

The Pilot

July 2021



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So summer has arrived and as the supposedly hottest month of the year gets going, it's fingers crossed for the 15th. Why? Well, it's St Swithin's day and custom has it that if it rains on that day, it will continue to rain for the next 40 days! The good news is, that according to long-range weather forecasts, it's going to be sunny with a few clouds!

Anniversaries

July sees some interesting anniversaries too. July 1 1937 saw the birth of the 999 emergency service and 100 years before that the first registration of births, deaths and marriage. On the 2nd in 1928 UK women got equal voting rights and on July 21 1969 Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the moon. And for those who love a good spud, potatoes first arrived from Columbia on July 28 1586!

Closer to home, we're bringing you stories of re-openings and forthcoming events around the villages, and some heart-warming news as well. There's also some reminders about the Charminster Fete planned for August 21 (don't forget your sunflower kids, and get cake making chaps!).

Thanks to all our advertisers in The Pilot and to our contributors and delivery team.

The copy deadline for the August edition of The Pilot is Friday July 9. Please send contributions, information and comments to editor@charpilot.com.

Many thanks

Marilyn Kay (Editor)

STOP PRESS: Due to the latest Government restrictions, the Charminster Family Fun day on July 11 is **CANCELLED**. New date is September 12.



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Play ground revamp

The Broken Cross playground is to get an upgrade after young users had discussions with Charminster parish council.

The decision to put in a bench and table, BMX ramps, white lines for football and with the possibility of a shelter and bigger goal posts to come, came after a number of meetings with youngsters and older residents of the area.

Nowhere to go

There had been some complaints about noise and the use of the playground, but as the teenagers told meeting organisers, there was simply nowhere else for them to go.

Although the 14-15 year-olds were happy to walk to the North Street play area, that was not an option - particularly in winter—for the 10-12s.

The play equipment at Broken Cross is geared mainly for very young children, and with only one bench – sited by the toddler toys

– it's not working for the older ones.

Now the parish council is looking into the costs of erecting an open-sided shelter at the far end of the playground, and have agreed for a top-grade £550 table and benches to be installed as soon as possible. The teenagers have offered to build ramps themselves and are busy co-opting adult relatives into painting the white lines for a pitch.

Impressed

Parents, other residents, councillors and PCSO Sarah all said they were impressed by the young people's interest in the park, and their suggestions for how to make it work.



Young people (and not so young) meet up to discuss the future of Broken Cross play area.



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Heirlooms to duck races—it's the Charminster Fete!

Local antiques expert Tim Medhurst has been all over our tv screens in recent weeks. Viewers who watched the latest series of Antiques Road Trip will have seen Tim, partnered with Irita Marriott, touring southern England in search of bargains to sell at auction.

Happily, Tim will be bringing that eye for a bargain to Charminster Fête on August 21st. As well as opening the fête, Tim has agreed cast his experienced eye over your prized family heirlooms or other collectibles, in return for a small contribution to the fête's charity appeal. So, if you've ever wondered what that old china dog in the corner was worth, now's your chance to find out.

Donations

Lovers of such curios will find plenty to admire on the bric-a-brac stall – one of many that will be dotted around the gardens of Charminster House. Every year the fête committee appeals for donations of

books, bric-a-brac, tombola prizes, cakes and preserves to help boost takings on the day.

Arrangements about where to take your donations will be published in the next edition of The Pilot which will be popping through your letter-boxes in late July. The organisers are still keen to hear from anyone who would like to help erect the stalls and staff them on the big day. Contact Nigel Kay at nigelrkay@gmail.com

And as well as the many stalls, there'll be plenty to entertain all the family, including the dog show, a duck race on the stream. an activities area for younger children, Punch and Judy and plenty to eat and drink.



All the fun of the fete!



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Generosity rises from the ashes of Bert's workshop

When flames shot through the roof of 91 year-old Bert Bishop's workshop in Higher Charminster, it looked like his carpentry and cabinet making days were over.

Fortunately Bert was out at the time but came home to find the road blocked with fire engines and his workshop and collection of tools built up over 70 years, destroyed.

£780 raised

But thanks to the prompt action of Lydia Key and the generosity of villagers, Bert could be back in business enjoying his lifelong hobby sooner than might have been possible. For Lydia, who said she was heart-broken to see the fire, set up a fund-raising page on line and got £780 for Bert to start putting things back together.

