

# THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 12

June/July 2013

Welcome to the twelfth edition of the Pump & Pound. April and May have been very busy with the annual open meetings for our two villages and with the Parish Council AGM preceding the Ordinary May meeting. The A356 dominated the business of the Parish Council in 2012/13 and is continuing to do so this year. Other items during the year have included the refurbishment of the Pound, pressing for Superfast Broadband, and matters to preserve our environment which is part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. I am also pleased to report that this newsletter has been highly praised both within and outside our parishes. I hope that it continues to be a valuable source of information for everyone.

*Michael Johnson, Chairman*

## War against Himalayan Balsam

Natural England is launching a project aimed at controlling some of the invasive non-native plant species. These include Himalayan Balsam and Japanese knotweed. Natural England is leading the project and will be using contractors for the worst affected areas. However, the effectiveness of the project will be diminished without the help and cooperation of volunteers and Natural England will be providing information and advice to these groups. The most effective method for eliminating Himalayan Balsam is to pull it up, which is easily done, and prevents the pollution of water courses as it is usually too near to rivers to be sprayed. The argument that Himalayan Balsam produces a large amount of pollen for bees is countered by the fact that the bees are then distracted from our native plants which may not be pollinated. When natives do survive they can get crowded out by the Balsam. This dual attack has disastrous consequences including massive soil erosion. With a major body like Natural England being so concerned about the problem, we should all give it some thought. Volunteers are desperately needed to lend a hand to free our waterways of this menace. We would therefore be delighted if you could join us at one of the following venues: -

East Axnoller Farm	Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup> June at 10:00
Broadleaze Farm	Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> June at 10:00
The Pound, S Perrott	Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> June at 10:00

## St George's Day Dinner

We did our Patron Saint proud! The hall decorations were inspired and a superb meal was prepared and served by the ladies of the Parish. Entertainment, organised and conducted by Joyce Osborne (photo on right), was a tribute to Flanders and Swan and very amusing it was! A sing along to finish was probably aided, in part, by the freely flowing wine during the evening. A good time was had by all. Already, preparations are under way for next year's event so, to avoid disappointment, look out for details in this publication and get your booking in early!



## Wombles were out in force on 28<sup>th</sup> April!

Did you spot a Womble in South Perrott on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April? We were identified by our Hi-Viz tabards bearing the words "Big Tidy Up". There were nine of us this year and we collected 10 bags of rubbish on the day. Thanks to all my fellow Wombles. We would now appreciate it if everyone disposed of their rubbish in the appropriate place. NB This applies to dog owners too as there has been a recent increase in fouling on footpaths.

*Sue Coutanche*

## The Chedington Bluebell Walk on the 28<sup>th</sup> April

Well the walk was there and most definitely worth the walking. Unfortunately the Bluebells mislaid their invitation and arrived, in all their glory, looking magnificent, two weeks late! No one however went away disappointed; there were 12 gardens open for them to enjoy and to take ideas from. The teas in the village hall were much appreciated, not only because they were as delicious as ever, but also because it was a bit chilly outside. The Village hall fund was swelled by £402.50! Thanks go to everyone for making the great effort to bring it together.

## News from the Village Pubs

Following the success of the Indian Night, "Chillies" are returning to the Coach & Horses on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Early booking is advised. Both our local pubs are planning a weekend of entertainment in August. On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August **Winyards Gap's** famous Cider Festival returns and on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August live music will be playing at the **Coach & Horses** as part of the village Open Day.

**Thank You** – Doreen Lean would like to thank the person who found and returned her lost keys.

## Gardening Club Tips

1. To keep a Hebe looking good and healthy, prune regularly after flowering when it is frost free.
2. For the sake of your Hostas, slugs and snails must be persuaded to relocate. Have you tried the garlic wash?

## Chedington Street Fair

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Fair will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July and we are not expecting the problems that resulted in the cancellation of last year's event. It starts at midday and there are many attractions for the whole family. Volunteers are still welcome and anyone who can and would like to help should contact Dave or Michael (see the "what's on" section on the back page).



## Dorset County Cars

Please be advised that DCC have increased the charge to passengers using the Car Scheme for hospital appointments etc. to 40p per mile (from 30p per mile) with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013. Contact Joyce Osborne on 01935 891625 for more information.

