



THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

This issue of the Gossip Tree was kindly sponsored by the Archive Society

June 2024
Issue 363



25 YEARS
1999 - 2024

The Archive Society continues to fulfil its principle objectives as set out in the original constitution 25 years ago, which are to preserve and make available to all the existing Village Archive Collection. It was started by the generous donations from the village for an exhibition in the Church in 1988 to celebrate 1100 years of Fontmell Magna. Our aim is to collect any historical information or material to save it for posterity and to share with any interested people. We also receive new artefacts, photographs and texts which add to our understanding of the past in Fontmell Parish.

We are often contacted through our website by people worldwide who have links with the village, usually relatives of family who have lived here, often many years previously. It is very encouraging to know that what we do is valued by so many.

Our membership has increased this year which has brought new enthusiastic support. We are financially viable due to our membership fees and donations, one of £500 from Fontmell Magna P.C. without which we would not be able to support the website and continue our ongoing work.

fontmellmagna.net

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 – June 2024

St. Andrew's Church - Services for June

2nd 0900 Church Breakfast—Village Hall

9th 0930 Holy Communion

16th 0930 Sung Communion

23rd 0930 Holy Communion

Parish Council Meeting

Next PC meeting

Tues 14th May 2024 in the village hall at 1830.
Tea and coffee will be served from 6.00pm

Parish clerk: 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 - Winter 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 June 22nd, Midsummer's Eve walk, starting at 6.30pm from Hindon SP3 6DP. Please bring a picnic. Further details from Helen English on 07789 845498.

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 07940 961221 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

IWERNE MINSTER CRICKET CLUB 2024

Preparation day – Saturday 1st June

We are planning to spend some more time on Saturday 1st June to finalise the preparations for the pavilion facilities and the ground, following further cutting of the grass particularly in the outfield which is due to take place this week.

Any help for an hour or two from 11.00 a.m. would be much appreciated on the 1st June

Sunday 2nd June – 14.00

The IMCC invites all who are interested in playing cricket in the village to come to the cricket ground on the 2nd June, along with those who want to enjoy watching cricket returning to the village. “Doors” will open to the ground at 12:00 on the 2nd June.

Vehicular access to the ground is via the A350 and the “what three words” location to the lane to the pitch being - Screening – Scare – Huddle.

Bring chairs, rugs, a picnic and drinks with you as, whilst the pavilion will be open for basic services, we are not yet in a position to offer cricket teas. That said we will offer tea, coffee and soft drinks free of charge, although donations will be appreciated.

Prior registration of interest in playing on the 2nd would be appreciated however this will be an open game for any wishing to play for the IMCC. There will not be any fee due on the day other than an opportunity to join the club whether as an adult player aged 16 or over or as a young player aged up to 15. Young players will be free.


Adult membership is set at £35 for the year with a £5 match fee due for each game played.

IMCC membership as a non-playing member is £20 for the year, though donations above this would be welcome in our formative year given the need to obtain essential equipment.

Please let me know if you are able to attend, not just for the purposes of playing cricket but also so that we can let the Talbot know for the end of day gathering.


Andrew Osborne - 01747 811433 – aojo1980@gmail.com





A FRIENDSHIP BEYOND BELIEF

Two Dorset poets



William Barnes and Thomas Hardy

A lecture on Barnes and Hardy and their friendship

**To be given on Friday 7th June 2024 at 7pm at
St. Andrew's Church, Fontmell Magna (SP7 0NY)
by Canon Alan Amos OBE**

Alan is something of a poet himself, which makes him keenly interested in these two Dorset poets. It is worth exploring how their lives and their poetry intertwine, and how this dedicated vicar, and equally dedicated atheist valued the company and the work of each other. They teach us about the value of true friendship and tolerance, and the life work of each poet is a treasure which continues to reward the reader. While Thomas Hardy is widely remembered for his novels, in his own mind it was his calling as a poet that was his true vocation. And William Barnes sought to marry words with the heritage of the Dorset countryside and its people, and their homely use of language.

Alan has retired to Dorset after a life in the ministry of the Church of England in the East End of London, Lebanon and Syria, Cambridge and Canterbury. He continues to minister part time in the Iwerne Valley Benefice, and at Holy Trinity Geneva.

The lecture and time for questions will be approximately an hour after which there will be light refreshments. Part of the Iwerne Valley Benefice Making Jesus Known season.

Free entry. No tickets. There will a voluntary retiring collection for St Andrew's Church Fabric Fund.



SUMMER CONCERTS

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, FONTMELL MAGNA

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.

14 June at 12.15 p.m.

**Caroline D'Cruz and Tracy
Kennington-Piano Duets**

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

**EVENING CONCERT: 18 July at
7.30 p.m. The D'Cruz Trio**

Further Details to follow

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.

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

AFTERNOON TEA PARTY ON AUGUST 17th 2.30-5.00 pm at Hurdles Farm, West Street, Fontmell Magna

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 emailing Sian Highnam on sianhighnam@gmail.com or phone 01747 811028.

