



THE GOSSIP TREE

News & Views from the Parish of FONTMELL MAGNA

May 2024
Issue 362

Gossip Tree Directory and Gossip Tree Committee

First of all, thank you to Gay who led the way and Sue and the Valley Views delivery people for distributing the updated Parish Directory which we hope you have already received or will do shortly. It's quite comprehensive and we think, goes some way to showing what an active, supportive and interesting community we live in.

The Gossip Tree happens because of the hard work of the editor Graham and the generosity of Sue who collects and delivers paper copies to some residents. They are supported by Amelia who manages our finances and Barbara who has been the chairperson for approaching 10 years.

The second part of this communication is to announce that we are looking for someone to take over the role of chairperson in the next few months. It's not an arduous task and usually entails a couple of hours for every edition, working from home and communicating by email. The main involvement is proofreading, with occasional decision making in conjunction the rest of the team. There are no formal expectations other than building on what has gone before, common sense and a bit of an eye for detail. New ideas are welcome.

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss and/or think you might be interested in taking on this role.

My email address is blueletterbox@btinternet.com. It would be good to have someone new to join the harmonious team.

Barbara

Notices – May 2024

St. Andrew's Church - Services for May

5th 0900 Church Breakfast—Village Hall
12th 0930 Worship for all
19th 0930 PENTECOST: Sung Communion
26th 0930 TRINITY: Worship for all

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

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

Enquiries: Jenny White 812042

The Fontmell

Arnie & Sarah

Enquiries: 812208

Fontmell Magna Toddler Group & Under 5s

Enquiries: 812773

Iwerne Valley Walking Group

Next walk: Saturday 18th May 10.00 am
from Rushmore Golf Club, Tollard Royal, SP5
5QB Walk Leaders: Pam Jelley (01747 812786)
and Kathryn Reed (07393 213319)

Helen English 01747 853472

Bell-ringing

Enquiries: Caroline Rhodes 812002

The Fontmell

Our Village Pub

QUIZ NIGHT

We are hosting a charity quiz to raise money for the ST ANDREWS CHURCH much needed repairs, on Sunday the 12th May starting from 19:00. Please arrive at 18:30 to give us enough time to allocate your table. Booking is recommended to avoid disappointment!!!!!! Maximum of six people per Team (£5 per person to enter). Remember all the money raised from the entry fee will be donated to the church fund.

Tapas menu available to order from on the night

FOR BOOKINGS OR ANY OTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US ON 01747812208

WITH MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT FROM US ALL HERE AT OUR VILLAGE PUB

Amendment to a listing on P8 of the directory.

Middle Farm, Hartgrove, holiday accommodation mobile number should be 07518 284673, with apologies to Mr and Mrs Gawler.

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

See entry on this page

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

BUDDLEIAS

A big thank you to the faithful few who gave their time to help with the spring buddleia cut braving the usual rain. A special thanks for the mechanical collection saving numerous barrow loads to the bonfire. Please come and enjoy the flowers from July onwards.



Judy and Peter

Fontmell Friends are delighted to announce that the next evening talk will be on **Wednesday, 22nd May at the Fontmell Magna Village Hall entitled**

NATURAL REMEDIES

from the garden, the meadows and the beehive.

A talk by Luzia Barclay, the well respected Medical Herbalist based in Salisbury.

The power of herbs lies in their ability to preserve health and to prevent illness by strengthening our immune system. The list of curative plants which can be grown in the garden or collected in the wild is almost endless plus there are the natural remedies to be found in the beehive.

In this enlightening talk Luzia will explain how herbal medicine, the oldest form of healing, can provide remedies to benefit us all.

The Fontmell Magna Village Hall will open at 6.15 pm for drinks and socialising with friends before the talk starts at 7.00pm.

Tickets will be available in advance as usual from the Village Shop at £2.50 or on the door at £3.00.

