

# Iwerne Minster News

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017



## Rumpelstiltskin beckons

Rehearsals for the pantomime start in September - it's *Rumpelstiltskin*. Whilst the main characters have been cast, if there is anyone who would like to join the chorus, particularly one or two children, aged 7-12 years, they are welcome. Contact Penny Marsh for information on 811339.

## Social evening for the Village Club

**Fund raising continues for works to the Village Club and by the time you receive this copy of the village news, you will see that repairs to the building are underway, thanks to Hillside Construction. Continued fund raising will help to fund more improvements.**

Our next event is on 7 September, a social evening when we hope as many members and new members will come along, look at the repairs, come in and enjoy each others company. BYOB and play the odd indoor [or outdoor game]. There will be light refreshments and a raffle but no charge for the evening will be made.



One potato, two potatoes, three potatoes, four... the IMPHA team adjudicate the potato growing competition (won by Alan Scott) at this year's Village Show, held in beautiful conditions on 19 August. More photos and the winners on page 4-5 inside.

## Neighbourhood Development Plan latest – see page 3

## It's time for those 'flu jabs!

**With autumn approaching, it's time to prepare for the usual bouts of colds and 'flu that winter always seems to bring.**

Both Blandford surgeries are asking patients to book for the annual 'flu jabs during the following Saturdays:

- Eagle House Surgery: 30 September & 21 October
- Whitecliff Surgery Blandford: 7 & 14 October
- Whitecliff Surgery Child Okeford: 30 September

Anyone over 65, patients with particular health conditions such as asthma, and carers will be invited by text, letter or prescription reminder to make an appointment. The parents of all children born between 1.9.2013 and 31.8.2015 should also book 'flu nasal sprays at their surgery. School age children will have them at school

Alternatively, if you're visiting your Doctor or nurse on another matter, you can always ask for your 'flu jab at the same time. Doctors will have supplies of the 'flu vaccine available in the surgery in the coming weeks. If you have been invited but don't want your flu vaccine, please inform the surgery. You will still be invited again next year! It is also a good idea to stock up now on cold relief products. If you need any help with what to buy, your local pharmacy will be able to advise. – Hazel Haigh

# Iwerne Minster News

## Sponsors needed for flower festival

St. Mary's Iwerne Minster is holding a flower festival 'Harvest Home' on 15, 16 and 17 September. This will coincide with our Harvest Festival. We are looking for sponsors to cut down on costs. Also any ladies [or men] who would like to help with arranging etc. For more details please contact Penny Marsh 811339.

## Iwerne Minster 100 Club

### May Draw

£15 Brian O'Luanaigh (39)  
£12 Trevor Whittaker (32)  
£10 Trish Neale (9)  
£5 Ruth Crossman (65)

### June Draw

£15 Steve Harrison (40)  
£12 Debs Purdue (46)  
£10 Dave & Wendy Dobie (94)  
£5 Pam Chave (20)

### July Draw

£15 Derek Pike (100)  
£12 Sue Le Prevost (1)  
£10 Jean and Peter (25)  
£5 Sue Le Prevost (75)

— Dianne Benfield

## Macmillan coffee morning

**Put the date in your diary: Saturday, 30 September at the Abingdon Hall, 10.30am to 12 noon.**

Cakes and produce stall, books, Fran's jewellery, Grand Raffle, Macmillan competitions, a small selection of plants and who knows what else!!

If you can help by giving cakes, raffle prizes and/or your help and support on the day, please contact Sheelagh Duly 01747 811463.

If you would like to have a table to sell your own goodies we would welcome a 10% cut!

Please support this splendid cause that so many of us have had help from.



Seen at Clayesmore School ponds in mid-summer, this charming family of the swans and their new cygnets was snapped by Dennis Webb. Sextuplets! That'll keep 'em busy!

