

## Newsletter 2017

Welcome to the 2017 Sopley Newsletter.

I hope you have all had a great year and enjoy reading this year's Newsletter.

One of my key focuses for the next year is going to be traffic! Working in and around the village on a regular basis I am shocked by how fast motorists travel through here. With simple cost effective measures I am sure we can improve the situation.

We continue as a council to look for solutions to slow the ever increasing traffic. One of the ways that we do this is through the new Speedwatch Scheme, which we are looking for willing volunteers to join and support. Please contact Katie Hughes (Parish Clerk) for more info. This will give us evidence to share with Hampshire Highways to work towards slowing the speed of the traffic through the village. If anyone has any thoughts or ideas on how to reduce the speed of the traffic, then I would be more than happy to hear them.

The Parish Hall is a real central hub for the Parish and continues to run many events throughout the year which is a great way to get together with friends and family. Keep a look out for future events and why not come along.

It was with great sadness that I heard of the passing of Mr Tim Gibson, 'Tim was a dedicated and valued member of Sopley Parish Council — on which he served as both a Councillor and, latterly, Council Chairman for nearly 30 years. Having lived in the Parish for almost his entire life, there was very little that he didn't know about the history and development of Sopley and Bransgore and there were many occasions when his background knowledge proved invaluable to his Council colleagues. The present Parish Council was very sorry to hear of his passing and the members would like to offer their sincere condolences to his widow, Jackie, and daughter, Michelle'.

I would like to say that on the whole it as been another good productive year. We have achieved things and are still working on other matters. I would like to thank members of the community, Parish Councilor's and the Clerk for their support and hard work over the past year.

Dan Shutler, Chairman (Sopley Parish Council).

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Dates for your Diary
Parish Council Meetings are usually held on the third Thursdays
every other month @ 7.30pm in the Parish Hall - confirmed dates
are advertised in the Parish Boards and on the website:

www.sopley.gov..uk.

AGM & Annual Assembly
Thursday, 18th May 2017 at 7.30pm

Inside this year's Issue.....

Annual Assembly

Parish Hall

Sopley School

**UK Youth News** 

Avon Tyrrell Estate

Community

Responders

Moorlands College

Sopley Festival 2017

Idelica

Friends of Sopley Church

Sopley Village WI

**Upcoming Events** 

Fortune Centre

All events are held at the Parish Hall unless otherwise stated and are subject to change.

Please keep an eye on the Parish Boards and website.

www.Sopley.gov.uk.

Any queries please contact one of the Parish Hall committee members or

email parish.clerk@sopley.gov.



## **SOPLEY FESTIVAL**

## Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2017

Moorlands College 12-5pm

Vintage Tractors Classic Cars Steam Engines Fun Dog Show Craft & Produce stalls Bar & BBQ

Tea lawn with refreshments and live entertainment from local performers, including The Bluestockings Vocal Trio Children's play area with games and activities for all ages.

#### General enquiries

Stallholder enquiries

Sopley Festival SopleyFestival2017@gmail.com Ann Ramm 01425 674668

#### www.sopley.gov.uk/sopley-parish-hall

Organised by Sopley Parish Hall Committee Charity No. 1130934

All monies raised go towards the refurbishment of Sopley Parish Hall





#### Parish Clerk's Report

Email: parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk
Telephone: 01425 674833
Mobile: 07935 448405

Hi All,

As already mentioned by Chairman Shutler we are still trying to get our Community Speedwatch Scheme off the ground. We need a minimum of six people to start the project and get the volunteers training started. I have the application forms and can print and send or email as appropriate please just let me know, my email is parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk or call me on either of the telephone numbers above.

I would like to thank all those that helped with the litter pick at the start of April it again was a fantastic turn out. I have pencilled in next year's date at this stage and hope you may be able to pop it in your diaries for next year 14th & 15th April 2018. This will be confirmed in the Parish Boards/Websites nearer the time.

As with all Events I am more than happy to print and advertise on the above too. Just drop me an email, parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk.

2016 was an interesting year and some big projects were undertaken, a rather large tree came down in the Cemetery and had to be removed, a vehicle hit the Lychgate on the entrance to the Cemetery and luckily for us the Sopley Community spirit kicked in again and some lovely Parishioners offered to repair and put good the damage. So thanks to them again. Also a number of trees had to be lopped and maintained at Shirley Common which was no cheap matter either, still the funds look healthy and the Council continues with a steady bank balance and we were still able to donate funds to the Parish Hall Refurbishment Project. If anybody would like to have a look at the proposed plans and offer their services please contact me.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Annual Sopley Festival has had a change of venue for this year and will be held at Moorlands College on Ringwood Road. I look forward to seeing you all there on 15th July 2017. 12 until 5pm with lots of Craft stalls, Live Entertainment, bars, BBQ's Dog Show's, tea and coffee and cakes stalls. Then in the evening live entertainment and food from 7pm in the grounds of the Woolpack Inn.

