

# IWERNE MINSTER NEWSLETTER

April – May 2023

## CINDERELLA



**Oh, Yes ...** another spiffing panto from Iwerne Minster's occasional thespians. What a fine cast: Deborah Jones as Prince Charming, delivering her lispig lines ("I don't thpeak like that!") with great panache; Pam Jelley, whose twinkle and timing were so finely tuned to the audience; Gareth Jenkins and Richard Thomas, wonderfully over-the-top as the Ugly Sisters; Debs Kidd as (cinder)Ella with a tricky fast costume change at the end; Nick Cooper as the stalwart romantic lead, and Caroline O'Brien, narrator and light-touch anchor. Everyone did well, a troupe on excellent form, well-rehearsed, quick on their queues, no fumbles, no hesitations, speaking and projecting clearly – much appreciated by deaf old codgers like me! It all hung together because of Adrian Delso's crisp direction and tight script, delivering a lively forward narrative.

The costumes were excellent, 'well suited' one might say, especially the two 'Uglies'. Music and FX well timed, on queue.

If I have one small criticism it was that there was no poking of fun at the behaviours of certain persons in government or, for that matter, in the village! A panto should take the opportunity to turn the world on its head a little. Only the Narrator's first lines savoured of PC upended! In future, perhaps cut a little closer to the bone, please?

But all participants are to be thanked: well done, a most enjoyable evening ... **it was!** **JG**

## POP-UP INFORMATION EVENT IN IWERNE MINSTER



Iwerne Minster Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, Susan Trim and Kerry O'Connor, are arranging a Pop-Up Information Session at the Iwerne Minster Village Club (what 3 words location smuggled.prompts.neckline) from 10am to 12 noon on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April. The session is available to all, not just Neighbourhood Watch Members.

Join us on the day for tea, coffee and the opportunity to speak to the following organisations:

- ❖ **Dorset Police**
- ❖ **Dorset Councillor Jane Somper**
- ❖ **Dorset Council Customer Services**
- ❖ **Dorset Council Fostering Services**
- ❖ **Healthy Homes Dorset**
- ❖ **Local Energy Advice Partnership**
- ❖ **Shroton Oil Scheme**
- ❖ **Iwerne Minster Defibrillator and First Aid Team**
- ❖ **White Hart Link**
- ❖ **AONB**
- ❖ **Dark Skies**

We will have a limited number Hidden Disability Sunflower Scheme lanyards to give out on the day.

Contact Susan and Kerry on email: [iwerneminsterneighbourhoodwatch@outlook.com](mailto:iwerneminsterneighbourhoodwatch@outlook.com) or telephone number 01747 810334 for further information.

We hope to see lots of people there as it should be a very informative morning!

## I.M.P.H.A.

We have started preparing for the Summer Show to be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August and various things have been drawn to our attention!

The schedule rules contain references to RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) and NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies) rules for exhibitors; they are only there to provide guidance and we are holding an evening meeting in July for anyone who would like further information on exhibiting.

“The Show Bench” by David Shergold (a fruit, vegetable and specimen flower judge) - Ron Benfield is always happy to help anyone who has a question and as a national exhibitor has extensive knowledge.

As soon as the Art, Photography and Handicraft classes are finalised, we will display them on village noticeboards and by email to members so that there is plenty of time to prepare exhibits.

We would welcome anyone who would like to display their vintage or interesting vehicles - there is usually a good assortment on the field and they certainly draw attention.

If anyone would like a stall to sell goods, please contact me on 812173 or email: [sue.leprevost@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.leprevost@btinternet.com) for more information.

I have a few potatoes and grow-bags still available for growing on for the heaviest weight at the Show and the Gold Club plug plants have arrived. There is a choice of geranium, petunia and fuschia all also available from me; chilli plants are growing well and will be ready from Ron in a couple of weeks' time.

