundred years later!



Seasonal Recipe – Celeriac, Hazelnut & Truffle Soup From Graham Eames

Despite being one of the ugliest vegetables, celeriac has a delicious flavour and goes beautifully in mashed potato or as the base of the French equivalent of coleslaw, remoulade. This recipe is for a delicious soup, with the truffle oil adding a little bit of luxury.

Ingredients

1 tbsp <u>olive oil</u>	small bunch <u>thyme</u>
2 bay leaves	1 <u>onion</u> , chopped
1 <u>fat garlic clove</u> , chopped	1 <u>celeriac</u> (about 1kg), peeled and chopped
1 <u>potato</u> (about 200g), chopped	1l veg stock
100ml cream	50g <u>blanched hazelnuts</u> , toasted and roughly
chopped	
1 tbsp <u>truffle oil</u> , plus an extra drizzle to serve	

Method

STEP 1

In a large saucepan, heat the oil over a low heat. Tie the thyme sprigs and bay leaves together with a piece of string and add them to the pan with the onion and a pinch of salt. Cook for about 10 mins until softened but not coloured.

STEP 2

Stir in the garlic and cook for 1 min more, then tip in the celeriac and potato. Give everything a good stir and season with a big pinch of salt and white pepper. Pour in the stock, bring to the boil, then simmer for around 30 mins until the vegetables are completely soft.

STEP 3

Discard the herbs, then stir through the cream, remove from the heat and blitz until completely smooth. Stir through 1/2 tbsp truffle oil at a time and taste for seasoning – the strength of the oil will vary, so it's better to start with less oil and add a little at a time.

STEP 4

To serve, reheat the soup until piping hot, then ladle into bowls and top with the hazelnuts, some black pepper and an extra drizzle of truffle oil.



This October issue of The Gossip Tree comes from the editors, who this month are: **Ann & Mike Ashford**. We apologise in advance if we have made any errors or omissions - particularly as the current situation changes on a daily basis.

Please would regular contributors for the November issue contact us via email:

fmgossiptree@gmail.com or phone **01747 811206 (Graham Eames)**

Alternatively, contact the **Chair, Barbara Humphreys**, email: **blueletterbox@btinternet.com** if you would like further information.

Submissions for the November issue — by Thursday 15th 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 **fmgossiptree@gmail.com***