With all kind wishes,

Katie x





#### Annual Sopley Spring Clean 2017

Many thanks to all of the Parishioners who helped with the Annual Litter Pick on Saturday 8th April 2017.

Great turnout again and a lovely dry sunny day for it, thanks also to the lovely people who helped in the background and ensured the rubbish collections were appropriately placed and then collected by NFDC.

Thanks also to the Woolpack for letting us congregate in the lovely pub garden after the litterpick.

Confirmed dates will be listed on the Parish Noticeboards and website. www.sopley.gov.uk

Next year's Litter Pick date is pencilled in for 14th April 2018 so please make a note in you Diary.

#### D.SHUTLER FENCING & EQUESTRIAN CONTRACTORS



www.sopley.gov.uk





**Sopley Village WI** has enjoyed a fun packed year, we meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, usually at the Sopley Village Hall, Priest Lane.

Monthly meetings have been enthusiastically attended by an increasing membership this year who have made new friends, socialised, drunk tea, coffee, wine ate sumptuous cakes, arranged flowers, learnt about the benefit's of hypnotherapy, met the new vicar Rev Nigel Lacey, made beautiful felt brooches but most of all had fun. Classes as diverse as Cheese making and Christmas Door wreath making have also been enjoyed by some members.

Members are encouraged to show off their skills, even find talents they didn't know they had in the New Forest Show in the WI Tent, 2016 theme "Once Upon a Time" with many awards gained in classes from 'James and the Giant Peach' (peach chutney), 'Romeo and Juliet' (a beaded gift from him to her), flower arranging and photography. Our entry in the story sack competition a display relating to the children's book 'Blown Away' may not have been a winner at the show but it certainly was on Ocean ward,

Southampton General Hospital where the staff and children were thrilled with our donation.

We continue to support village events as a WI we again had a very successful bottle tombola at the Summer Festival, it was a beautiful sunny fun packed day. WI member Janet with friends and members supplied copious cups of tea and cakes to members of the public and again on the not so sunny

afternoon in September Janet friends and some members could be found serving teas at the brass band concert. This year promises to be as interesting and busy, with this years programme available and plans for the Sopley Festival (15th July at a new venue), our social summer BBQ and a Christmas Fayre with craft stalls, afternoon tea and entertainment being planned to which you are all invited.

DO PLEASE LOOK AT THE PARISH NOTICBOARDS FOR OUR MEETING TOPICS OR WEBSITE WWW.SOPLEY.GOV.UK

All local ladies are welcome for find out more and come along for a "taster" evening, for which a  $\pm 4.00$  charge is payable. The Annual Membership is  $\pm 39.00$ , for more information contact Trish or Katie.

Chairman Trish Powell: 01425 672503 or Trishp24@hotmail.com Secretary Katie Hughes: 01425 674833— parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk Find out more about the Women's Institute go here: www.thewi.org.uk

#### **2017 DIARY**

### SOPLEY VILLAGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Meetings held in Sopley Village Hall, Priest Lane, Sopley BH23 7BA

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month

7.00pm-9.00pm

Visitors pay £4.00 per meeting

	Meeting including our vote
	on 2017 Resolutions

Feb 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lisa Lockyer – Tropic
	Cosmetics

Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sally Mackness - Home
	Furnishings

May 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Annual Meeting, Supper &amp;</b>
мау 10	Ukelele playing!

Jun 20th	<b>Tour of Moorlands College</b>
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Jul 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Summer Party</b>	– Ma	ggie's
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Aug 15 <sup>th</sup>   Social Evening: make & chair	Aug 15 <sup>th</sup>	Social	<b>Evening:</b>	make	& chat
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## Dec 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party with seasonal entertainment and food

#### President:

Mrs Trish Powell 01425 673521 Trishp24@hotmail.com

#### **Secretary:**

Mrs Katie Hughes 01425 674833 Parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk Committee may change at the Annual Meeting in May 2017.

For more information about the WI:

National Federation: www.thewi.org.uk

Hampshire Federation: www.hampshirewi.org.uk



#### OWLS BARN FARM CAR BOOT SALES

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Upcoming Sopley Parish Council meetings, please note these are Council Meetings held in Public not a Public Meeting.