Finally, the costs of putting on the Show are constantly rising, so we welcome all sponsorship of the various classes. All donations to the Treasurer this year please. **Sue Le Prevost (Chairman)**

**IMPHA will be holding its annual Plant Sale on Saturday 13th May at 10.00am until noon on the Parish Field. As well as an assortment of bedding plants and herbaceous perennials there will be coffee and cakes plus some garden tools for sale.**

## NEWS FROM THE CLUB

The Club is continuing its busy year. February saw the annual Pantomime give two performances. Both were booked out several weeks ahead, with a few making up a small audience for the Dress Rehearsal. Probably our best yet- certainly the funniest. [review elsewhere]. Our thanks go to Adrian Delso and his crew, the usual performers plus several new faces. Thanks to all their efforts £1,500 was raised for the club refurbishment funds.

This was followed in early March by one of our ever popular Quiz Nights. Eight teams battled it out with much hilarity. Our thanks to Neil for setting the questions. It was good to see so many taking part – if we'd any more teams we might have had to put the checkers in the kitchen. £160 went into the funds that night.

Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April sees the return of “Call-My-Bluff” when a team from IMPHA take on a team from the Village Club. Come along and see if you can work out what some of the rather odd words mean.

Looking further ahead the club will be open as part of the Coronation Celebrations on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> May serving tea, coffee, soft drinks and ice creams [if the weather is good]. There will also be an exhibition of previous Coronations in the club room. If you have any items you would like to loan for this please be in contact with Penny [811339].

The Club also plans a Coffee Morning at the end of May.

**Penny Marsh (Chairman)**

### **SHROTON OIL SCHEME**

There's never been a better time to benefit from group savings and hopefully save some money at the same time.

Same litre rate for any domestic order between 500 and 2300 litres, and we place an order every month leaving you to choose when and how much.

Call or email Mike Scott for more information - 07815 617937  
[shrotonoilscheme@gmail.com](mailto:shrotonoilscheme@gmail.com)

## ST MARY'S REDEVELOPMENT

Let's start with the headline news. On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 the builders who have been working on the redevelopment of St Mary's, Iwerne Minster for around 21 months finally handed the church back to the congregation. Subject to some minor snags, the work is finished. This is a red letter day for St Mary's – the start of a new era. The redevelopment had its origins in a Parish Survey when respondents suggested that the church be made more flexible and comfortable so that larger village events could be held there.

A small group of parishioners prepared a plan which was approved by the PCC in November 2016. Over the next few years, led by Richard Hood, the group put together an application for a faculty (planning permission), dealt with the statutory authorities (Historic England, the Victorian Society etc), the financial aspects, instructing architects and, in May 2021, instructed our chosen contractors (Perry & Son) to proceed. We are so grateful to all those individuals and charitable trusts who contributed financially, and in other ways, to the project.

It has not all been plain sailing. The Pandemic caused considerable delays, and at various times we have had to worship in the Abingdon Hall and the Clayesmore School chapel. Richard wrote regular articles in Valley Views to keep parishioners informed of progress

But what we have now is something special. Removal of the pews has enabled us to replace the floor and install underfloor heating. It has also opened up a wonderful light space (especially on a sunny day when the light streams through the stained glass windows). The chairs that replaced the pews give us both comfort and flexibility. Moving the pulpit and the lectern has opened up the chancel and created space. It is, quite simply, a beautiful building with an amazing atmosphere. We also have broadband and a screen. We are obtaining a projector to enable us to screen live shows. We also have a modern kitchen area.

We do urge everyone to come along and see how the church has been transformed. You will be more than welcome.

The opening of the church will be celebrated at a Benefice Service on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April at St Mary's at 11 am. The Holy Communion

service will be led by The Rt Revd Stephen Lake, Bishop of Salisbury. All are welcome.

David Parkhouse

### R.I.P.

Robert Francis 'Bob' Buckett formerly of Bramley Grove, Blandford Road.  
Ieuan Trevor Rees of Cressbeds, Blandford Road.  
Myra Ann Burrows of High Banks, Church Hill.