She said: "I don't actually know Bert, but I live in Charminster Farm and thought that as a community we could do something to help him out. I think a fire is the worst possible thing and find it so sad that he's lost so many irreplaceable things. At least he can make a start building his workshop up again."

And Bert's grandson Adam Keeler has asked The Pilot to pass on Bert's thanks to everyone who donated. He said: "Luckily no one was hurt but as he is 91 and still works making garden benches and polishing up antiques, he is well known in the community. What grandad wants to say is:

"Thank you very much for the donations to help rebuild the workshop. It means a lot and was a great surprise. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the village" - Bert Bishop



Flames destroy the roof and contents of Bert's workshop

Off to see the birds—rain or shine!



Our meetings are not usually as exciting as Guides – but we could have an afternoon session cooking in boxes!

We had our first Café Catch-up since February 2020 in the café at the Shire Hall. The next will be trying out the café in the Museum – we do need to test it!

Falconry

Our outdoor monthly meeting had to be Zoom instead as we managed to clash with the only wet day recently, but whatever the weather, our next meeting is an outing to Extreme Falconry at Lewell.

In 2019 one of our speakers was from the falconry – he was excellent and entertaining, as were the birds he brought with him – and we decided to visit the falconry at the earliest opportunity. Little did we know that there would be a pandemic in between.

Our latest collections of Memory blankets and twiddlemuffs will be going to DCH soon – many thanks to people who have given us donations of wool recently.

Judy Thompson

Chairperson. 01305 263783. E-mail: jct231@outlook.com

If you or your daughter would like to join Rainbows, Brownies or Guides, you can find out more about what we do from the Guiding website www.girlguiding.org.uk. You can also register your interest and join a waiting list there.



Sweet treats for Charminster Guides and Brownies

Guides and Brownies have made the most of good by being outside and enjoying an active sports evening one week and outdoor cooking the next.

Judy's garden was the scene for both groups. Brownies learned how to build different types of fire and then made delicious camp doughnuts, which are jam sandwiches coated in egg and flour and fried. A popular camp dessert!

Cardboard ovens

Guides made ovens from cardboard boxes and cooked cakes in them over instant barbecues, which have less chance of setting the 'oven' on fire than open flames. They then enjoyed their cakes.

To make a cardboard box oven, you remove the flaps from one end of a medium sized cardboard box, cut three sides round the other end to make a lid and carefully cover both inside and out with tin foil, making sure any gaps are secured with tape. Cut a slit in each side and insert a



metal coat hanger or skewers to make a shelf and you're ready. Next, make cupcakes or scones, place on a foil tray and put on the shelf in the oven. Now carefully place your oven over a barbecue which was lit earlier, gently weight the top down with a piece of wood or stone, wait 10 -15 minutes then lift the box off the barbecue or fire using an oven glove and check. Cakes and scones are usually done and ready to eat.

Word of warning...If you use an open fire, you need brick sides so you can balance your oven and need to be extra careful when lifting the oven off. There is also more chance that the fire will find any gaps in the foil and set your oven on fire, burning your cakes.

Alli and Sue (Brownies)

Alli, Ann and Christine (Guides)

Contact: Allie4t@aol.com.

...07483429596 (Guides and Brownies)

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/>



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AND BAR. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CREATING NEW MEMORIES AND SEEING YOU ALL
SOON AGAIN. PS - LOOK OUT FOR ONGOING SPECIALS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Local news in brief:

- Charminster Parish Councillors have welcomed two new members. Julie Jackson was co-opted to serve as a representative for the North Ward (Charlton Down and Forston) while Louisa Swabey-Payne was co-opted to represent the South Ward (Charminster).
- A revised plan for the proposed development on Strawberry Field in Charminster was described as “dreadful” by Councillor Keith Beeson. The applicants have reduced the number of houses on the site from 89 to 80 and adjusted the boundaries of the development. But council chairman Mark Simons said the revised application had not addressed any of the issues raised by the council. Mr Beeson said the visual impact was still unacceptable and councillors saw no reason to withdraw their objections to the application.
- Eight new nesting boxes have been installed in Prince’s Plot, Charminster. All are numbered so children might like to see how many they can spot, but not disturb.
- The parish council is examining the feasibility of installing electric car charging points in Charminster and Charlton Down. Councillors agreed in principle that the charging points could be installed in public spaces, but they needed to investigate the cost and potential sources of funding.
- And at St Mary’s C of E, V.C. First School, Charminster, there’s a vacancy for a school governor who has interest or experience in finance and/or health and safety. If you would like to play a significant role in the school community and support our successful and popular school please contact the headteacher, Suzanne Garner, on 01305 263880 or email the Chair of Governors, lynpaine@charminster.dorset.sch.uk, for further information.

