CONTACT

MAY deadlines
For Adverts;
15th April
Editorial
19th April

The community magazine For Chickerell and Fleet. APRIL 2022 No 531

Inside this month

Over 70? Free tea for the jubilee!

Historic picture of West Street and North Square

With best wishes for Easter
to all our advertisers, readers and volunteers

From the editor:

Everyone has been so shocked by what has happened in Europe since last month. Little did we know what atrocities would happen in Ukraine at that time. To all the people of that country, now living through such difficult times, I send my sincere thoughts and support.

Congratulations to Brian and his team of litter pickers for the successful spring clean in our town and well done to Chickerell Primary Academy for their work.

Over 70 or born in 1952? Apply for a seat at the Jubilee Tea Party on Sunday 5th June. Details on the next page.

Having lived in Chickerell all my life I am very passionate about our town borders. If you live in Littlesea or Cobham Drive, you will become a part of Weymouth after 2024. Is this move necessary, or is our neighbour Weymouth doing it for income, as our two county councillors warn of increased council tax in their report. I urge all inhabitants of Chickerell to go online and have their say, as we could lose more parts of our town. Closing date is 23rd May 2022.

I note that Chickerell and Moonfleet WI now meets at the Willowbed Hall on the second Monday of each month and that Chickerell Foodbank has a list of wanted items.

Once again, thank you to Carrie Dalby for her garden notes.

Finally, Happy Easter to you all from myself and the Contact team. **JOHN DEAN**

WHO TO CONTACT: Editor: John Dean, 4 Rashley Road (01305) 785895.
Treasurer/Advertising Manager: David Tattersall: (01305) 761643. email: **davidtattersall2003@yahoo.co.uk**
Please contact David if you wish to place an advert or renew an advert.
Compiler: Caroline Tomlinson: (01305) 773502. email: caroline@elephantsears.org - please send all letters to the editor, articles and editorial to the compiler. When sending an email, you need to put 'Contact Magazine' & the appropriate month in the subject heading or it will be regarded as 'spam'. You need to add a phone number for queries.
Letters and editorial contributions, which **may be edited**, are welcome but anonymous letters will not be published.
Note: the views and opinions expressed by the contributors in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor, compiler or publisher.
Every effort is made to ensure all information provided is correct at time of going to press.
Closing date for articles: 5pm on the 19th of the preceding month.
Closing date for adverts: (including amendments to current adverts) 5pm on the 15th of the preceding month.
Note: Deadlines have to be strict to get Contact completed and to the printers on time.
Advertisers note: A contact phone number **must** be included if sending via email.
PLEASE SEND ADVERTS AS EITHER A JPEG OR BITMAP, AND SIZED ACCORDINGLY. Thank you.
All artwork is accepted on the strict condition that permission has been given for its use in this publication. Adverts are accepted in good faith in the strict understanding that goods and services described are both fair & accurate. Note: **Adverts will not be placed in Contact without prior payment**.
You can pick up printed copies of Contact at: Chickerell Post Office; Chickerell Library; Chickerell Pharmacy and hairdresser next door; Wessex Pharmacy; Sgt Bun Bakery, Lanehouse Rocks Road; Alf's Fish & Chips.
You can also view us online in colour at the Chickerell website every month (details below).

CHICKERELL WEBSITE – By James Bennett: Find us at www.chickerell.com and view Contact Magazine including past issues, in case you missed a month!

USEFUL INFORMATION - HEALTH

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Website: www.wykeregisandlanehousemedicalpractice.co.uk.
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Emergency Care Service: Dial 111. If critically ill call 999.
DORSET COUNTY HOSPITAL AND WEYMOUTH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL:
Accident and Emergency Department at Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester: For all serious injuries.
Injuries less serious: WEYMOUTH URGENT CARE CENTRE at Weymouth Community Hospital. Open 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. Appointment only during COVID Pandemic 01305 762541.

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Contact is printed by Print Shop Express, Weymouth

NEWS……NEWS…..NEWS…..NEWS….NEWS….NEWS….

CHICKERELL HAS A SPRING CLEAN: From Brian: When vegetation is cut back on verges and hedges it exposes a vast amount of unseen litter. Thanks to the Chickerell Primary Academy, the housing developer and members of the community who cleared areas before our organized litter-pick. On first glance areas looked free of litter; it was surprising, therefore, that our 22 volunteers collected a total of 40 bags of rubbish (locally 29 bags and in the road at the nine-hole golf course 11 bags.) A large proportion of litter collected could be recycled. In two areas the cut back exposed years of muddy wine bottles which filled several bags; also more than 100 half bottles of vodka; empty of course. It would appear that people drove to these quiet areas for a social drink and tossed the empties into the hedge of brambles. It would be so easy if they could keep the empties in the car and recycle at home. Thanks to all the volunteers for a brilliant effort, beating all past records.
It was pleasing that parents and children were so keen to participate on the day.
Compiler's note: The Great Dorset Beach Clean has 16 beach cleans organised for this year, with the campaign running from 2nd-10th April. See the Litter Free Dorset website/social media pages for more details as some events require prior registration to attend.