## NEWS FROM IWERNE MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

### Traffic

There is agreement to resurface Watery Lane; further investigation concerning the water coming up through the surface is needed. One of our residents at the top of Tower Hill is in contact with the Police and Highways regarding speeding vehicles on the C13. During the recent very heavy rains we have been having problems of surface flooding down Tower Hill and Church Hill. This is usually caused by blocked drains which have been reported.

### Play area

Heather and Jeff Overton have completed repairs in the Play Area . They have found another piece of wood missing on the bridge which they will repair as soon as possible. The Parish Council would like to thank Heather and Geoff for their public-spirited action.





In the last year, Clayesmore School has welcomed eleven Ukrainian students, seven in the Senior school and four in the Prep school.

Whilst it has been an incredibly difficult time for them all, the students have brought so much to the community, and it has been a really positive experience for everybody. The cost of the Ukrainian pupil places is being met out of the school's limited charitable funds, including donations from existing and past parents and generous past pupils (Old Clayesmorians).

The School intends to continue to support the students through its bursary system but welcomes donations from anyone who would like to contribute. If you would like to support them, you can donate online [here](#).

## **ANYONE FOR CROQUET?**

Over a decade or so ago croquet was played regularly in the summer months by WI members on Andy Guthrie's large lawn. Among the village players then were Maggie Brazier, Liz Carr, Mary Faulkner and Alwin Greder. Don't believe those who state that croquet is a vicious game, it is not; it is good fun and very sociable, and a particularly pleasant outdoor pastime in good weather. There may even have been the occasional glass of wine as the sun started to set....



Today those interested in learning/playing this enjoyable and fascinating game have the opportunity to do so at Winterborne Valley Croquet Club at Winterborne Stickland (only 25 minutes away by car). Recently resited, WVCC is the former, well-established Kingston Maurward Croquet Club near Dorchester. There are two full-sized lawns in a quiet rural location, with lots of free parking, and all amenities. At the opening of the new season, WVCC is offering a free taster session for both ladies and gentlemen at an Open Day on Saturday, April 15, from 10am onwards. (Sorry no youngsters under 12 years old.) Qualified coaches will be on hand, and mallets provided. Just turn up. There is no dress code, but please wear soft-soled flat shoes. A series of coaching lessons will be held throughout the season, and there are weekly easy-going club days, as well as various internal matches for those who are more ambitious and competitively inclined.

As a member, why not bring along some friends as guests? WVCC lawns are also available for private hire by organizations/clubs, etc. Why not hold a fun morning or afternoon as an unusual event?

For more information contact Alwin Greder on 811868 or/and visit [www.wvcroquet.co.uk](http://www.wvcroquet.co.uk)

## **SUTTON WALDRON-IWERNE MINSTER W.I.**

In February, S.W.I.M. W.I. was treated to a talk about Dorset Buttons by Penny Jane Swift, an assistant at Shaftesbury Museum. We heard about the history of the Dorset button, the precursor of the modern button and the zip. The Dorset Button began in 1622 when an enterprising man called Abraham Case from Shaftesbury spotted an opportunity and began to make the buttons at home. He soon recruited neighbours to help him and, by 1743 the manufacture of the Dorset Button was the county's biggest industry. Materials used included a disc of horn and later metal, covered in wool and linen. There were different kinds of buttons with delightful names like the Knob, the Mite, the Crosswheel and the Bird's Eye, each one a tricky thing to make. They were highly favoured by people at the time and even graced even one of King Charles I's doublets, Napoleon's baby clothes

and at least one of Queen Victoria's dresses. Once metal was used for the disc, they couldn't go through a mangle so had to be removed every time they went through the wash which, luckily, was probably less frequent than today! Once the buttons were made in the cottages they had to be taken to depots and Penny Jane related the tale of a woman walking with her wares from Twyford to Blandford, getting caught in a snowstorm and spending two nights in a hostelry at Stepleton Bends. Meanwhile at home alone were nine children aged eleven to three weeks old. The eleven year old fed the family on potatoes and eggs and gave the baby goat's milk.