Places are limited to 120.

Sian Highnam



IWERNE VALLEY WALKING GROUP - MAY WALK 2024

May's walk of the Iwerne Valley Walking Group saw us tramp the boundary of Rushmore Golf Club. Dodging golf balls, earnest golfers and the potential of thunder, the walk took us through two counties – Wiltshire and Dorset – and we made it back to the clubhouse in fine form.

Although the bluebells were no longer in view (*apparently they are lovely around the golf club*) the garlic was still out in force and the pungent smell of said bulb accompanied us for most of the walk. The group traversed gentle hills; hidden valleys; woods and the edge of the golf course, often accompanied by the calling of lambs who were a little nervous of 11 walkers and three (on-lead) dogs walking through their midst.

The walk ended at the Club House where the overall verdict of the welcome and food was "fantastic".

Kathryn Reed



Some cheesy chips!

****New Somatics and Scaravelli Inspired Yoga Class with Kate Jenkins****

Join me for a unique yoga experience at Fontmell Magna Village Hall, starting Thursday, June 6th from 10:30 am to 11:45 am.

In these small, intimate classes, I provide gentle hands-on guidance to help you connect with your body through slow, meditative movements. Unlike traditional yoga that focuses on stretching, our practice emphasizes sensing and feeling, using gentle movements and support from the ground to help your body relax and unwind.

This approach aims to make you aware of holding patterns in your body and helps remap your nervous system for healthier, more functional movements.

****Class Details:****

- ****Date and Time:**** Thursdays, starting June 6th, 10:30 am - 11:45 am
- ****Location:**** Fontmell Magna Village Hall
- ****Cost:**** £40 for 4 weeks or £12 for a drop-in session

For more information, please visit [\[katejenkinsyoga.com\]](http://katejenkinsyoga.com)

<http://katejenkinsyoga.com>.

I look forward to practicing with you!

Morshead Trophy Presentation

On the evening of Thursday 16 May in St Andrew's a reception was held by the Dorset Historic Churches Trust at which Fontmell received the Morshead Trophy (named after the founder of the Trust) for 2023. Present was Chairman of the Trust, His Honour David Grant, other trustees and around thirty other visitors from churches across Dorset, furthest afield I think from Up Loders, in West Dorset. Our guests were joined by members of St Andrew's congregation. According to the Trust website: "This year [the Trophy] has been awarded to St Andrew, Fontmell Magna for achieving outstanding support [in the Ride and Stride] both in 2023 and over a number of years". The actual Trophy was received by David Fangen, our Ride and Stride coordinator and a small replica will be permanently displayed in the church. Tim Smith, Trustee and Area Rep said afterwards: "Yes indeed all



seemed to go very well yesterday and I don't think we can thank the home team enough for an excellent and fun evening". Especial thanks to Sue Keen and team for the refreshments, Roy Foster for signage and Caroline Rhodes for organising ringing to welcome our guests. The next Ride and Stride is on 14 September.



Images of Spring flowers supplied by Robert Wellens

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

29th May, 12th June, 26th June, 10th July, 24th July, 7th August, 21st August, 4th September



Compost Corner

On a recent shopping trip I inadvertently tried out some gymnastics: I stumbled over a plinth in a shop, shot through the air and landed on both knees and hands in a very undignified heap. I was lucky because 1) I didn't have any breakables in my basket 2) my basket did no lasting damage to the poor man who happened to be in its path as I sailed past him 3) I didn't end up in A&E with multiple injuries.

Accidents can of course happen anywhere and the garden is no exception. Every year there are hundreds of thousands of gardening related accidents: - falls from ladders, lawnmower and strimmer incidents, flowerpotsyes, flowerpots, presumably lifting and moving them.

But then there are more unusual hazards, including compost - yes, compost. Just by opening a bag of compost can expose you to Legionella, the bacteria that causes Legionnaires' disease and can be deadly for elderly people. So keep your face well away from a fresh bag of compost and always open it outside.

Then there's danger from plants: ivy can give you a rash, euphorbia sap causes blisters, monkshood is deadly poisonous. Gardening can indeed be a dangerous hobby.

Apart from all that, enjoy your garden this summer and I'm going to refrain from amateur gymnastics - I'll leave that to the Olympians.

Now where are my newly sharpened secateurs?

Alison Main



Village Weather for April 2024

April was a very unsettled month with plenty of showers and sunny spells.

15 Rain days, 5 ground and air frosts. 3 gales, no hail or thunder.

Comp. Figures	2024	2023
Rain (Most 15.4mm on 27th)	69.7m	77.4mm
Sunshine	128.5 hours Avg 4.3 hrs	144.9 hrs Avg 4.8 hrs
Max mean temp. (highest 18.4 on 12th)	13.9°C	13.5°C
Min mean temp. (lowest -1.0c on 20th, 21st and 22nd)	5.1°C	3.7C

This June 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 Thursday 20th June 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***