



THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

July 2024
Issue 364

The Village Shop and Hillarnias Vintage Tearooms

We are fast approaching nearly one year of being in the village! Thank you to all those who have and continue to support us. We have worked so hard to improve things and still have a few things more to do, and we hope we have been able to provide you with a much better shopping experience.

Now that we've experienced the different seasons, we have been busy discussing the future plans, and we're excited to announce we are expanding our product range into the Tearooms. The Tearooms itself hasn't had much support unfortunately and it's not financially viable to rely on tourists or passers by for just a couple of months of the year. We do understand though that there are some people and groups who do like to pop in and we don't want to take that option away. We have therefore decided to keep an element of the Tearooms but scale back to create a gift shop.

The gift shop will open on the 1st August and we will be a good old fashioned tearooms serving only teas, coffees, cakes and pastries. We will stop breakfasts and lunches from this date and our seating capacity will reduce to 8. We are working with local arts and crafts people and will only be selling unique 'not on the high street' goods. This is so we can help support local people and also offer you the chance to buy very unique and beautifully hand crafted gifts, that you won't find in towns and that are not mass produced.

We are very excited about the gift shop and we hope this will be very useful to you, especially to those who have trouble travelling, or those that just don't want to head into town to buy a gift. The gift shop will compliment our card section which is very popular. The gift shop and tearooms will be open Wednesday through to Saturday 10am to 4pm, closed Sunday to Tuesday. We are currently looking at options to allow 2 groups that have historically come in for coffee meets on Mondays and Tuesdays. We will announce plans for this in due course.

And finally, our B&B has been completely refurbished and is up and running. We have just the one room which is a large room with a beautiful ensuite, and we have already welcomed our first few guests who gave us amazing feedback which is great news. Booking is available either on [booking.com](https://www.booking.com) or directly with us. Please make any enquiries with Tarnia.

Duane has a B&B diary behind the shop counter so he is available to provide availability, take bookings or answer questions in Tarnia's absence. We hope you have friends and family that may find this useful.

Thank you for reading, and we hope to see you soon.

Best wishes, Tarnia & Duane

Fontmell Magna Village Archive Society 25th Year Exhibition

"Fontmell Magna Parish at Work"

Friday 26th Saturday 27th Sunday 28th July

Village Hall 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Notices – July 2024

St. Andrew's Church - Services for July

7th 0900 Church Breakfast—Village Hall

14th No service at St Andrews—0930 benefice service at Iwerne Minster

21st 0930 Sung Communion

28th 0930 Worship for All

Parish Council Meeting

Next PC meeting

Tues 16th July 2024 in the village hall at 1830. Tea and coffee will be served from 6.00pm

Parish clerk: Katie Cooper
clerk@fontmellmagnapc.co.uk

Local Councillor—Jane Somper

Email: cllrjane.somper@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 07710 395359

Village Shop & Post Office

Normal opening hours:

Mon - Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm

Sat 8.30am - 2.00pm

Sun 9.00am - 11.00am

Enquiries: 811201

Hillarnias Tearooms - Summer Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9-5pm

Saturdays 9-2pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday—Closed

Private hire available

The Tea Room Crafters

See note on page 2 for revised dates over the next few months

Enquiries: Jenny White 812042

The Fontmell

Arnie & Sarah

Enquiries: 812208

Fontmell Magna Toddler Group & Under 5s

Enquiries: 812773

Iwerne Valley Walking Group

Saturday July 20th, 10.15a.m. starting from the car park of the sports centre in Pimperne, DT11 8XA. Leader: John Goodliffe on 01747 442970.

Helen English 01747 853472

Bell-ringing

Enquiries: Caroline Rhodes 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 2023

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

Sunday Breakfast

1st Sunday of the month

Enquiries: Sue Keen 812282

Email: susanannekeen@gmail.com

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

Fontmell Magna Art Club

Meetings weekly on Tuesdays between 2-4pm.

Enquiries: Sandra Jelbart 812468

Carpet Bowls Club

Thursdays 7.00-9.00pm

Enquiries: Derek Bone 812505

Dru Yoga

Friday mornings at 0930 and 1100

Enquiries: Kirsty Elliot 829281

Kirsty@vhadevelopments.co.uk

Pilates

Mon 1730-1930 Tues 1000-1100.

STOTT Pilates Matwork with props Enquiries: Vicci Gillett 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

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

Tennis court

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

To book the Hall, please contact :

Sian Highnam on 811028 or email
bookings.fmvh@mail.com

TEA ROOM CRAFTERS

This is just to let you know some changed dates for the Crafters.

As you know, we usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. This is changing to the 1st and 3rd Wednesday for the month of June and July only. This is because the Pop Up Cafes coincide with our dates.

We are closed in August, and will resume at the normal 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in September.

Kind regards,

Jenny White

A Pre- loved fashion extravaganza –

Saturday 21st September 2024 10-3pm. Fontmell Magna Village Hall.