It was a very interesting talk and an insight into part of Dorset's rich history. In March, the guest speaker was taken ill so our chairperson, Minnie, organised a Beetle Drive which most had not played since

we were children. Some fast and furious throwing of dice and scribbling of beetles ensued and the competition was won by Liz Westwell.

If you are new to Sutton or Iwerne and would like to join the W.I., please contact the chair, Minnie McCann at [minx@naughtymoo.com](mailto:minx@naughtymoo.com) MG

## IWERNE VALLEY WALKING GROUP: JANUARY 2023

After a quick visit to the True Lovers' Knot in Tarrant Keynston to place our lunch orders, about 11 of us set off from the National Trust car park at Badbury Rings. For the first mile both Long and Short Walk were together. The views over Cranborne Chase are superb and the incline is very gentle. After 3/4 hr the Short Walk headed back more or less parallel to the outward journey but on the other side of the Rings. It made a very good walk of about 1 1/4hrs and they repaired to the pub for coffee. The Long Walk continued on excellent paths which took us on a loop to join the

path the Short Walk took which was more or less a figure of eight by the time we got back to the cars. The last part of the walk was across the top of the Rings with a stop at the so-called viewpoint. As it is surrounded by trees it is not well named! However it did point out directions of local landmarks. Unfortunately, we forgot to take a group photo.

Back to the pub where we were joined by some non-walkers and, although the meals were only just okay, the company was good.

Jim and Cathy Bird

## IWERNE VALLEY WALKING GROUP: FEBRUARY 2023



Starting at the small car park, 38122 10936, we walked east then south above Turnworth Down to Bonsley Common. Our party comprised a dozen humans and one dog. Turning east again into the wood, we followed one of many tracks down towards the lovely valley that gives onto Norton Lane at Shepherd's Corner Farm. This secluded valley is a real pleasure despite several rather neglected fruit trees. It was once used as a camp site: a wheeled shepherd's hut and the shells of old latrines still exist!

Retracing our steps, we climbed by a different route back through managed woodland: mainly oak and beech plantations. In February there is little undergrowth so one can see further into the woods and the shape of the land is clearer. Even so, the contrast between the beech and oak understory is evident – brambles, holly bushes and dead bracken under the oaks, little or nothing under the beeches.

Lunch was at the Saxon Inn in Child Okeford where we were joined by two non-walkers.

John Goodliffe

## PIG STIES AND APPLE TREES

In the early part of the 20th century just about everything in the village was owned by the Iwerne Minster Estate. All dwellings were 'tied' to the estate. A household was a tenant or had the dwelling by 'grace and favour', something still reflected in house names such as "Butlers", "Barbers" or "Sadlers". This was to change after Ismay died in 1930, and the estate was broken up and sold; dwellings, land, orchards were all auctioned off separately.

During the time Ismay owned the whole estate, he carried out many improvements. He was known nationally as an enthusiastic and experimental farmer and published articles on his innovations and results. He was particularly known as a livestock breeder. His papers are lodged in Reading University's Museum of English Rural Life.

One of the smaller innovations he made, "attentive to his human flock", was the provision of pig sties and apple trees to households, the evidence of which can still be found.



For example, at Whyteleafe on Higher Street is a, pretty much, original brick pig sty.

In the garden of The Corner House, there is a (greatly remodelled) pig sty and an "Ismay" apple tree, which, we were told by a neighbour, once had five grafts: five different apple varieties. Now, sadly, only three survive. Five grafts is a lot, almost unbelievable, though, in a garden further down Church Hill, there is another "Ismay" apple tree with two grafts, so maybe it's evidence of yet another experiment ... Does anybody know of other sties or apple trees that were Ismay's gift?

Please contact John Goodliffe if you do:

[john@hairy-barbarian.com](mailto:john@hairy-barbarian.com) or 01747 442970

## 10 THINGS YOU CAN'T PUT IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING



**Recycling household products can be a simple way to help the environment - but it's not always straightforward. Did you know that the following items cannot be recycled?**

**Sticky notes:** glue on the adhesive strip can't always be removed during the recycling process, so many centres refuse to accept them.