## Annual Village Open Meetings 2013

The Annual Village Open meetings for Chedington and South Perrott were held on 18<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013, respectively. In summary, the topics raised were:

- **Chedington** – the caravan at Penny's Hill; the poor condition of the road surface in the village; hedging at Court Farm adjacent to the road which was now higher than the fence and the laurel hedge bordering The Court which was encroaching on the road.
- **South Perrott** – Speeding on A356; refurbishment of The Pound; laurel hedge on corner of Picket Lane and A356, which is reducing visibility.

The issues from both meetings were taken forward to the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 and action taken accordingly.

## Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Annual General Meeting and the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013. A full set of the agreed minutes from both meetings will be available on the Parish website ([www.parrettandaxe.org.uk](http://www.parrettandaxe.org.uk)) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting/s. In addition to the Parish Councillors and Clerk, also in attendance were County Cllr. Rebecca Knox, District Cllrs. Janet Page and Caroline Payne and PCSO Alex Bishop. Apologies were received from Dave McSkelly.

❖ **Crime Reports** – Although crime has been low there has been a recent burglary at the barn in Lecher Lane. This is the second time that this barn has been targeted by thieves. On this occasion children's toys were stolen as well as agricultural equipment. The PSCO is willing to give advice on crime prevention methods and can be contacted on 101. To report a crime in progress dial 999 stating the location and the nearest force should attend; however there is still a need for improved liaison between neighbouring police forces.

### ❖ A356 Road Issues:

- **Kerbstones and Crossings** – DCC Highways have agreed to trial a new design of edging along a small section of the A356 from Swing Gate Cottage to Picket Lane. This is to replace the **kerbstones** which are hazardous due to fracturing caused by vehicles continuously mounting the footway. This will be evaluated before a decision is made to extend the new edging beyond Swing Gate Cottage. Highways have also agreed to feather the edges of the **two crossings** at the Bakers Arms and Cornerways to help reduce noise nuisance. This work will necessitate the closure of the A356 and therefore will not be carried out until the Beaminster Tunnel re-opens.
- **Speed** – At the Annual Village meeting residents raised concerns that a number of vehicles are travelling at speeds in excess of 30mph as they approach and leave the village from both the eastern and western ends and in both directions. This is particularly dangerous as vehicles navigate Hill Farm bend. Vehicles are frequently observed accelerating up the hill in the Chedington direction and failing to decelerate as they descend into the village. There is a perception that most of the fast travelling HGVs are local traffic. A speed check was requested in both directions between the old Golf Club and the Old Post Office. There was also general agreement for the introduction of a 20 mile speed limit through the village. The parish council had asked DCC Highways to consider flashing 30mph signs on the approaches to the village. The response received was that small vehicle activated signs (VAS) are not used by DCC and they do not consider that there is a speeding issue in South Perrott that would be resolved by installing these signs.

- **Resurfacing** – The A356 between Winyard’s Gap Inn and the former Golf Club is scheduled to be resurfaced in October 2013. Resurfacing the section of the A356 from the western end of South Perrott to the County boundary has not been included in this schedule; however the parish council will press for this to be included.

- ❖ **Refurbishment of The Pound, South Perrott** – The stone planter has now been built by John Harris and residents have expressed their approval of the finished structure. The original intention was to pave the surround with slabs. However at the time of the SP Open Meeting the cost was prohibitive. The meeting discussed other cheaper options including gravel with slabs under the seat, which has been generously donated by Bob Buckland in memory of his late wife Sheila. Subsequent to the Open Meeting, funding for the paving slabs has been generously donated.



A geologist had visited a friend in the village recently and thought that the rock face in the Pound may be of geological interest. An examination of the rock face will be made. It has been suggested that if this outcrop is geologically significant it may be of interest to residents and visitors and an Information board could be erected.