18/05/17-7.30pm AGM Annual Assembly.
22/06/17-7.30pm Audit Finance Meeting
20/07/17-7.30pm SPC Meeting
21/09/17-7.30pm SPC Meeting
26/11/17-7.30pm Finance Meeting
23/11/17-7.30pm SPC Meeting
18/01/18-7.30pm SPC Meeting
15/03/17-7.30pm SPC Meeting
15/03/17-7.30pm SPC Meeting

Agendas and Minutes are available at www.sopley.gov.uk

## Your local Sparky!



- \*Rewires, full or partial, no job too small (or too big!)
- \*Regularly work on farms, stables, barns, outbuildings
- \*External wiring to gardens, ponds, outbuildings, gazebos, etc.
- \*Thatched, listed and period properties a speciality
- \*Full inspection and testing to City & Guilds 2391 for property

pre-sales and pre-purchase

- \*Inspection & testing reports for insurance company requirements
- \*Fault-finding
- \*Security lighting
- \*New supplies installed, underground & catenary (overhead)
- \*Full £2M public liability and public indemnity insurance
- \*Part P registered all work guaranteed
- \*Many years experience working for leading aerospace and defence companies worldwide
- \*References available, mostly from local households and **businesses**









#### Sopley Parish Hall Annual Report – 2017



I'll start with a brief opening shot to make some of our longer standing community members feel their age. Can you believe that it was 10 years ago when we first began the process of applying for grant funding to raise money towards the costs of refurbishing our Parish Hall? Well, it was, and I'm pleased to say that the facility has been well used and very much at the heart of our Community ever since. However, in 2007 we could only raise sufficient funds to refurbish Phase 1 of the project – that was the main hall, and to provide much needed new toilet facilities and a foyer. This was enough to enable us to open for business, but it left us with Phase 2 outstanding, which was the refurbishment of the kitchen, bar, storage rooms and the small hall, - all in a very sorry state of repair, and we have been raising funds ever since to enable us to finish the job by rebuilding them too. We now believe that through our fund raising efforts, and with help and support from Sopley Parish Council, we have saved nearly enough money to complete the job, and the Hall Committee are currently considering a variety of alternative ways to bring the restoration project to a conclusion.

We have had another great year again in 2016 - 17, with continued use from all our usual users including Sopley WI, Glad Rags, Stage Door, Reiki, Hurn & Dorset Caravan Club, Christchurch Bicycle Club, Friends of Sopley Church, and more recently we have hosted Hurn Air Scouts whilst they await completion of their new accommodation slightly nearer home. Sadly, we lost one of our best and most worthwhile customers, The Stable Family Homes Trust Touching Base Club, following a devastating accident involving their Manager Mary Hindmarch and her partner. We wish them all the very best and hope to have them back with us as a Hall user at sometime in the future.

Throughout the last twelve months we have tried to provide a continuous programme of community activities which have included:

Beer & Skittles. Always a favourite and hosted, as usual, by Cynthia and Norman Hiscock.

Car Treasure Hunt. With a record number of entries this year, and an excellent BBO supper provided by Steve and Dianne Banger

Beetle Drive and Bingo. Two new events for us, and they'll certainly be included in the programme for the coming year.

Quiz Night. With questions this year set by Quiz Mistress Ann Collins and her Family, and won by the victorious Melling family of Priest's Lane - who now have the dubious honour of setting the questions for next year's event.

The Sopley Festival 2016 was the biggest and best yet – hosted at Owls Barn and the Vicarage by Ron and Lizzy Lakey and their neighbour Kate White. Ron and Lizzy are going to take a well earned break from the Festival in 2017, so this year we are grateful to Moorlands Bible College for allowing us to host the Festival in their grounds on July 15th. In addition for the traditionalists amongst us, and if Kate agrees, we would still like to hold a quintessentially English Garden Party at the Vicarage during September.

Christmas Party and St Patrick's night celebrations. These were two excellent events, very well attended and great fun with live music provided by our own House Band, The Hall Raisers. At this point, and with the sound of our recent St Patrick's night celebrations still ringing in my ears, I have to say a big thank you to the Hall Raisers for providing musical entertainment at our local functions for many years now, helping us to raise much needed funds for our Hall restoration project. Well done, and thank you to Phil Emmel, Ron Lakey, Chas Rowden, Siubhan O'Neill, and John Eccles – helped along by numerous other local musicians who have been press ganged into performing for us along the way.

Thanks to all our committee members for slogging away throughout the year to enable us to run the Hall. New additions Steve & Dianne Banger and Ian & Judy Pinder have made a tremendous difference to the rest of us.

No report would be complete without the usual appeal for help. All of our committee members will claim to be over worked and under paid, (laugh out loud if you want to!), so we are always in need of additional help and support of any kind to enable us to run the Hall and provide a programme of Community events throughout the year. Please come forward and help us make the glue that sticks our community together!

Caroline Paul Chair – Sopley Parish Hall Committee.