## Grants available for North Dorset start-ups

**North Dorset District Council (NDDC) is supporting local start-up businesses using grants from its Economic Growth Fund.**

Cllr Sherry Jespersen, Cabinet Member for Community and Regeneration, said: "Small and micro businesses are the life-blood of the North Dorset economy. They create prosperity across our communities and are key to expanding employment opportunities for our young people.

"NDDC's Economic Development Grants are an important part of our support for business in the area, offering practical help to new businesses as they get established."

Recent grants have supported:

- Cherry Picked Hampers, a food hamper business in Milborne St Andrew.
- All in the Balance, a specialist watch repair business in Stalbridge.
- Twarbers, a specialist barber in Shaftesbury.

Jack Twyford, from Twarbers in Shaftesbury, said, "If you have a business idea I would really recommend you apply for an Economic Growth Fund grant. The process might seem onerous but I found it helpful in terms of clarifying my business plan.

"The process was explained clearly and I was delighted to be awarded a grant. The grant was truly invaluable and helped me buy all the things I needed to set up my barbers. I could not have done it without this extra funding.

"These funds are there to help people like me set up their own business, it has to be worth applying for, surely?"

The Economic Growth Fund can support start-up businesses with grants of up to £4,000.

Information about funding and who can apply is available online at: [www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/north-dorset-economic-growth-fund](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/north-dorset-economic-growth-fund)

# Neighbourhood Development Plan

## Update on progress and future actions

**The Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan has been approved by the IM Parish Council and can be found on the website, [www.IMNDP.org.uk](http://www.IMNDP.org.uk) It includes the draft NDP and supporting documents.**

Two open meetings will be held to get feedback from people in the village on

- Friday 3 November at 19:00.
- Saturday 4 November at 10:00.

A reminder of where we are and the steps that we still need to go through:

1. The Draft Plan is now available for Iwerne Minster Parish residents and other key organisations (as required by the legislation) for consultation. This consultation has to run for a minimum of six weeks.

2. A questionnaire will be circulated to all households in the village, with a target date for completion

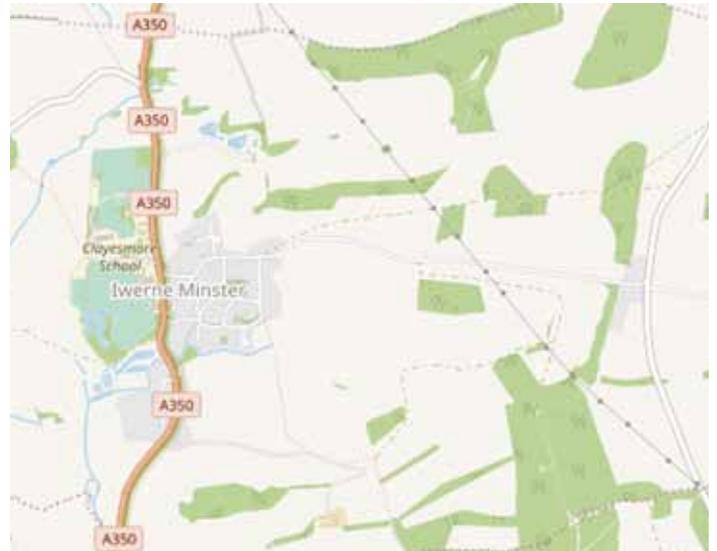
3. We will analyse all of the feedback, re-draft the Plan, and share both the revised draft and the questionnaire analysis with the village at the two open meetings mentioned above.

4. As a result of the questionnaire feedback and any feedback from the open meetings, the Parish Council will be asked to approve a revised Plan.

5. We will submit this Plan to the District Council, who will organise its independent examination

6. North Dorset District Council and Parish Council will consider any changes proposed by the Examiner and modify the plan, if required

7. The District Council will organise a referendum of Iwerne Minster Parish residents



8. Plan officially approved if supported by local people in the referendum vote.

The last four timescales are out of our control but hopefully we should have our Neighbourhood Plan in place early in 2018.