For further information, please contact
Andrew Davis on 07831 162446

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

IMAGES FROM THE DICK JONES MEMORIAL CONCERT & FM SPRING FAIR



Spring Fair at Fontmell Magna Village Hall



We were incredibly lucky with the Spring Sunshine on Saturday 20th April and welcomed many villagers to our annual fundraising event for the various Village Hall projects.

The Village Hall would like to thank all our volunteers for their hard work and all our wonderful stall holders who supported this event. It was lovely to see such an interesting variety of stalls, so I hope that everyone who attended enjoyed their shopping experience.

We also provided 2 pitches for the Church who, I am informed, raised £300 towards roof repairs.

The total Village Hall takings on the day came to just under £1500. Of this the lion's share was raised by the Friendship Garden with impressive sales of just over £518. Congratulations to the Friendship Garden Team who worked so tirelessly to make their stall such a success.

Here are a few photos which sum up the day.

**Fontmell Magna Village Hall
Fundraising Committee**



Dorset Historic Churches Trust The Morshead Trophy

Thursday 16th May at 6.30pm

St Andrew's Church, Fontmell Magna

[There will be parking in a nearby field which will be signposted]

The Morshead Trophy—named after the Trust's founder—is awarded each year to the parish which achieved the most impressive Ride+Stride results. Fontmell Magna parish has been awarded the Trophy for the 2023 event.

RSVP to Robert Wellen by 6 May
robertwellen@btinternet.com

FABRIC PROGRESS AT ST ANDREW'S

Things have moved along since our Village meeting on 1 March. The good news is that the PCC now has sufficient funds in its 'fabric fund' to give the green light to the stonemason to start the work on the North Aisle parapets and pinnacles. It is hoped that this work will be completed this summer (the stonemason cannot work with lime mortars during the cold months, so the work will need to be completed by October ideally). The PCC has reached this position thanks to a £9,000 grant from the Erskine Muton Trust; the rest coming from generous donations from many within the St Andrew's community. We have applied to one other grant-giving trust, the Dorset Historic Churches Trust and are in touch with others with regard to the next stage of work to re-lead the South Aisle roof. Many thanks to David Fangen and Roger Thomas for leading on these grant applications. A full programme of fundraising started on 20 April with money raised at two stalls at the Village Spring Fair (approximately £300) and half the retiring collection from the Dick Jones Memorial Concert (approximately £500), both going to the Fabric Fund.

Iwerne Valley Walking Group—Saturday 16th March 2024

Nine walkers and two dogs set out for a four mile circular walk around Melbury Wood, off the airfield road. The wood is notable for being comprised almost entirely of mature beech trees, with not a conifer in sight for the extent of our walk, and plenty of wild garlic beginning to come through. The outward track was muddy but passable and the return journey was through the trees along the ridge where we came across a herd of deer grazing in the field alongside the wood. Afterwards, we met up with some non-walking members at The Fontmell and all had a thoroughly enjoyable lunch.

Louise Parry



THE
'LAND GIRLS'
FROM SERO
PRESENT

QUIZ NIGHT

with a
D-DAY 80th Anniversary theme
including
Entertainment and songs!

FRIDAY 7TH JUNE
CHILD OKEFORD VILLAGE
HALL

Tickets £15.00

Proceeds to Julia's House Children's Hospice

To include 2-course supper, bar and raffle

Teams of 6 or we can match you up!

Available from: serocharity@gmail.com

Julie Little 07749 486733,

Kate Partridge 07725 245066

FONTMELL FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

What a busy month full of lovely creative gatherings! Thank you so much to everyone who was involved in the final preparations for our Spring Fair and to all those involved prior to that, sowing seeds, potting on, labelling plants, donating plants and a special thanks to Sue Morgan for all her amazing willow weaving .

We had a fabulous Spring Fayre day with astoundingly quick sales of plants and a fantastic sum of £534 raised for the garden.

We have returned to garden planting and maintenance at the end of April with the Clayesmore students in the garden - planting in some cut flower hardy annuals, weeding and tidying the beds, decorating the band hut and replacing the table decorations.