SOPLEY
PARISH
COUNCIL
ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING &
ANNUAL
ASSEMBLY 2017



#### THURSDAY 18th May 2017 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

After the conclusion of a brief session of formal business, the Annual Assembly provides an opportunity for Parishioners to raise for general discussion, any matters or suggestions that may be of concern or interest to the wider community.

The meeting will then be addressed by our guest speaker PC Sam, who will be available to introduce himself to the local community and answer any questions you may have for him.



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# VINTAGE TEA PARTY AT SMUGGLERS SOPLEY SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017 AT 2pm- 5pm



IN AID OF ST MICHAELS & ALL ANGELS CHURCH FUNDS, SOPLEY

#### **ALL WELCOME**

ENTRY £3.50 TO INCLUDE TEA AND HOME MADE CAKE. TICKETS IN ADVANCE FROM DEE DUNN 07766 523907 OR KATRINA WEST 07749 622070



## Friends Of Sopley Church

#### FRIENDS OF SOPLEY CHURCH

The Friends of Sopley Church is a charity which was set up originally by Rev Alan Sessford in March 1977 for the purpose of raising funds to help maintain our beautiful church, it has grown over the years and we have funded several projects. We are now proud to celebrate 40 years since the Friends was started and hope that this year we finally see the restoration of the Mural above the Chancel Arch, a project that has been a long time in getting to this stage but we hope that the work will begin during the summer. We have a small committee and at present about 90 members. We hold social events through the year to raise funds and everyone is welcome at these you don't have to be a member. If anyone would like to become a member it costs £5 a year just contact me on 01425 672755 for more information.

The following events have been arranged for the coming year:

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 12 Noon – Summer Lunch at Thorney Hill Community Centre.

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 7pm – Quiz Night at Sopley Village Hall. Saturday 9th December 10.30am – Sherry & Mince Pies at The Old Vicarage Sopley

Jackie Gibson (Secretary)



#### The Woolpack Inn

Many thanks to you all for your continued support.

The woolpack has had many successful events over the past year, it was lovely to see in the new year with so many of you and with the 80's band "YOU an ME

BOTH" in what was possibly the best new year's eve party ever, and a great time had by all.

Ouiz night has proved very popular and Tuesday nights have a great community turn out, it is really good to see all of the locals joining together and having fun. If you're interested in coming along and taking part it's on a Tuesday at 8.30pm it's only £1 per

person to play and teams no more than 6.

For those budding musicians or those of you that like to listen to some up and coming talent we have open mic here the last Monday of the month starting at 8.pm.



The Christchurch and Highcliffe brass band played in the garden last August the beautiful sounds could be heard across the village, they also came along to play Christmas carols on the evening of our grand Xmas draw. We will be welcoming them back for the summer garden event on the 13<sup>th</sup> August they will be starting at 12.30pm

We had two very successful butchery evenings hosted by the award winning Peter Treble butchers, they were great fun and very informative and the proof was in the tasting. We have more butchery evenings coming up so keep an eye out on our Facebook page or website.





We have been attending the Sopley village fair with our stall selling our homemade bar snacks, pork pies, sausage rolls, crackling and scotch eggs, do pop by and see us and try some.

The new Spring/summer menu is out now with plenty of seasonal delights, we

have a new and exciting breakfast menu and an additional nibbles section. The nibbles selection has a very Mediterranean theme, allowing you to sit back with your glass of tipple and enjoy a sample of either Hummus & crostinies, Olives & Sundried tomatoes, Feta stuffed peppers, Anchovies, Gambas al pil pil (Prawns in a garlic & chilli sauce), Bocconcini & pesto (Small mozzarella balls) or if you can't decide try them all on the new grazing board.



With the local people of Sopley as our focus you play your part in giving us the encouragement to continue to provide great food, drink and entertainment.

Please don't forget for the residents of Sopley to ask for your Community Discount Card and can be used to obtain 10% off drinks on Fridays from 5pm to 9pm.

Please keep an eye out for future events.

Anyone wishing to hold an event at the pub, please pop in and discuss your ideas. Tel: 01425 672252

Email: <u>info@woolpackinnsopley.co.uk</u> <u>www.facebook.com/TheWoolpackInnSopley</u>

www.woolpackinnsopley.co.uk

#### The Woolpack Inn

Recipe for strawberry cheesecake:- 12 portions

#### **Equipment:-**

12inch round spring loaded tin with base

Mixer with chop attachment (clear plastic bag and rolling pin if you don't have a mixer)

Mixing bowl

Whisk

Bevelled pallet knife (back of spoon will do)

#### **Ingredients:-**

210g Digestive biscuits

120g Butter

1kg Creamed cheese

1 Vanilla pod

½ Lemon juice and grated rind (using the small grate)

200g Caster sugar

1.5 punnets Sopley Strawberries

½ litre Double cream

#### Method:-

Melt butter, blend digestives and add butter to the mix.