For those people in the Parish who do not have a computer and wish to receive a hard copy of the draft NDP, please contact myself on 811287 by the end of Friday, 8 September. I will personally deliver a hard copy to you, and if possible, I will bring my laptop and share with you the supporting documents.

*Councillor Arthur Evans*

*Leader Neighbourhood Development Planning team*

## Hedge trimming

**This summer has seen hedges growing at fast rates and there are a number that clearly need trimming, particularly along the A350 both North and South .**

At the moment there are a small number of hedges where it is either impossible to walk two abreast along the pavement as is the case on the east side of the A350 going south or there are brambles hanging out catching walkers clothing on the west side going north.

Hedges are the responsibility of the land owner and the parish council would respectfully ask those with hedges next to footpaths, narrow lanes and pavements to check theirs and if necessary, arrange for them to be trimmed back to where they no longer restrict pedestrians.

## Val Roberts RIP

Val Roberts, a resident of Iwerne Minster from 1985 to 2014, died on 18 August in a nursing home in Esatbourne, Sussex. Her husband Ken died seven years ago. Val's funeral is on 1 September at 3pm St Mary's Church, Old Town, Eastbourne.

## Petanque league 0 British summer 1

**Our Great British Summer was the victor this year. Sitting in our beach hut at Studland, beneath clear blue skies with temperatures 30 degrees plus, we never imagined that just a week later we would be driven off the Parish Field by torrential rain, wind and heavily waterlogged conditions underfoot.**

Unfortunately, it quickly became evident that we could neither hold, nor easily reconvene, our open Petanque Tournoi (French term) in a way to suit everyone. The evenings starting to draw in, weather uncertain, teams unsure when they might be available and so on. The decision was made to hold off and try again next year. Sorry.

So next year, probably in July again, we'll have another go. I can promise you more games for your money, so I might have to get everything under way mid-afternoon instead of early evening. BBQ and bar will operate as usual.

My thanks to all of you from Iwerne, Child Okeford and Shroton for your patience and understanding. I look forward to your valued support next year. – *David Hicks*

# Iwerne Minster News

## Village Show 2017

### The Prizewinners:

Banksian medal (Vegetables, Fruit and Specimen Flowers) Ron Benfield  
Elliott Cup (Vegetables) Ron Benfield  
Fruit Bowl (Fruit) Steve Harrison  
Simon Stobbs Cup (Specimen Flowers) Richard Thomas  
IMPHA Cup (Floral Decoration) Jane Hood  
Flora Cup (Floral Decoration) Penny Marsh  
Novice Cup (Floral Decoration) Trevor Ruddock  
Manning Cup (Cookery) Sue Le Prevost  
Audrey Brewster Cup (Cookery) Peter Robinson  
Bowhay Cup (Men only) Peter Robinson  
Aston Court Cup (Art) Linda Jones  
IMPHA Shield (Photography) Iain Macdonald  
IMPHA Cup (Handicrafts) Dianne Benfield  
Children's Shield Age 4-6 Ellie Parker  
Children's Shield Age 7-9 Erin Forsbrey  
Children's Shield Age 10-12 Poppy Marshall  
Isard Cup (Garden flowers) Poppy Marshall  
Sixteen and Under Emma Smith  
Burley Bowl (Horticultural classes) Jane Hood  
Dwell Deep Bowl (non-Horticultural classes) Iain Macdonald  
Potato growing Alan Scott.



**Above** Ren Benfield won the Banksian medal and the impressive Elliott Cup for vegetables. In the background, show secretary Christine O'Luanagh runs through the prizelist with presenter Ann Thomas, former local GP.  
**Left** Amazing display of flowers made judging difficult.  
**Below** Wonderful displays, hanging baskets and and the highly competitive tomatoes and onions table.





**Above** A regular at the show is this 1919 Stanley Steam Car – yes, powered by steam – giving rides around the village.  
**Left** Penny March won the Flora Cup for Floral Decoration.



**Above** The show was the debut for Matthew Forsbrey's new venture, the Dorset Gin Box, available for event hire on 01747 811922.