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Dr Donald Dick, former head of Herrison Hospital.

The former senior consultant psychiatrist at Herrison Hospital, has died at the age of 86. His cremation was held on June 11.

Donald Dick, of Brooklands, North Street, Charminster, leaves a wife, former parish council chair Caroline, four children, 11 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter as well as a legacy of modern mental health care throughout the UK and in many other countries.

Circus manager

Donald was born the third son of medical parents in Leeds just before the Second World War. As a bright child (who passed 19 O levels) he obtained support and a state scholarship to Trinity College Cambridge to read Medicine in 1952.

Before university and completing his clinical training at St Bart's and St

George's in London, his first paid job was as manager to an Edinburgh circus! "He was always very proud of that," said Caroline.

In 1967 he was appointed as Consultant Psychiatrist for West Dorset at Herrison Hospital in Charminster. His career in psychiatry was distinguished and he was involved in many high-level enquiries into mental health as well as sitting on the boards of Broadmoor and Rampton Hospitals and national advisory roles.

After retirement he and Caroline travelled extensively, but Donald loved his Charminster garden with a special interest in trees. He helped plant the Eliza Oxley Wood in the village in conjunction with the Kenneth Miles Trust.



*Dr Donald Dick in his beloved
Charminster garden*



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It's July and it's The Pilot Quiz!

Try your hand at this month's quiz with a mixture of questions: some local and some (loosely) linked to the month of July.

1. Hollywood actress Julie Christie is to take part in this month's Thomas Hardy Society Festival in Dorchester. In which film based on a Hardy novel did she make her name?
2. Name the 1964 hit recorded by the Four Pennies.
3. What event is celebrated annually by the French on July 14th?
4. Which motor manufacturer is associated with the Giulietta?
5. What is the main ingredient of a Mint Julep cocktail (other than mint)?
6. Maria is the lead female character in the 1961 film West Side Story. On which Shakespeare character is she based?
7. Guglielmo Marconi died in Rome on 20 July 1937 at the age of 63. But he made his name as "the father of radio" in Dorset. Where was his base?
8. Who was the actress who played Bet Lynch in Coronation Street.
9. "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind". This lunar plaque was signed by the crew of Apollo 11 and who else?
10. What was the name of the BBC's hit TV drama featuring a female police inspector originally played by Stephanie Turner?

Answers on page 43





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Still zooming at Charminster WI



Charminster WI's June meeting was again held over Zoom.

The business section of the meeting included ideas for future outings and events which led to much discussion and laughter. This was followed by the answers to the Treasure Hunt, which had been completed prior to the meeting. The meeting ended with a Dorset Quiz, which tested our knowledge of the beautiful county in which we live, unfortunately for some of us not very successfully!

The July monthly meeting will be held in Charminster Community hall on Tuesday 13th at 7.30pm and will feature visiting Alpacas. Anyone who would be interested in learning more about the WI and what it has to offer would be welcome to attend.

There are many opportunities to learn new crafts, play skittles, join walking, reading and drama groups or just to make new friends.

You can be sure of a friendly reception from existing members who are always ready to welcome new members. If you are interested please contact Judy Thompson 01305 263783 or Doreen Sadd 01305 267498 and we would be delighted to answer any questions or queries you may have.

We look forward to seeing you in July.

Doreen Sadd (Juliet Austin is away)



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“Joe Root” in the making at CDCC?

While England’s Test team slumped to an ignominious series defeat against New Zealand, a brighter future was on display at Charlton Down Cricket Club.

Forty youngsters aged 5 to 8 have been taking part every Sunday morning in coaching sessions where the accent is on fun as well as skills. The course aims to begin a lifelong love of physical activity and cricket, while making friends in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Players of the future

And to add to the success of the Club’s weekend opening for pizza and drinks, they’re putting on breakfast bacon baps to keep the parents happy while the kids get the runs in.

Club coach Tommy Tucker hopes that some of the children taking part this summer will go on to play for the club in the future. And who knows? Maybe one of them is in line to become a future Joe Root!



Cricketing youngsters at Charlton Down



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Green fingers at Scout Hut.

