



# THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

*This month's edition of the Gossip Tree was sponsored by.....*

SEPTEMBER

2022

Issue 342

## Fontmell Films 🎬 🎬 🎬

Hello again everyone, we hope you've survived the heat and enjoyed a wonderful Summer.

Our first film of the Autumn season will be "The Duke" showing on Wednesday 14th September in the village hall. The film stars Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent and is based on the true story when in 1961 a London taxi driver stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery to hold the government to ransom until they invested more in the care of the elderly.

Doors and the bar open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30.

Tickets are on sale now at the village shop £6.50 or £7 on the door.



As some of you will know we had a very disappointing start to 2022 with exceptionally low ticket sales, we believe this was partly due to a rather poor selection of film titles being made available to us and also some of our usual audience, quite understandably, feeling unsure of venturing out again following the pandemic.

We have been given a much better selection of films to show from now until Christmas, and do hope this will encourage our audience to return. We have *Operation Mincemeat* in October, *Downton Abbey: A New Era* in November and *The Railway Children Return* for our Christmas extravaganza!!

Fontmell Films started in January 2007 as a community project to be run by volunteers and it would be such a pity if we were unable to continue due to a lack of support. We need to sell 55 tickets for each film to cover our Moviola costs and fortunately we have a small reserve so our current finances will allow us to continue until April 2023, do please come and join us, have a glass of wine or a beer and enjoy the film.

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon.

With all good wishes

The Moviola Committee

For more information please call Libby on 01747.811551

## Fontmell Autumn Bazaar

1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 1-4pm

### Fontmell Magna Village Hall SP7 0PS

Tables/Car Boots – Private £10 all Craft/Trade £20

Vintage, Preloved, Plants, Cakes, Bric-a-brac, Refreshments & more!

Contact Laura: 07890 888868 [lscottwalby@gmail.com](mailto:lscottwalby@gmail.com) to book

In aid of Village Hall, Playground, Vale Pantry

## Notices – September 2022

St. Andrew's Church - Services for September

4th 0900 Sunday Breakfast  
11th 0930 Morning worship  
18th 0930 Harvest Feestival  
25th 0930 Holy Communion

### Parish Council Meeting

Next PC meeting

Wed 21st September 2022 in the village hall at 1900

Parish clerk: Sam Smith  
[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 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm  
Sun 9.00am - 11.00am

Enquiries: 811201

**Cafe** 9-4 Monday to Friday and 9-12 Saturday  
garden cafe from May - October

A2 licence for home-cooked meals, all day  
breakfast, jackets, toasties etc

### The Tea Room Crafters

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm  
in the Tea Room.

Enquiries: Jenny White 812042

### The Fontmell—opening hours

Monday - Closed

Tuesday to Friday—12-11pm food served 12-2.30 & 6-9pm

Saturday 12-11pm, food served 12-3pm & 6-9pm  
Sunday 12-6, food served 12-4pm

Enquiries: 811441 or [john@thefontmell.com](mailto:john@thefontmell.com)

### St. Andrew's School

Enquiries: 811500

### Fontmell Magna Toddler Group & Under 5s

Enquiries: 812773

### Iwerne Valley Walking Group

Contact: Helen English 01747 853472

### Bell-ringing

Enquiries: Caroline Rhodes 812002

## Events in the Village Hall

Fontmell Friendship Garden—Pop up Café  
Last Café of the season 7th September 2022  
Contact Sian Highnam 811028 or  
garden.fmvh@mail.com

### Fontmell Magna & District Society

1st Friday of the month, October to May from 7.30pm.  
Enquiries: Dick Stainer 811153

### Sunday Breakfast

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

### Fontmell Films

Enquires: Libby Gendall 811551

### Archive Society

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

### Fontmell Magna & District Garden Club

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

### Fontmell Magna Art Club

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

### Carpet Bowls Club

Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm  
Enquiries: Gerry Bone 811814

### Dru Yoga

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

### Aerobics

Thursday 1000-1100 Gentle/Low impact aerobics with  
Abby  
Enquiries: Abby Down 01747 850867 07901 597129  
[zumbawithabby@gmail.com](mailto:zumbawithabby@gmail.com)

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

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

## **2022 RIDE AND STRIDE 10th SEPTEMBER.**

The annual challenge is with us again to raise funds for the repair and conservation of Dorset Churches and Chapels.

"We at St Andrews have always taken part in the event which is now in its 21st year. We walk, stride, cycle or ride visiting a number of our churches and chapels and this year on Saturday 10th September. Last year we were 3rd on the list of all parish churches through out Dorset thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and friends and the efforts of our valiant fund raisers. The sum raised was £1925.44 of which 50% goes to our Church building fund.