**Right** Iwerne Minster's scooter kings, Spundy and Jake, brought their 1960s Vespa and Lambretta for the display of classic vehicles.

**Below right** Rob Smith in mid patter as he auctions off some of the produce in the show.

**Below** Where's the treasure? A simple competition but with all of Dorset to choose, where do you stick the pin?



# Iwerne Minster News

## Gardeners' Scratchings

### September

Keep watering and dead heading. Autumn clearing generates a lot of waste for the compost heap. When weather is dry enough scarify and spike the lawn and apply autumn lawn feed and repair any broken edges and hollows. Plant and move conifers and evergreens. Clip hedges before the middle the month, if haven't already done so. Collect seed from perennials and alpines. Plant spring cabbage plants. Keep on harvesting vegetables. Cut down asparagus foliage once it has turned yellow. Prune cane fruits. Think about bringing in tender plants to the greenhouse. Watch out for vine weevil – you often get a second batch now – earwigs on dahlias and of course pigeons on brassicas. Spring clean the greenhouse. The middle of September is the latest you can plant Christmas hyacinth bulbs if you want them to flower on Christmas Day!

### October

Tidy borders clearing weeds and cutting down flower stems and compost as much as possible. Rake away any leaves from off the lawn. Check tree ties in windy weather. Prune late flowering climbing roses. Take hardwood cuttings at end of the month. Plant spring bulbs. When vegetable plot is cleared start winter digging. Create new strawberry beds by using plants raised from this year's runners. Plant tulips, Hyacinths and narcissus in containers. Give the pond a good clear out removing any dead and dying leaves a remove sludge from the bottom of the pond. Watch out for that early frost.



## Alan Bennett's appeal to Iwerne Minster

### Alan Bennett writes to Iwerne Minster!

Whilst filming 'Sunset over the Bay' for the BBC in the seventies I spent several weeks on location with Alan. A few years later I worked with him again when Pat Routledge was recording 'A Woman of No Importance' at Television Centre – the first of his acclaimed series of monologues. I spent many happy hours in the company of one of our 'national treasures' and can report that, despite fame, his shyness and modesty make him both fun and incredibly comfortable to be around.

In a recent letter to him recalling old times and knowing that one of his joys is exploring England's churches – on a day out he regularly enjoys a lunchtime sandwich in a graveyard – I included our village booklet and mentioned that St Mary's, like many other local churches, was about to have its pews removed. I thought this might be of interest to him having recently read in 'Keeping on Keeping on' that his diary entry for 28 June 2007 records

"Write to Bradford Diocesan Registrar about proposal to remove pews from St. Andrew's Kildwick The church is largely fourteenth-century, but a group of parishioners now wish to 'move forward' and are proposing the installation of flexible seating, a meeting room, a crèche, a kitchen, toilets and disabled access, because their 'style of worship' is not suited to the constrictions of a fourteenth-century building. I am

sure they're sincere, but the arguments being advanced are exactly the same as those of equally sincere worshippers who wanted stained-glass windows smashed in the seventeenth century or the rood loft removed in 1559. It didn't suit their style of worship either."

Below is his reply to me on 5th June 2017 – ironically almost ten years on from that original diary entry.

"Could I, as an entirely disinterested party, urge you not to update the the interior of St.Mary's. It's no business of mine except that having visited so many churches that have gone through the same process I can't think of one where something intangible wasn't lost. Old churches are awkward buildings these days, but turning them into convenient spaces does irreverence to their history."

Can I suggest that we hang a copy of the original note in Abingdon Hall as a companion piece to Thomas Hardy's letter written in 1921 congratulating I.M on its new Village Club.

Whether you agree with Mr. Bennett or not, as an acclaimed writer in his own lifetime whose original manuscripts and notes are archived in the Bodleian, a handwritten note expressing his view on the proposed 'reordering' of St. Mary's in 2017 could be considered a small piece of village history. In any event I.M now has a record of two of the foremost writers of the 19th and 20th centuries expressing a personal interest in its affairs!