Charminster Beavers and Cubs are working for their Gardeners Badge at their different section levels.

The Beavers are learning about trees during the different seasons and the Cubs are learning about the insects which benefit or pollinate the garden.

They have all grown cress, planted sunflower seeds and petunias. The Cubs have also planted potatoes, cuttings from herbs and some mange touts at the Scout Hut.

We are very grateful for the £300 from the Harvest Draw raised by the Three Compasses and hope to arrange a free outing for all our young people.

Covid safe

It is lovely to see all our young people face to face again after so long, and we are amazed at how much they have all grown—just like the plants!.

Each section is so pleased to be enjoying fun and games together once more.

Our building has Covid safe measures



After riotous games, Beavers get down to some gardening with Ruth

but we are all meeting outside as much as possible.

As five of our Beavers are swimming up to Cubs we have spaces for more young people from 6 to 8 years to come and join us. Beavers meet from 5 to 6 pm on a Wednesday evening at the Scout Hut in Mill Lane. Their motto is Fun and Friends.

We are also looking for more adults to help bring Scouting to our young people, Training is free and Scouting is fun. Why not try it?

Ruth Young (Group Scout Leader)



Table Tennis is Back!

Ping pong? Wiff waff? Whatever the name, Table Tennis is back at Charminster Village Hall

Every Wednesday from 7pm - 9pm ping pong fans can get together for gentle, lively or downright competitive games.

Fancy joining us ? Whether you have played before or fancy giving it a go , you will find a friendly welcome , and don't worry, all levels are catered for .

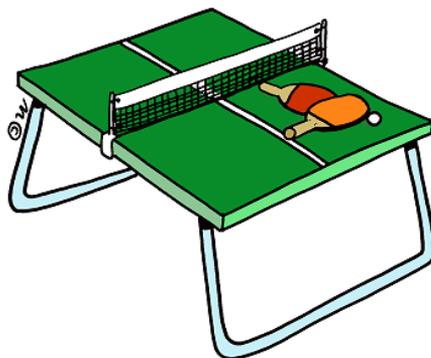
Come and enjoy a bit of fun as we look forward to meeting new mem-

bers at the Charminster Table Tennis club . All welcome but children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult .

The first event—the first since lockdown closed everything in March last year—is on June 23

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From the Clergy...

The pandemic has caused suffering for many people. We just have to look around Dorchester to see how many businesses have closed, and any hospital worker can relate just how much damage there has been in human terms. Why has God let it happen? This is a mystery and a block to faith for many people.

We are also faced with great concerns over climate change, and coupled with the pandemic, some ask are these signs of the end of our world as we know it?

The end is near?

Jesus was challenged on this sort of thing. His answer was "Don't let anyone mislead you - don't believe them - don't panic. We cannot know when the end will come" (Matthew 24).

Those words were spoken 2000 years ago, since when many pandemics have killed large numbers of people. Since Jesus, many have compared current events to Bible prophecies and predicted the end was near. They have all been wrong.

But we all have tasks. We are all part of God's creation and this brings with

it responsibilities. Should we wear a face mask when required? Should we be vaccinated? To me, the answer clearly is "Yes"! These are common sense and simple actions everyone can take to protect themselves and others. Jesus taught that one of the most important of all commandments is, "Love your neighbour as yourself " What could be more respectful and loving than wearing a mask and getting vaccinated to prevent accidentally infecting other people with a disease that could make them very sick or even kill them?

Global family

The UK is comparatively rich in world economic terms. If we are really to love our neighbours as ourselves then we need to help poor nations to achieve good vaccination levels. Not only is this desirable in terms of ethics and compassion, it is also necessary in terms of our own control of Covid 19. This virus has become more easily transmitted through mutations.

We live in a global family in which we all have responsibilities. This is all about "Who is my neighbour?"

Hugh Willis FRSPH

Hon Associate Minister

JULY 2021 at St MARY'S, CHARMINSTER

Please note that these services may be subject to change depending on the regulations issued by the Government

Sunday 4th July - Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Tuesday 6th July - T@SM - 9.00 am until 12 noon

Sunday 11th July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Baptism Service

Tuesday 13th July - T@SM - 9.00 am until 12 noon

Sunday 18th July - Seventh Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

6.00 pm Evensong

Tuesday 20th July - T@SM - 9.00 am until 12 noon

Sunday 25th July - Eighth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

Tuesday 27th July - T@SM - 9.00 am until 12 noon



JULY 2021 AT ST MICHAEL'S, STINSFORD

Please note that these services may be subject to change depending on the regulations issued by the Government

Sunday 4th July - Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 11th July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am BCP Mattins with Bishop Karen

Sunday 18th July - Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 25th July - Eighth Sunday after Trinity

6.00 pm Evensong

Online Services for both St Mary's and St Michael's

If you would like to receive links to our online services via Zoom

please contact

Rev. Mark Phillips – 01305 262477 or Jean Garrard – 01305 259083

Every Wednesday - 11.30 am Mid-week Zoom Service



Stinsford News

From Michael Clarke

Bees, beans and bills to pay!