**Toothpaste and other squeezable tubes:** often contain a thin layer of aluminium and are made of various types of plastic - making it challenging for recycling plants to separate and process them.

**Drinking glasses and Pyrex dishes:** non-recyclable because they are heat-treated so do not melt at the same temperature as other glass items.

**Paper receipts** printed on shiny, thermal paper, are not recyclable because they are coated with a substance called **bisphenol A (BPA) or bisphenol S (BPS)**, which can be harmful if released into the environment or ingested in large quantities.

**Crisp packets** and other metallised plastic film products like baby food pouches can't be recycled because of the grease and crisp residue that clings to them.

The scrunch test is a simple way of checking whether something is recyclable.

If the item springs back into shape after you have scrunched it up, **then it shouldn't be recycled.**

**Salad bags:** pre-prepared bags of salad **can't be recycled** because they combine different types of plastic, making them difficult to separate and process.

**Plastic sleeves on Lucozade Sport bottles:** "impossible to recycle", because it is made from a different type of plastic to the recyclable bottle, which **confuses computer scanners at recycling plants.**

**Pringles tubes:** a "nightmare" to recycle because they combine five different materials including a metal base, tear-off foil top, a plastic lid, silver foil lining inside and a cardboard outer sleeve.

**Cotton wool and make-up removal pads** **can't be recycled**, but in some circumstances can be **composted with your kitchen waste.**

From an article by Mary O'Connor BBC News

# IWERNE MINSTER CORONATION WEEKEND

## Saturday 6 May

**10.30am St Mary's Church: Watch the Coronation on the BIG SCREEN!**

*Please let Debs Purdue (07977 778537) know how many of you are coming  
Bring something to eat and drink to share if you want*

The day will be an opportunity for the village to celebrate the reordering and rededication of the church

## Sunday 7 May

**11.00am St Mary's Church: Service of Thanksgiving**

**2.00pm Party in the Park**

onwards

*Bring your own picnic. There will be a few gazebos but feel free to bring your own*

**Make your own Crown Competition**

*Prizes for Under 16 and Over 16*

**Children's Treasure Hunt**

**Jumbo Raffle**

*Donations to Penny Marsh 01747 811339*

**Village Club House: Past Coronations Exhibition**

*There will be hot and cold soft drinks with ice creams (weather permitting)*

**2.30pm The Ukulele Band**

onwards

**3.00pm Coronation Cake Cutting**

**Presentation of Coronation Pins to children**

## Monday 8 May

**A Day of Volunteering as suggested by the King**

**Photographs:** parents' permission must be obtained for photographs of children. There will be a photograph competition. Contact the Village Newsletter (Monique Goodliffe 01747 442970) with your entries.

**Street Parties:** any street wishing to hold a Street Party should contact the Parish Council's help if roads are to be closed.

**Decorate your homes with buntings GALORE**



## MORE PICTURES FROM CINDERELLA



*Penny Marsh thanking cast and crew of Cinderella at the end of the show.*



*The Ugly Sisters, Scarlatina and Chlamydia having another go at poor Cindy while her beau, Buttons, looks on disapprovingly.*



*Who will get to marry the handsome Prince Charming?  
(Cinderella photos courtesy of Dominic O'Brien)*

### IWERNE MINSTER NEWS

Published every two months on the first of the month.

Next issue: June 1st, 2023

Contribution deadline: May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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Contributions are welcome from residents of Iwerne Minster or anyone with an interest in the village. Get in touch if you know of anything that is newsworthy.

Please send any contributions by email or hard copy through the letter box.

Digital photos should be high resolution (i.e. direct from the camera, not down-sized for websites). Please send the image file rather than embedding it into a text document. Copyright should be agreed with the photographer.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editor.

#### Village Diary

Paul Le Prevost compiles the Iwerne Minster Village Diary, available by email and pinned to noticeboards. Please let Paul know of new events at [paul.leprevost@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.leprevost@btinternet.com)

#### Printer

Parish Magazine Printing

## WHITE-TAILED EAGLES SPOTTED OVER IWERNE



*(Heather Overton)*