Making sure the base is in the tin and the spring is closed place the biscuit base mix in the bottom. Using the pallet knife flatten making sure it reaches the edges.

Put the double cream into a mixing bowl and whip lightly (soft peaks) add creamed cheese, using a whisk slowly mix the two ingredients, being careful not to over whip the cream.

Cut the vanilla in half and scrape out the pods, add to the mixture along with the lemon juice and rind. Slowly add the sugar until the required taste.

Wash and dice half the strawberries and place in the mixing bowl along with the mixture and fold in using a whisk (it is good if the strawberries break a little)

Put on top of the biscuit base and flatten with your pallet knife or the back of a spoon.

You can either leave whole or cut the strawberries and place on the top. Refrigerate for 3hours until set.

Lightly heat the outside of the ring and run a knife along the inner edge of the ring.

Take of the spring loaded ring and with a warm knife cut into twelve portions.

You can serve this with warm white chocolate sauce on the side.

The warmth of the chocolate and the coldness of the dessert complement each other well.

#### White chocolate sauce recipe:-

100g White chocolate

100ml Double cream

Warm together in the microwave





St Michaels & All Angels Church, Sopley



The church of St. Michael and All Angels is easily overlooked as it is hidden from the main road. It is well worth a detour. Sitting on a mound above Sopley Mill and the River Avon is a building which is at the heart of a thriving community. It is open each day and many do call in and sit quietly or admire the atmospheric interior. All churches have a particular feel about them and St. Michael's is a place which, somehow, seems to retain a holiness about it, almost as if the centuries of prayers that have been said there stick to the walls and hallow them. Like most churches some is ancient and some parts less so. The striking mural on the chancel arch (which is about to be restored to it's former glory) only dates back just over a century ago. Much of the fittings in the chancel are from just before the First World War. Each generation has left its mark on this remarkable building. The Purbeck Marble coffin slabs which now stand each side of the door date from the thirteenth century. Visitors are very welcome and we now have a votive stand at which candles can be lit and this has become a focus for prayer.

Rosie, Miri and I moved here in September and we have had a wonderful welcome from both Sopley and Burton. Recently an appeal for plants for the Vicarage garden, which is emerging from a long period of neglect, has resulted in parts of Sopley being transplanted into Burton! This is typical of how warm and welcoming the community has been to us. There is a serious side to this as well as there is a remit to grow both churches and this is the focus of my time amongst you.

A major feature of life here is the presence of the Mill next door. This excellent wedding venue attracts couples from far and wide, many of whom would like a church wedding. This results in a steady stream of couples who find a worshipping home and a church which will always be 'theirs' in a very special way. There is much potential here to build upon this ministry of welcome and acceptance.

Talking of which, St. Michaels is a welcoming and accepting church where all manner of people find a home. All are welcome, all are loved, and all of us need God in one way or another.

Whether it be a place to call into and find some peace, or to join for a special service, or Sunday by Sunday, I do hope that St. Michael's will be 'your' church also.

See www.burtonsopley.com for details of services and what else is happening, as well as contact details.

With every blessing.

Revd Nigel Lacey Priest in Charge



## idelica

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Sopley Mill



for wedding & party catering info & bookings contact Emma Lopez

call **01425 350350** or **07932 677255** 

email emma@idelica.com

visit www.idelica.com

Dinner Choices at

Burley Park: Meat. Seafood or

Vege Paella,

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#### BRANSGORE COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS Registered Charity No. 1049778

You may notice we have a new logo to replace the Crown crest we previously had. It's because the charity, to which all community first responders groups in Hampshire belong, has relaunched itself and set itself a number of objectives. We still display the Crown crest on our vehicles and uniforms to identify us as providing an ambulance service response, albeit as volunteers.

We are pleased to report that we now have our first volunteer responder from Sopley. Jon has recently joined us following his training, and at the time of writing has already "gone solo". He attended his first 999 call on his own, after shadowing the team on a couple of other calls. We welcome Jon to the team and invite anyone else who is interested in helping their community at a time of medical emergency, to give us a call on 0844 500 9699 and have a chat. No previous experience is necessary. The ambulance service provide the initial basic training over one weekend. We ask volunteers to give a minimum of 20 hours a month on call, and until the all important call comes, you are free to carry on with your everyday tasks in and around the village. It is one of the most rewarding types of voluntary work there is, and you could be helping to save a life in your community. You are never sent to any call where you may be at risk so you won't go to road traffic collisions, assaults, domestics, fires etc.