The beans are ready to go in (so hopefully no more frosts) and the St Michael's church bees in the south aisle roof have attempted to swarm. And in the churchyard, there's been plenty of colour from the floristry students at Kingston Maurward College who have been wreath-making and donating them to the church.

Our United Benefice Evensong saw us all having a glass of fizz and a slice of cake in the cemetery after the service. Whilst that was enjoyed by all, the sermon was equally riveting, a wonderful explanation of the Trinity to a good number in the congregation.

Deficit

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting "APCM" has been held, but we are still looking for a Secretary, so if you'd like to help, please come forward - we would be overjoyed. The accounts were presented and like so many other parishes in the Deanery we had a deficit. Not surprising when the

church was all but closed for nine months, with no services or visitors, Michaelmas or Christmas Fayres to produce an income. But still there are bills to pay. The PCC extend their sincere thanks to all who responded to our messages for help.

Thomas Hardy specials

The Thomas Hardy Birthday Weekend Service took place with the Venerable Penny Sayer, Archdeacon of Sherborne, both offering communion and giving the sermon relating Hardy's themes through poetry and novels and the three readings. This was followed by laying a wreath on TH's grave and poetry readings.

July will bring the Thomas Hardy International Conference postponed from 2020. Check the Hardy Society website to see if there is anything of particular interest to you.

On the first Sunday of the Conference, The Right Reverend, Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne will be present and will dedicate the original stone to Thomas Hardy from Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey, now installed in St Michael's. We hope to see you there.

Pigs, lambs and donkeys cheer old countrymen

For older men who have worked in farming, horticulture or other countryside pursuits, retirement or perhaps ill-health can be isolating and make them downright fed-up.

That's where the Countrymen Club UK comes in.

Like minds

The local club is based at Rylands Farm, a few miles south of Sherborne, and gives men a chance to care for animals – sheep, cows, pigs, donkeys, ponies, chickens – tend to their allotment and plant tunnel, take up country crafts and generally chat and enjoy like minds.



Graham, Richard and a friend!

There's Graham (84), a former aero-engineer who built his own plane and used to have a "hobby" farm and Richard, who's in his nineties and the former deputy Lieutenant of Somerset after a long naval career. Or Phil, who was a dairy farmer and contract milker who just loves being back with the animals on Club day.



Jan with new lambs at Rylands

Said Jan Millward, who runs the club, says some of the regulars have a degree of dementia and others need help with mobility (there are special tracks around the farm to ensure no-one is left out), but everyone gets something from their meeting.

So if you're interested in supporting this delightful project, or have a retired father, grandfather or just yourself and want to get involved, call Jan on 01963 210703 or email admin@countrymenuk.org

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Minterne House in the Cerne Valley is the stunning backdrop for this year's Summer Fair to be held on Sunday 18th July. With one of the best shrub gardens in England and 100-year old rhododendrons and azaleas at their peak splendour, this promises to be a popular day out for all the family and your dogs.

The fair will have Head Gardener Mark Bobin on hand to answer your horticultural questions, and will see the BBC's former chief news correspondent Kate Adie CBE using her observational skills to judge the family dog show!

Punch & Judy, BUG-FEST, Craft stands, Plant Stalls, R.N.L.I. Souvenirs, Food, Cakes & Cream Teas will be some of the attractions on offer; alongside demonstrations from the Longbow Champion.

There are also wonderful walks in 27 acres of woodland garden through towering rhododendrons in full bloom collected since the 1840s

The Spring Fair is in aid of the village church and the R.N.L.I, again this year. The day starts at 11.00am and ends at 4.30pm. Entrance is £5 for adults and children free. Parking is also available at no charge.



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Eyes down!

Bingo returns to Charminster Village Hall later this year.