– Jean Steward

# St Mary's: The 1920s heritage treasures

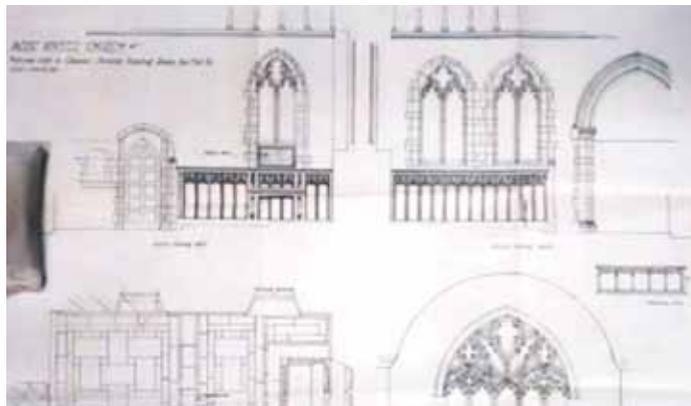
Two of the major sets of heritage treasures in the church are the Reredos, Altar Table and Rail, together with the East Window. These were installed in 1920. The Reredos and Altar were designed by the celebrated architect Giles Gilbert Scott, who also designed the Village Pump, the War Office and our War Memorial. The beautiful East Window was designed by Christopher Whall, the noted Arts and Crafts stained glass artist.

These replaced an earlier window, reredos and altar. We do not have any details of the content of the window, except that it was removed with consent. The new window was endowed by Harold Boulton, who lived at West Lodge, in Iwerne Minster parish, in memory of his mother and his twin sister.

We have better information on the old reredos. It was erected in 1899 by Helen Boulton in memory of her father, Captain Joseph Boulton, who died in 1874. It was removed with the consent of Harold Boulton. When Penny Marsh's father, Rex Wells, became Vicar in 1951 it was still in the carriage house of the Old Vicarage. It became our crib, and it is still in use today. You can see it on either side of the altar in the photograph below (Photograph 1). The altar is smaller, and the reredos does not rise above the base of the window. The design in the window is not visible, but the bottom of the window panels are blanked off.

The pulpit and lectern are clearly in their current positions., as are the two rows of choir stalls.

One other feature of this reordering was the insertion of the smaller stained glass window in the north wall adjacent to the altar together with the stone tablet. They remember the men from the parish who were killed in the Great War. This is part of the plan for the alterations and is illustrated in Fig 2, below.



## Changes to Worship

One of the major changes to the way worship is conducted has occurred during the last 50 years or so. At the beginning of this period the priest faced the altar during services. Since then it has become normal to include the congregation in the service, by moving the altar nearer to the congregation, and for the priest to face them.

In our church the high altar sits on its own step and is a massive oak table. It is impossible to move it forward, and so in the year 2000, an extension was added to the lower altar step, so that a smaller moveable altar table could be used, and the priest could stand behind it and face the congregation. We still use this arrangement.

To allow this to happen the altar rail designed by Giles Gilbert Scott, which was straight, was altered to the angled rail which we have today. This was done by Julian Twist who was a cabinet maker living in the village at the time.

The trend toward bringing the celebration closer to the congregation continues and removal of the pews will allow us to celebrate with the altar surrounded by the congregation in the nave, if we wish to do so.

There have been changes to every area of the church, which have allowed new traditions to establish, and new endowments to be made.

*Mike Deeming, Malcolm Green, Andrew Gregory, Richard Hood, Niels Kraunsoe, David Parkhouse.*

## Midsummer Walk

Our midsummer walk was a repeat of one done a couple of years ago. Fifteen of us gathered in the car park at Bere Regis on a fine clear warm sunny evening, a perfect start to our walk.

From there the walk took us along beside the River Bere to the delightfully named Shitterton. And from there the path took us across the meadows and up to the top of the ridge which separates the Bere valley from the Piddle valley.