In September the above event is being organised. During July anyone who wants to submit details of items that can be sold on their behalf - clothing and accessories (hats, shoes, scarves) please contact Sue Morgan at susanheatley1@gmail.com

The item must be in very good condition, CLEAN with details of size and/ brand/or designer name. To set the price it is recommended that looking at comparable online selling sites for clothing and accessories will assist. Selling will be on a 50/50 base i.e. 50% to the item owner and 50% towards the St Andrew's Church (FM) for the roof repairs, or if the item is donated for 100% towards the church fundraiser – this would be welcomed.

So de-clutter that wardrobe, let go!! Help others whilst helping yourself and refresh your collection by putting the date in your diary now.

In the first instance, please contact Sue Morgan (susanheatley1@gmail.com) preferably with a photograph of the item alongside the detail and your set price. Drop off dates are to be fixed in advance of the sale day. Planning is now in hand and any offers of help for the day would be most appreciated, we are also looking for

Hangers

Clothes rails

Mirrors – large or smaller for accessories table

Mannequins or Torsos/dressmaker dummies

Thank you in advance

Shelley Dunmore, Sian Highnam, Sue Jones, Sue Morgan



GARDEN TEA PARTY AND DUCK RACE

Please join us at Hurdles Farm, West Street, Fontmell Magna on Saturday August 17th for a garden tea party and duck race to raise funds for St Andrew's Church for the roof repairs.

Tickets are £5.00 a head, payable on the door and ducks will be available to purchase for £5.00 each for the afternoon racing.

Parking is available at the property, weather permitting. The site is accessible and there will be garden games for children.

Please secure a place at the party by e mailing Sian Highnam on sianhighnam@gmail.com or phone 01747 811028. Places are limited to 120.

Sian Highnam

BUDDLEIAS

Some have started to flower so the buddleias that will be worth looking at through July if walking their way.

Judy

(Registered Charity 301129)

I hereby give notice that the Annual General Meeting of the Fontmell Magna Village Hall Management Committee will take place on:

Wednesday 24th July 2024 starting at 7.00 pm at the Village Hall

There are no Trustee vacancies this year, but we are looking for extra voluntary administrative help as we go through the process of converting to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in the following roles:

Minute Secretary: If you can spare a few hours every 2 months to send out papers and take minutes at the Management meetings (6 meetings a year plus AGM) please get in touch with the Secretary, Lisa Le Druillenec, on 07962 138039 or by email: secretary.fmvh@mail.com for more information.

Bookkeeper: As we transition to an online booking system we are looking for a volunteer to help process the monthly invoices. To find out more about this role please contact the Chairman, Rosie-Anne Yates: 07710 326 339 or email: ra@yatesmail.org

Both roles will be co-opted to the Committee at the AGM

This AGM is open to all and is an invitation to everyone interested in the future of the Village Hall and the Fontmell Friendship Garden to find out more about the future plans of the Village Hall Management Committee

Doors open at 6.30pm, AGM starts at 7pm prompt.

This year there will be refreshments from 6.30pm followed by the AGM.

Any queries please contact:

Lisa Le Druillenec, Secretary, FMVH Management Committee

www.fontmellmagnavillagehall.co.uk

PIANO MOVEMENTS and other news from St Andrew's Church!

There have been movements in Fontmell Church recently! The piano in the church has been re-placed. The previous piano was made by *John Broadwood and Sons (London)* and was over one hundred years old (c1912). It was "presented by Henry Hobbs of Ansty" in 1979, and there was a brass plaque inside the lid, "In Memoriam Jean Hobbs". My on-line research established that Jean died in London, aged 63, in 1978. I (Robert Wellen) would love to hear from anyone who knows more. The headboard and the plaque will be preserved and displayed in the church. The piano had reached the stage that it could not be economically re-tuned. Thanks to the 'good offices' of Caroline D'Cruz and Phil Blake (a piano tuner from Child Okeford) the church has secured a replacement grand, a Bechstein model A, built in 1926/27, which when re-tuned will be 'A great step up' say the musicians! It was delivered in early June, in time for the summer concerts. Also the PCC is making progress to have internet access in the church. This will allow the installation of a 'card reader' for donations as well as help with church and school services. To the outside: it is hoped that the work on the North Aisle will be undertaken no later than September this year. Thanks to Arnie & Sarah at *The Fontmell* and their staff and customers for a grand raffle and Quiz Night that together raised around £1000 for the Church. Further good news, the Church has been awarded a grant of £3750 from the Benefact Trust towards our roof repairs, many thanks to them.

Over the summer there will be repair work undertaken in the churchyard to repair the path and walls; to cut back some of the trees and remove a dead tree and to repair and paint the gate, the archway and the railings. We are able to do this because of a kind gift, so this work will have no impact on the ongoing fundraising for the church roof. During these works, please take care in the churchyard. Two further fundraising events took place in June, firstly on 7 June, Canon Alan Amos gave an interesting talk on Two Dorset Poets, William Barnes and Thomas Hardy, complete with a Dorset dialect, to approximately 40 people and on 14 June, Caroline D'Cruz and Tracy Kennington gave a lunchtime concert of piano duets to around 20 people (despite the road being up!!)

See adverts for July events – THE BEARS ARE COMING!!