Members of the hall committee have been drawing up plans for the hall's re-opening this summer. And among their priorities is the resumption of popular Friday evening events including bingo and village quizzes.

Booking secretary Sarah Bird introduced bingo nights to the hall three years ago and they were an instant hit with more than 90 people packing the hall. It's still not clear whether the government's covid restrictions will mean that numbers have to be

reduced this year, but organisers are hopeful that the first bingo night will go ahead at the end of October without too much disruption.

Some of the hall's regular users have already started using the hall again for meetings. And from this month there will be dog training classes in the hall every Monday evening. It looks like being a busy few months!



Summer Pudding at St Mary's

No, it's not the berries and bread English pud but an entirely different confection being presented by the Charminster Follies.

The Follies, who are all close old friends of church stalwart Bernard Tinker, performed in the village before when they helped raise funds after the church was badly flooded.

This time, they're answering the call

to lift lockdown spirits with a "Dessert Revue of Music, Laughter and Refreshment".

The event is being held in St Mary's Church on Saturday July 10 at 6.30 pm. Tickets are £7 a head to include the entertainment, a glass of wine or juice and nibbles. Proceeds are in aid of the church.

The event must be pre-booked—there is no on-door admission on the night. Tickets are from Bernard Tinker on 01305 213403.

New path nears completion

The new footpath alongside North Street to Higher Charminster should be completed by the end of May when contractors lay the Tarmac. New hedging has been planted to fill the gaps which had to be removed during the works, and a wildflower border is also planned. The path will improve safety for pedestrians who previously had to walk on the busy road.

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House for Duty Priest (The Chalk Stream)	The Reverend Pene Kennedy	251422
Curate, Charminster, Stinsford & Chalk Stream Villages	The Reverend Leila Mather	263761
Hon. Associate Minister	The Reverend Dr Hugh Willis	262940
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PCC Secretary	Jean Garrard	259083
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Jones	264316

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Churchwardens	Shirley Churchill	260159
	Sally Warburton	269161
PCC Treasurer	Michael A Clarke	267611

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Answers to the July Quiz

How did you do?

1. Far from the Madding Crowd
2. Juliet
3. The storming of the Bastille in the French Revolution.
4. Alfa Romeo built their first Giulietta in 1954.
5. Bourbon
6. Juliet in Romeo and Juliet.
7. The Haven Hotel, Sandbanks, Poole.
8. Julie Goodyear
9. President Richard Nixon
10. Juliet Bravo.



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	Parish Clerk: Sarah Davies	07947 622326
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	Bob Brinton	260511
	Tim Yarker	265942
St Mary's First School	Headteacher: Suzanne Garner	263880
	Caretaker: Belinda Bessant	266598
Pre-School	Vanessa Thomas	251512
Village Hall	Bookings: Sarah Bird	266478
Women's Institute	Judy Thompson	263783
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Flood Warden	Carol Matthews	751535

STINSFORD CONTACTS

Stinsford Parish Council	Parish Clerk: Kirsty Rigler stinsfordclerk@googlemail.com	268818
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Charminster & Charlton Down

Q. What is being done to encourage wildlife on Prince's Plot, our Local Nature Reserve?

A: The Parish Council recently put up 8 new bird nesting boxes on Prince's Plot. There is plenty more room for other boxes e.g. Robins (open-fronted) and bat boxes (different shape with a slot). Main thing is they mustn't be treated timber. There are plenty of easy designs on-line. Why not have fun with your children and make one? The Parish Council will put them up for you on Prince's Plot. The same can be done for the nature area at Charlton Down. Let's show a little communal effort and have fun at the same time.



Q. Are there actually proposals for wind turbines near Charminster?

A: Following an article in last month's Pilot we felt the need to clarify what actually is proposed. A few years ago there was a major planning application for wind turbines but what we are seeing here now is just areas across Dorset which are deemed to have potential, identified in the Local Plan. The area to the north-east of Charlton Down is one of those areas. There are no proposals. If proposals were to come forward in the future there would be major public consultation. We also need to be aware Dorset Council (along with many other councils) have declared a climate emergency.

South Ward (Charminster village)

Keith Beeson	264032
Peter Dangerfield	260543
Richard East	264724
Alan Rolls	267863
Mark Simons (Chairman)	260055
Tim Yarker	265942
Louisa Swabey-Payne	TBC

North Ward (Charlton Down & Forston)

Carol Matthews (Vice-chair)	751535
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Charminster Parish Council