We need both your continuing support and also fund raisers who need not ride or stride but just support the day for the good of our fine Church. Your help is much needed to keep St Andrews well maintained and preserved.

We do also hope that we can add to the Riders and Striders so please contact either or both David Fangen on 01747 811176 or Barry Roberts on 01747 811906 for sponsorship forms to join in the fun of the day.

We also need volunteers to keep the church open to welcome Riders and Striders from other Churches and offer general sustenance for their splendid efforts on the day.

Please help us in this well and much needed quest to support our fine Church and others in Dorset too.

Thank you.

David Fangen



### **Sunday Breakfast at the Village Hall**

**4<sup>th</sup> September 9am until around 10/ 10.30**

### **St Andrew's monthly Sunday Breakfast**

**everyone is welcome**

friendly, leisurely breakfast and a thought for the day  
bring friends and family, no booking, turn up on the day

**please join us from 9 o'clock**

Fresh Bacon paninis, Cereal, Fresh fruit

Assorted toasted breads Croissants, brioche

Home-made marmalade

All you can drink tea and freshly brewed coffee

There is no charge. Donations can be made.

**We look forward to welcoming everyone**

Contact Sue Keen if you need further info 01747 812282

Email: [susanannekeen@gmail.com](mailto:susanannekeen@gmail.com)

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

Whether you are a novice gardener or a seasoned campaigner you might like to meet with like-minded garden enthusiasts at our garden club meetings. We are a friendly bunch and meet once a month at Fontmell Magna Village Hall, usually on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. We have speakers on a range of topics, a summer outing, social evenings and links with Castle Gardens at Sherborne. If you fancy joining the club, or just want to come along as a guest to one of our evenings, then contact the Secretary Sue Chippington on 01747 811520 for more details. We have our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 20th October at 7.30pm at the Village Hall if you wanted to come along to find out more about the club.

## Councillor's Chronicles No.11 – Defibrillator at the Ready

The Parish Council is responsible for keeping a watchful eye on the village defibrillator, which for those of you who may not be aware, is positioned on the front wall of St Andrews School, directly in front of you as you enter the car park.

A defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the patient which is called defibrillation and is an essential part in trying to save the life of someone who is in cardiac arrest.

Although there are courses for their use with St John's Ambulance Service, the instructions for use are on the machine and are very clear and easy to understand.



It is monitored on a monthly basis by a member of the Parish Council. It was brought to our attention recently that the date appearing on the front of the defibrillator was August 2022 which led some to believe that meant it needed a new battery but we have been assured by the suppliers that is not the case. They do not come out to automatically change the batteries until the green light turns red and even then it will carry on working for several weeks more.

There is another defibrillator at Bedchester crossroads, in the telephone box, but that is monitored separately.

Of course, none of us want the situation to arise where it needs to be used but it is reassuring to know there is one in the village. If an opportunity arises where we can have a second one close by we will inform residents straight away.

Christine Scott, Fontmell Magna PC



### FRIENDS OF FONTMELL MAGNA FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Wednesday 28 September at 10:00

Hosted by Lisa Le Druillenec and Briony Long

We are hosting a coffee morning at Fontmell Magna Village Hall on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September between 10am and 11.30am.

All proceeds from the Refreshments, Coffee, Tea and Cakes, will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

If anyone would like to donate a cake that would be wonderful and much appreciated. We would like to provide some savoury as well as sweet options.

Please contact Lisa on 01747 812 500 or Briony on 01747 812 513 or email: [secretary.fmvh@mail.com](mailto:secretary.fmvh@mail.com) if you have any queries or visit our [donations page](#) for latest updates.

To donate to our Coffee Morning you can visit our official Coffee Morning Page or donate by cash or text on the day.

<https://thyg.uk/BUS007272161>.

Thank you.

Lisa & Briony

## Three Inch Fools present 'Twelfth Night'

Mischief and hilarity in this rip-roaring Shakespearean comedy, fit for all the family!

Following a sell-out performance at Sandford Orcas in August, acclaimed touring theatre company The Three Inch Fools are dusting down their musical instruments and heading back to Dorset for a second performance of Shakespeare's riotous comedy, *Twelfth Night*, with Artsreach, the counties touring arts charity.

The Three Inch Fools are an acclaimed, innovative touring theatre company who have built a reputation for staging bold and vibrant productions, with a fast paced, musically-driven style featuring a huge variety of instruments, actors playing multiple-roles and many a quick costume change along the way.