The path then ran west above the main road which could be heard below then down into the Piddle valley with lovely views across it.

We stopped half way down for our picnic supper, taken sitting on the grass in the sunshine. We had a visit from a local horse and rider whilst eating.

From here we carried on down to the bottom of the valley and then along to the hamlet of Throop where there is a

redundant church. From Throop it was up the hill again towards Bere. Along the way you pass a standing stone called the Devil's Stone or the Five Fingered Stone. It is megalithic in origin and was used by the Romans as a road marker as they had a road running past it.

From there it was downhill back to Bere, passing the school and across the river.

*— Jim & Cathy Bird*

# Iwerne Minster News

## Iwerne Minster News

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Deadline for contributions:  
20 October

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Contributions are welcome from anyone in Iwerne Minster or with an interest in the village. Please send 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) and copyright should be agreed with the photographer.

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editor.

### Village Diary

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

### Printer

Parish Magazine Printing

### Like to advertise in Iwerne Minster News?

Please contact the editor for rates and availability of space.



## Clerk's Corner: Parish Council notes

### Dorset Unitary Authority

We are still waiting for comment from the Secretary of State to ensure that, if we get the go-ahead, all councils across Dorset are in a position to proceed.

### 5 Year Housing Land Supply

We are set a target by central government of 2219 homes to be completed in the next 5 years. Regrettably North Dorset has joined the long list of councils that no longer have a '5 Year Housing Land Supply'.

There are three reasons for this:

- Only 142 houses were completed in North Dorset last year
- The 5% buffer requirement was increased to 20%
- Slower than anticipated progress on strategic sites.

Currently, NDDC has granted planning permission for over 1500 homes but only 1162 are likely to be delivered in the next five years so only these can be counted towards our five year housing supply. Without a five year supply it makes it harder for us to refuse planning permission for housing development.

### Community-led housing

NDDC is just completing setting up a support system with £238,000 budget to help local people setup Community-led housing schemes. A CLT is a way for local communities to ensure that affordable homes are built. CLTs will require a Parish Council's blessing.

If you are interested in starting a CLT please get in contact with Paul Derrien or your District Councillor.

### Bus service

Steve Butler and Deborah Croney have been working with Parish Councillors within their County Divisions to see if there is demand for a Saturday bus service to Salisbury following the withdrawal of the subsidised service.

Representatives of Pimperne, Tarrant, Gunville, Hinton, Launceston and Monkton, and Sixpenny Handley met with Helen Read from North Dorset

Community Accessible Transport (Nordcat) to consider the possibility of running a trial Saturday Community bus service. We are pleased to announce that a bus service will be trialled for 8 weeks, from Blandford to Salisbury, collecting from all the villages along the route, and diverting off the main road for people who have booked. You can only use this service if you have booked in advance. Contact Nordcat on 01258 473154.

### Other matters

- The weed control has been looked into and guidelines for using chemicals near water courses are being used.
- The 20mph project is moving forward, a public notice will be placed in local press in the next month or so.
- Blocked drains that have been reported have been cleared by County Council.
- Concerns were raised regarding the overhanging branches along the A350, obstructing the path. Some of the residents have been asked to cut their hedges back and the School will be asked to make sure they keep their area clear.
- The chippings have been cleared in the recreation area. The painting of the equipment will take place once the volunteer is well enough.
- The bench, which has been made by pupils from Clayesmore School, has been placed in the Play Area.
- The Speedwatch team are holding ten watches each month. They see around 3500 cars, of which 140 exceed the speed limit. The Speedwatch team would like to recruit new members. If you are interested, please contact Geoff Peters 01747 811546.

– Nicky Philips, Clerk, Iwerne Minster Parish Council [www.iwerneminster.info](http://www.iwerneminster.info)

**Parish Council meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, at Abingdon Hall, The Chalk, starting at 7.00pm. Meetings start with questions from the public. Minutes from the meetings are posted on noticeboards.**