One of the objectives of the new look South Central Ambulance Charity is to raise £1million in the next three years to ensure that everyone is within eight minutes of a public access defibrillator. These units can save lives in cases of cardiac arrest especially if used within a few minutes of the arrest. They are simple to use and need no training - although we can show you how to use one. You can do no harm! We have just donated one to Sopley Primary school where our Responder and past pupil, Emma, formally handed it over to pupils Erin and Jim, and head teacher Dan Twyman. That's just one reason why we ask for community support in the form of donations etc.

Our Group aim must be to provide our response service and to try and achieve 24/7 cover. That's why we need as many volunteers as we can get. Sadly, until we have more volunteers to spread the demand this means we cannot always attend every local function or event we are invited to, either to have a stand or to provide First Aid cover. We hope you understand if we have had to decline an invitation this year.

The Charity website can be found at <a href="www.sca-charity.org.uk/">www.sca-charity.org.uk/</a> To learn more please do visit the site.

Our Group website can be found at <a href="https://www.bransgorecommunityresponders.org.uk/">www.bransgorecommunityresponders.org.uk/</a> and we have a Facebook Page and Twitter account too. Our colleagues at Heartstart Bransgore-New Forest offer free CPR and life support training within the community in one two and a half hour session. Call 0844 500 9699.





News from Moorlands,

I've been thinking a lot lately about the importance of *places*. I'm writing this having just returned from a hugely enriching trip to Copenhagen, whilst my colleagues at Moorlands College have also been travelling for both work and pleasure; spending time in the remote islands of Scotland, the depths of the US, and the far reaches of Japan. For each of us, the privilege of travelling to such places will knit together new experiences and memories in ways that could never be unravelled back into individual threads. To the good or ill, places have a tendency to shape us—often more than we can shape them.

Sometimes churches struggle with the notion of place: if we come together in a traditional church building, might we appear irrelevant, or could it put off newcomers? Yet if we assemble in a school or other borrowed building, do we risk losing our sense of identity as a people gathered together to meet with God himself? In the Bible, places are frequently of huge importance—the Garden of Eden; the desert of the wandering Israelites; the animal shelter of Jesus' birth; the shameful wasteland of Jesus' crucifixion; and the heavenly city promised in the book of Revelation... These are just a few of the more obvious ones. Places matter.

At Moorlands, we're blessed by having a campus located in such a special place as ours. Nearly 70 years ago, the College started life in Matlock, Derbyshire; later moving south to Dawlish, Devon; before finally relocating east, and settling at our current site in Sopley in 1970. Although we now have established Regional Centres in both the South West and the Midlands, and plans for others elsewhere in the UK in the future, Sopley is the place Moorlands College calls 'home'.

Last year, I was delighted when so many of you joined us one summer's evening for a cream tea and a public nosey around the campus. This year, working closely with the Parish Hall Committee, we're able to go one further, by hosting the annual Sopley Festival in our grounds on Saturday 15 July 2017. We're looking forward to welcoming hundreds of local residents and visitors on the day, to enjoy this place together as a community. Because people matter even more than places. In fact, at the heart of Christianity is the amazing news that we don't have to travel anywhere in order to encounter God. Instead, he lovingly seeks us, finds us, and yearns to share life with us—wherever we are.

Neil Tinson Marketing Manager, Moorlands College

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Moorlands College, Christchurch Dorset BH23 7AT United Kingdom

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T. +44 (0)1425 674500

http://www.moorlands.ac.uk

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#### The Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy



Registered Charity Number 1045352

Telephone: 01425 673297 ~ www.fortunecentre.org

The Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy (FCRT) provides education for those whose needs cannot be met elsewhere. Its mission is to enable people who are motivated by horses and who have special needs, to relate more successfully to others and to develop greater independence and skill and have more control over their own lives.

This is done through their involvement with horses. This unique, specialist use of horses, to allow and encourage people to learn and develop is the core of the FCRT work. It is the reason for its existence and has been the mission since its foundation in 1976.

The residential Further Education Through Horsemastership (FETH) Course runs for three years. The FCRT is inspected by Ofsted and is included on the Secretary of State's List of Independent Specialist Providers under the Department for Education.

FETH Course students are resident at Wootton Hall Farm and on the Avon Tyrrell site. Lanfranco House in Burley is the home of young people ('Associates') who are at the FCRT on open ended placements. In 1990 Jennifer Dixon-Clegg took on the role of Director of the Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy (FCRT), which at that time had less than twenty staff.

The FCRT now has over eighty staff, over twenty residential students and a greater breadth of scope in the delivery of Equine Facilitated Education and Therapy. Jennifer also regularly recognises and appreciates the understanding and support of the local community and their willingness to become involved with the work of the FCRT.