Anyone is very welcome to join in - please just drop me an e-mail so I have sufficient refreshments. We meet on Friday mornings from 11.30-12.45 with senior Clayesmore students joining us during term time.

Below is the schedule for the future pop up cafes. Thank you everyone so very much for all the help offered which I am gratefully accepting.

We are returning to a simple tea and cake format this year on the following dates from 3-5pm and I will include some little floral themed activities for anyone interested - small bouquet making, boutonnières, flower crowns and summer wreaths.

It will be lovely to sit outside in the sunshine on the terrace or in the garden area .

Thank you everyone as always for all you do and look forward to seeing many at the fashion event on May 18th and at our first pop up cafe on May 29th.

Kind Regards

Sian

POP UP CAFÉ ROTAS .

POP UP CAFÉ TEA HELP ROTA – PLEASE E-MAIL ME ON sianhighnam@gmail.com

Here are the pop up café dates. Please could you let me know if you could help me serve teas or bake a cake .

DATE and TIME – 3-5 pm	HELP WITH SETTING UP AND	CAKE BAKING
29.5	Sian	Sian
12.6.	Sian	Sian
26.6	Sian	Sian
10.7	Sian	Sian
24.7 (HAPPY GATHERING OUTING)- lots of help needed Annual summer outing for the Happy Gathering Club	Sian, Sue C, Gill, Jane W, Gay, Jenny W, Sue keen, Barbara H, Jane Williams, Lisa	Sian, Sue C, Gill, Jane W, Jenny W, Joan Stewart, Sue keen, Barbara H, Jane Williams, Lisa
7.8.	Sian	Sian
21.8	Sian	Sian
4.9	Sian	Sian



"Afternoon Tea at The Ritz"

In

Fontmell Magna Village Hall

Saturday 18 May 2024

3.00pm - 5.00pm

Style Consultant and Fashion Designer

Milly Churchill

*Will be talking about her new book
"Designing your Style"
giving us tips on re-inventing our wardrobe
and showing us her 2024 Collection*

Entrance £20.00 in advance

To include scrumptious cream tea and glass of Prosecco

All proceeds to St. Andrews Church

RSVP

shelleydunmore@btinternet.com

Compost Corner

What do you think is most expensive, one kg of: topside beef, Jerusalem artichokes, rocket or fresh ginger? Answer: Rocket

Generally, supermarket herbs and salads are incredibly expensive to buy but a pack of hundreds of seeds will only cost only a pound or two.

There are two main types of rocket: wild rocket (*Diplotaxis tenulifolia*, a perennial) and salad rocket (*Eruca versicaria*, an annual). There are several varieties of each type of rocket available; some are hotter and more peppery than others. One annual variety called 'Scorpius' is particularly fiery and marketed as having 'a sting in its tail'.

Sow seeds outdoors from April to early September, keep well watered in dry weather and protect from slugs and snails. Flea beetles can cause cosmetic problems munching little holes in the leaves, but the leaves can still be harvested even though they look less than perfect. Spraying with a pesticide is not recommended but an insect proof mesh can be used to cover the plants which may keep the beetles out.

Whichever variety of rocket you choose, it will make an excellent pesto, an addition to soup, in hummus and frittata or simply as part of a summer salad.

Alison Main



Village Weather for March 2024

Yet another wet month with only 7 days without recordable rain. A colder start gradually warming up. Frosts rare, lively storms at the end of the month

5 air frost, 8 ground frost. 2 days hail & thunder and 2 gales

Comp. Figures	2024	2023
Rain (Most 26.7mm on 27th)	142.8mm	129.0mm
Sunshine	80.1 hours Avg 2.7 hrs	55.7 hrs Avg 1.8 hrs
Max mean temp. (highest 16.2 on 17th)	12.1°C	3.9°C
Min mean temp. (lowest -4.0c on 3rd)	2.8°C	3.9C

This May 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:

(fmgosstree@gmail.com)

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

Submissions for the June issue by Wednesday 22nd May 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 fmgosstree@gmail.com