Robert Wellen (Churchwarden)

Fontmell St Andrew - Church Fabric Fundraising - Just Giving Page: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/fontmellmagnachurch



TEDDY BEAR



PICNIC Sunday 28 July 12 noon to 3 p.m. St Andrew's Church Fontmell Magna

The Bears are having a Picnic and human adults and children are invited. Bring your own picnic, drinks, chairs etc.

**Teddy run Raffle Adopt a Teddy
Teddy Parachute Jump
Teddy 'Hide and Seek'**

Voluntary Collection to be taken in support of the St Andrew's Church Fabric Appeal



**Contact the Bears via Robert Wellen
robertwellen@btinternet.com or
01747 811070**



SUMMER CONCERTS ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, FONTMELL MAGNA

The D'Cruz Trio

returns to St Andrew's Church Fontmell Magna, Thursday 18th July at 7.30 p.m. with a concert of music for Clarinet, Cello and Piano—including works by Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin and Frank Bridge. This concert is in aid of the St Andrew's Church roof appeal and Friends of Kilbride (a charity with which the clarinettist is associated).

No tickets required. Retiring collection. Interval refreshments.

FRIDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS 'UNDER AN HOUR'

Please do join our Coffee Morning in the church (10 am to 12 noon) before each of these concerts.

Future Friday Lunchtime concerts at 12.15

9 August Charlotte Collier and Caroline D'Cruz-
English Song

20 September Caroline D'Cruz, Allison Gosney (oboe) and Tim Smithers (cello)—music for oboe, cello and piano

No admission charge or tickets for any of these concerts. For each there will be a voluntary retiring collection in aid of St Andrew's Church Fabric Fund.



Fontmell friendship garden

The Fontmell Friendship Garden is now in full bloom and thank you to all the villagers and students from Clayesmore School who have helped plant and maintain the garden in the last few months.

Flowers now surround the village hall and it has been lovely to be able to open the doors of the village hall to blooms on the terrace.

The garden is our village community garden and anyone is welcome to come and help .



We will be meeting to weed and maintain the garden on the following days and times in July and August-

July 4 th -9.30-10.30

July 12 th- 11.30-12.30

July 18 th - 9.30-10.30

July 23 rd - 9.30-10.30 and

August 9 th - 9.00-10.00

It is always lovely to get together for a potter, natter and cuppa. The work is not strenuous and you can cut and collect a bouquet of blooms. If you would like to join in on any of the dates, please drop me an e mail on sianhighnam@gmail.com and I will make sure there are sufficient refreshments.

We have confirmed our partnership with Clayesmore again for the next academic year and students will be continuing to help us in the next academic year as part of their volunteering work.

In conjunction with the garden, we run the WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON POP UP CAFES.

The cafes in July and August will be held on

July 10, 24, August 7, 21 and the final one on September 4 th.

The cafes run from 3-5 pm and proceeds from the cafe are used for the future maintenance and development of the garden.

Please do contact me on sianhighnam@gmail.com if you have any queries.

Sian Highnam



POP UP CAFES

FONTMELL MAGNA VILLAGE HALL

In aid of the Fontmell Friendship Garden 3-5 pm
All welcome - £2.50 for adults, £1.00 for children

Contact sianhighnam@gmail.com/01747811028

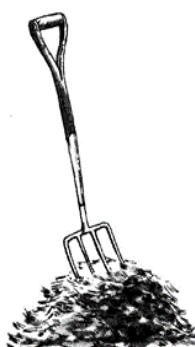
10th July, 24th July, 7th August, 21st August, 4th September



Compost Corner

How inspirational nature is and when it comes to successional planting, it gets it pretty much 100% right. As the year starts there are snowdrops, then daffodils, primroses, bluebells, cow parsley, dog daisies and so it goes on. But another reason why this wild planting is so impressive is that you don't see just a handful of bluebells or daffodils but hundreds of them making a spectacular sight. Wordsworth was so bowled over by the 'host' of daffodils in the Lake District that he wrote his now famous poem. This of course can be replicated in our gardens - don't just plant one of each plant but a group of them, it'll create much more of an impact. And don't forget repetition when it comes to planting and hard landscaping. This can be done by repeating shapes, colours, height, textures or patterns. A visit to an 'open garden' can be so motivating and there are plenty of them nearby: East Lambrook, Athelhampton, Cranborne, Heale, The Newt to name but a few. So have a day out, snap away (not the plants) and take home some exciting new design ideas.

Alison Main



Village Weather for 2024

After nearly 30 years of faithfully recording the weather for Fontmell Magna, Judy Westgate has decided to pass the baton to a new person for monitoring the weather. Monthly results will resume when the equipment has been approved by the Met Office

Comp. Figures	2024	2023
Rain (Most mm on th)	m	mm
Sunshine	hours Avg hrs	hrs Avghrs
Max mean temp. (highest on 12th)	°C	°C
Min mean temp. (lowest on)	°C	C

This July 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:

(fmgossiption@gmail.com)

Alternatively, contact the **Chairman, Barbara Humphreys**, email: **blueletterbox@btinternet.com** for further information.

Submissions for the July issue by Monday 22nd July 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 **fmgossiption@gmail.com***