After what must seem a life time with FCRT, Jennifer will step down as Director in 2017 after twenty seven years at the helm. Throughout this time, with the support of the co-founders the late Mrs Jenny Baillie and Mrs Yvonne Nelson, Jennifer has driven FCRT forward to the highly successful operation it is today, standing up for the rights of young people to have an appropriate education and that linked to horses, a combination that is Jennifer's first love.





RAISE MORE FOR US

JUST BY SHOPPING ONLINE

## \*BLUESTOCKINGS

-VINTAGE VOCAL HARMONIES



All your 1940s and 1950s favourites from this vintage style vocal trio - combining the tight harmonies of a bygone era with sassy choreography and a swinging style!

To enquire about The Bluestockings, or make a booking Email info@thebluestockings.co.uk
Or call 07502 142346



This year has largely been one of consolidation.

The rebuild of 54 Ringwood Road is nearing complete. The structural condition of 37 Ripley has necessitated a rethink of our plans for refurbishment.

I'm glad to say that under the skilled and experienced hands of Will and Lorraine, and their dedicated staff, the New Queen is once again booming with excellent beer and quality food.

Replanting of the areas felled in Peckhams Firs, the Two Spinneys, Two Bridges and Whistlers has all been completed together with an extension to Legges Row. Ray Hiscock has completed the mammoth task of digging out the ditches in Whistlers.

On the farming front we have reverted to growing oilseed rape. Sadly there is no longer a good enough market for herbage seed so that grass crop has been discontinued.

Finally on the fishing front the run of salmon has continued and plenty of large pike have also been caught.

Willie Manners

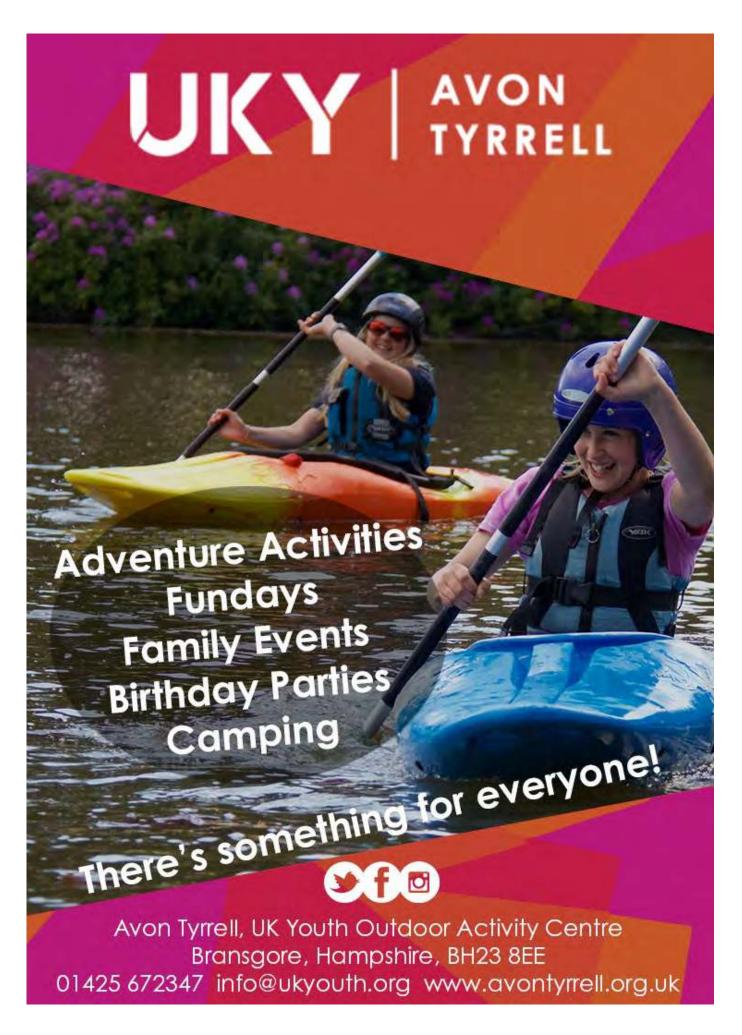


Congratulations to Chairman Shutler and his lovely wife Lizzie on the birth of their beautiful daughter

Maddie
born on 26th March at 7.45pm

Weighing 9lb 6ozs.