Prepare for an evening of mischief and hilarity as a cast of five present an inventive take on Shakespeare's rip-roaring comedy, *'Twelfth Night'* in a performance that's fit for all the family.

Dress for all weather, bring your cushions and camping-chairs, pack a torch and join The Three Inch Fools on an outdoor adventure as Artsreach presents *'Twelfth Night'* at Springhead Gardens in Fontmell Magna at 6:30pm on Tuesday 20 September – early booking is advised!

Tickets and further information are available from Springhead on 01747 811853 or online at [artsreach.co.uk](http://artsreach.co.uk)

**Tue 20 September, 6:30pm. Springhead Gardens, Fontmell Magna. 01747 811853**



★★★★★ "One of the best Shakespeare plays I'll ever watch"  
The Bristol Post

★★★★★ "The ultimate British theatrical experience"  
Hastings Independent Press

[www.artsreach.co.uk](http://www.artsreach.co.uk)





Meet Titan, a self-seeded, gatecrasher to my party in the front garden of 66 West Street, FM. This plant has caused traffic obstruction, intrigue, surprise and wonder. Many have stopped to take a picture or exclaim 'Look at the sunflower' as they pass by. Children on have exclaimed 'WOW'. A driver the other day slowed down to call out 'impressive'!

Titan appeared in the spring tucked in beside the Salvia that was growing with promise. The new beds of carefully tendered perennials had been planted out in the autumn. The

homemade compost is from where this intruder emerged. The flower head is now turning in on itself. The bees gorged earlier in the season and next the greenfinches will perch undisturbed to feast on this fare. It now measures 7'4" in height, the seed head is 17" Diameter and 6" circumference trunk. If you look closely there are thousands of small insects tucked in and under the leaves and flowers.

I anticipate discovering it upturned from the great weight of the seed head. It does look like the largest satellite around Saturn. For now, I am savouring it as the seeds mature until they are harvested for bird food and be given away for propagating next year. Titan a colossus, leviathan means one of great strength and power.

Look out for son of Titan 2023.

Sue Morgan

## Iwerne Valley Walking Group—July walk

In mid-heatwave, 16 walkers (that included two young children) and 2 dogs set off from Wincombe Lane in Shaftesbury towards the woods. After skirting the woods along a shady path, we turned right towards Middle Coombe and then right again along the edge of a copse and across two fields into Higher Coombe. Before going through the second field we discovered some goldfish living in the water trough by the gate!

From there we walked down across the coombe by what was St. Mary's School and up a path that took us to the equestrian centre at the end of Mampitts Lane and then through the maze of new houses to the Wincombe Recreation Ground and so back to our cars.

We all enjoyed the walk and survived the sizzling heat. Five of us went for a nice meal afterwards at The Half Moon.

Helen English



## Compost Corner

We have moved on from Nightingales in our corner of Fontmell (more accurately, the Nightingale has moved on from us) but we now enjoy daily visits from the seven strong swan family as they make their way along Collyers Brook, and we feel very honoured by their presence.

They have a vegetarian diet and have a definite penchant for alder tree leaves and grasp those available within their reach.

Occasionally, we see a bright flash of a kingfisher; It used to perch by our garden pond eyeing up our goldfish but after a large heron also discovered our fifty plus strong shoal, there was no kingfisher, no heron and no fish. On the plus side, we now have a healthy frog count. On one occasion, whilst we were having lunch in the garden we heard a frantic squeaking noise, at first we thought it was a mouse but it was a frog being pursued by a large grass snake - they both ended up in the pond but I'm afraid the frog met a grisly end. Never a dull moment in our garden.

Alison Main



## Village weather for July 2022

A very dry, sunny month with only 6 rain days. Maximum temperatures were in the 20s most of the month with fresh drying winds—punishing for growers.

6 rain days, 1 day thunder (distant) no gales, frost or hail.

Comp. Figures	2022	2021
Rain (Most 2.8mm on 22nd)	5.5mm	110.1mm
Sunshine Avg. 9.3 hrs	288.9 hours	172.5 hrs Avg 5.6 hrs
Max mean temp. (highest 34.4°C on 18th)	24.6°C	22.5°C
Min mean temp. (lowest 4.7°C on 5th)	11.0°C	12.9°C

This September 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 October issue contact me via email:

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

Alternatively, contact the **Chairman, Barbara Humphreys**, email: [blueletterbox@btinternet.com](mailto:blueletterbox@btinternet.com) for further information.

**Submissions for the October issue by Thursday 22nd September 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 [fmgosiptree@gmail.com](mailto:fmgosiptree@gmail.com)*