- ❖ **Village & Parish Plans** – A working group, consisting of councillors and parishioners, is to be set up to draft a set of Village and Parish Plans. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in joining.
- ❖ **Superfast Broadband** – Cllr Rebecca Knox advised that all areas in the Beaminster Ward should be able to receive a minimum of 2mbs by the end of the year.
- ❖ **Beaminster Tunnel** – This is still on schedule to re-open by the end of June 2013. Cllr. Knox is continuing to press for the earliest possible opening, if only for one-way traffic.
- ❖ **Footpaths** – The Footpaths Officer, Dominic de la Poer gave a report to the Parish Council AGM. There are 10 footpaths and 3 bridleways within the parish and most have been trouble-free throughout the year. A section of Langmoor Lane, which is both a bridleway and footpath, has been resurfaced and greatly improved by Roger Legg and DCC using planings from the A3066 resurfacing work. The repair work to the sandbag revetment, which has been washed into the stream alongside this lane, is still outstanding. Two of the stiles on the permissive path from the Engineers Road to Chedington are potentially dangerous and need repairing. Jill Exton, DCC and the landowner have been informed. Dominic can be contacted on 01935 891601.

### Parish Councillors

Councillor	Address	Telephone No.	e-mail Address
Michael Johnson ( <i>Chairman</i> )	Chedington	01935 891347 or 07813210266	mikej.chedington@btinternet.com
Peter Simmons	Chedington	07971007551	peterjsimmonsuk@btinternet.com
Liz Fray	Chedington	01935 891941	lizfray@btinternet.com
Kate Organ ( <i>Vice-Chairman</i> )	South Perrott	01935 891391	
Sue Coutanche	South Perrott	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com
Anita Legg	South Perrott	01935 891666	

### Clerk to the Parish Council

Angela Gillingham	Bridge Farmhouse	01935 891931	clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk
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### County Councillor for Beaminster Electoral Division

Rebecca Knox	01308 863365 or 07831168173	r.knox@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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### District Councillors

Caroline Payne	01308 863690	Caroline.payne@onetel.com
Janet Page	01308 862422	member@hand-n-head.freereserve.co.uk

### Editors – Pump and Pound

Dave McSkelly	01935 891891	davemcskelly@aol.com
Sue Coutanche	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com

### 2013 Parish Council Meetings:

Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2013	“	Chedington Village Hall
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	“	South Perrott Village Hall
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	“	Chedington Village Hall

## What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

June 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00	Coffee Morning	Chedington VH	Dave - 891512
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Village Open Day Meeting	South Perrott VH	Ann - 891224
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Garage Sale	South Perrott	Wendy - 891890
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-14:30	Father's Day Carvery	Winyards Gap	Michelle - 891244
				Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00	Himalayan Balsam Attack	The Pound, SP	Anthony - 891601
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Indian Night with Chillies	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270

July 2013		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Monday	1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedington VH	Angela - 891931
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Jane - 891270
Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup>	16:00	Annual Picnic	Millennium Green	Martyn - 891931
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	12:00	Chedington Street Fair	Chedington	Dave - 891512 Michael - 891890

### Regular Events – Summer 2013

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday	19:30	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club	Coach & Horses	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday	14:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Thursday	09:30	Yoga	SP Village Hall	Ann - 891224
	18:00	Bums, Legs & Tums (BLT)	SP Village Hall	Ali - 01460 74546/
	19:00	Pilates	"	" 07753533727
Every Friday	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen - 01460 62621

**Mobile Library** - The new timetable for the mobile library effective from April 2013 is displayed on both village notice boards.

The **Annual Picnic** will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July starting at 4pm on the Millennium Green (SP Village Hall if weather does not permit). Contact details are shown above. Please bring food and drink to share.

#### Advance dates:

- South Perrott Village Open Day Sunday 11th August 2013 - contact Ann on 891224. Volunteers needed.
- The annual Flower Show is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013. For more details contact Bob on 891404 or Dominie on 891601.

#### Local Contacts:

##### Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman Dave George 01935 891512  
Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059

##### South Perrott Village Hall:

Chairman Dave McSkelly 01935 891891  
Secretary Michael Stevenette 01935 891890  
Bookings Vicky Reed 01935 891654

**Winyards Gap** Toby/Michelle 01935 891244

**Coach & Horses** Jane 01935 891270

##### St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Peter Coles 01935 891232  
Treasurer Wendy Stevenette 01935 891890

##### Millennium Green

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931