XXXXXXXXXXXX









#### SOPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL BH23 8ET

www.sopleyprimaryschool.co.uk

## SUMMER FETE 12-3pm SATURDAY 24th JUNE 2017

So much more than a school fete, this is a community event for all in Sopley and the surrounding Parishes music and arena events throughout the afternoon to entertain you lovely stalls to buy and play games





DETAILED POSTERS WILL GO UP IN MAY

#### PLEASE ADD THIS DATE TO YOUR DIARY

FUNDS RAISED GO DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL'S CHILDREN THROUGH
THE PARENT AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION, "FRIENDS OF SOPLEY SCHOOL"

Offers of help and donations for the fete are to be directed to Friends of Sopley School

email: <a href="mailto:helen-whalley82@hotmail.co.uk">helen-whalley82@hotmail.co.uk</a> (Chair FSS)susansharp@ntlworld.com (secretary of FSS)

#### Norman Hiscock MINI EXCAVATOR WORK —Fully insured

- LANDSCAPING
- GRAVEL DRIVES
- DITCHING (LOW RATES)
- DRAINAGE
- SITE CLEARANCE
- HOUSE FOOTINGS—OVERSIGHTS
- 3 TON AVAILABLE

26 Ripley, Nr Christchurch, Dorset 01425 674206



Local beekeeper, based on Dorset/Hampshire border



Swarms collected in Dorset & Hampshire
Local honey for sale
Local nucs & queens often available, April to October

Thinking of keeping bees? Introductory sessions from just £20.00

Call Zaz on 0794 - 1220201 01425 - 672520





"All Saints has raised sufficient funds for installation of a toilet and it is now in and working! No more leg -crossing during music evenings.....and there are a few music evenings planned for 2017 so look out for these on the Facebook page All Saints Thorney Hill.

Saturday openings starts at Easter - 2-4pm; if you've ever driven by and wondered what it looks like inside - do come and see! It has a beautiful interior, excellent acoustics and the history of the church is fascinating.

Finally there is a grave mapping project under way which will allow all graves (marked and unmarked) to be recorded and information kept on a database which people will be able to access and add their own stories and photos - the project will be a super way of preserving family histories in Thorney Hill.

We look forward to seeing you."

#### Sopley Farm Pick Your Own

Open between May and October, and with fruit and vegetable fields in both Derritt Lane, Sopley and on the A35 near the Cat and Fiddle Inn at Hinton, Sopley Farm supplies a wide range of delicious local PYO and ready-picked soft fruit and in-season vegetables including their prized Sopley asparagus - the 2017 harvesting of which will shortly be underway!

SopleyFarmPYO, Derritt Lane, Sopley BH23 7AZ Phone 01425 672451

#### Sopley Salads

Dennis and Zhivka Tanner grow a wide variety of seasonal vegetables and salad crops on their farm in Priest's Lane, Sopley. They sell their produce direct to the public through the local farmers markets network - including Christchurch Market on Mondays and Wimborne Market every Friday.

Sopley Salads

Badgers Farm, Priests Lane, Sopley

Phone 01425 674150 Email: sopleysalads@btinternet.com

#### USEFUL NUMBERS, CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

#### Parish Councillors

Chairman\* Daniel Shutler 64 Fish St, Ripley, Bransgore Christchurch, BH23 8EU 01425 673113

Vice Chairman\* Cllr. Dee Dunn Smugglers, 8 Sopley, Christchurch, BH23 7AY 01425 672709

> Cllr. Andrew Rawstron 17 Sopley, Christchurch, Sopley, BH23 7AX 01425 672033

Cllr. Anj Hill Fish St, Ripley, Bransgore BH23 8EU 07711 655529

Cllr. Teela Liberty-Spark The Woolpack Inn, Sopley BH23 7AX 01425 672252

Cllr. Alan Pope Sopley Court, Sopley BH23 8EU 07802 811616

Cllr. Carole Smedley Brook Cottage, Ripley BH238EU 07813 625611

\* The Offices of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the coming year, together with the composition of the various Council Committees, are decided by Council vote at the Annual General Meeting of the Council—which will be held on May 18, 2017 immediately preceding the Annual Parish Assembly.

Website: www.sopley.gov.uk

Parish Clerk - Mrs Katie Hughes

Parish.clerk@sopley.gov.uk 01425 674833 07935 448405

Sopley Parish Hall (Bookings)
Dianne Banger 01425 474957

**Sopley School** 01425 672343

St Michaels & All Angels Parish Church Liz Bishop 01425 672628

#### Where can you find out more about the Parish Council?

Parish Noticeboards are located in Sopley Village at the Parish Hall and in the layby adjacent to Sopley Forge, in Ripley next to the phone box/post box, in Avon by the old forge at the entrance to London Lane and in Ringwood Rd, Shirley next to Letterbox Cottage.

Parish Council Meetings are held every 2 months - usually on the third Thursday of the month - and are open to all Parishioners and interested parties. Meeting dates, venues and agenda details are posted on the notice boards and the parish website (www.sopley.gov.uk). The website also contains lots of useful local links to businesses, local authorities and community groups and organisations.