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FREE TEA IF YOU ARE 70: Chickerell residents aged 70 or over are invited to apply to attend a special Platinum Jubilee tea party to celebrate The Queen's 70-year reign. The event will take place on Sunday 5th June at the Willowbed Hall alongside other Big Jubilee Lunch events that day.
Mayor Coun Turner and Mayor-Elect Coun Worth, who will be hosting the event said: "It's a privilege to be serving the civic office during the Queen's Jubilee year and we thought hosting a tea party for those aged 70 and over during the 70th year would be a fitting tribute."
Applications are invited for free tickets. Successful applicants will be offered places for two guests (applicant plus one). Priority will be given to those aged 70 born in 1952. To apply, please complete the form on the town council website https://chickerelltowncouncil.co.uk/your-mayor/jubilee-tea-party/ or collect a form from the Chickerell Town Council offices (adjoining Willowbed Hall in Putton Lane). **Applications must be submitted by Monday 18 April 2022.**

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FROM CHICKERELL'S DORSET COUNCILLORS John Worth and Jean Dunseith: Chickerell Boundary, Where do they draw the line? The proposal for the houses that could move into the boundary of Weymouth Town Council: A typical example of one impact for residents: Council Tax Band D is over £100 more than Chickerell! Have your say at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/community-governance-review

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KEEN CRAFTERS looking for a new project are invited to create items to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. People can knit, crochet, sew, patchwork, embroider, felt or bead etc., members of the Royal Family, their pets, crowns, 'houses', bunting, tea cosies or other items for a Royal Tea Party, with no limits to the imagination.
The aim is to celebrate with a special event to show off the creations in June. All items will then be sold to raise money for the Royal Voluntary Service and its work in the community. If you would like further information contact Maria Jackson, Service Manager Dorset Home Library service on 07786 635154 or email maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

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THE FRIENDS OF WEYMOUTH LIBRARY (FOWL) is a community group that helps promote the library and raises money for special projects via talks, social events and book sales. "**We would like to strengthen links with Chickerell Library** and work together to promote library services locally. Forthcoming events include talks, musical performances, a quiz and a social. At present we are limited in audience numbers and our tea party and talk on Weymouth in the time of Jane Austen has sold out, but we invite Chickerell residents to join us on **Saturday 23rd April** to enjoy a free piano recital in the Library in Great George Street, Weymouth. More information from the secretary or chair on (01305) 832613 or (01305) 750557 or on the library noticeboard."

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THANK YOU: From Dorothy Shalts: I wish to thank the lady, I believe her name is Hannah, who helped me at the Willowbed Hall bus stop on the evening of Friday 4th March.

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NEWS FROM LOCAL GROUPS, CLUBS & SOCIETIES

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S – Chickerell's historic, listed church in North Square

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for our 100 Club for this year, which ends next February. We offer four monthly prizes as we have 85 people signed up (some are the same person, as people buy more than one entry). It is still possible to join and the yearly subscription of £12 reduces by a £1 each month. If you want to be in the May draw, it will cost £10 for the rest of the year. Contact Hilary and John on 01305 772817 or johnben33@gmail.com for a form. In the February free coffee morning at the church, the raffle raised £71 for church funds, thanks to Valerie Hale and her helpers. The very successful Pancake Lunch at Marshallsay Court on Shrove Tuesday, raised £150 for Church funds and the raffle £61 for the Mission to Seafarers, thanks again due to Valerie and helpers. Our next event is the sale of Books/CDs and DVDs, all at 50p each (reductions for bulk purchases) plus bric-a-brac and plants, on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May from 10am-2pm, at 11 Randall Close, with refreshments, weather permitting. Everyone welcome.

As you may know, we have been without our own vicar since last April and have been well supported by local clergy and our Lay Worship Leaders taking our services, for which we have been very grateful. From the 15th May our parish is being included in the Parish of Radipole and Melcombe Regis. The Rev Jo Haine from Emmanuel Church, Southill, will be welcomed then as our vicar. Rev Jo will be responsible for both churches. Please come along to one of our services to help welcome her to Chickerell.

NEWS FROM CHICKERELL LUNCHEON CLUB – First Thursday monthly at Marquis of Granby pub

After an excellent first lunch with our new hosts, Justin and Natasha, we look forward to the next one. In **April** we hare having gammon in parsley sauce with vegetables, followed by steamed ginger and syrup pudding and custard. We shall also have a list out for our first outing in two years. It is a mystery tour among the bluebells, if they are out at the right time! Do come; we always have a lot of fun. Any queries/cancellations please phone Ann on 783002 or Ruth on 775364.

CHICKERELL WALKERS CLUB – Group walks organised each month for those who like walking

Two Club walks: **Friday 8th April:** Meet 10am at the pond opposite the pub at Sutton Poyntz. A circular walk to Osmington & The White Horse; there is a hill to climb. **Saturday 23rd April:** Meet 10am at the Outlook Cafe on the way to Bowleaze (on top of the hill) Walk on the cliffs and back around to the Roman site. Expect good views and a few hills.

Two slow walks: **Tuesday 19th April**: Meet 1.30pm at Portesham Green, opposite the pub. A round trip to Abbotsbury. **Thursday 28th April:** Meet 2pm at the Willowbed Hall. Experience the footpaths around the old village of Chickerell.

CHARLESTOWN VICTORY HALL, PUTTON LANE venue for classes, clubs and events

DIARY DATES

Monday: pm: Ballet; Modern Tap* (WSB); eve - Line & Partner Dancing (Dixie Six) **Tuesday:** pm/eve: Ballet; Modern Tap* (WSB) **Wednesday:** am & pm: Cygnets & Swans Ballet* (WSB); pm - WHIST; eve - Line & Partner Dancing (Dixie Six). **Thursday:** pm/eve - Gymnastics* (WSB) **Friday:** am - Early Movers* (WSB); evening - BINGO (fortnightly) **Saturday**: am Cygnets Ballet* (WSB) * additional dance sessions available. Enquiries: WSB (Weymouth School of Ballet) – 07703463974. Dixie Six - 01305 772668.

NEWS FROM MARION: Bingo Dates 8th and 22nd April: Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7pm. All welcome. Whist as usual on every Wednesday starting at 2pm. Due to the ground still being very soggy we have not been able to erect the new goalposts but are aiming to get these done by end of April. The same goes for the state of our fence at the moment; roll on some prolonged good weather. We hope you are all looking forward to celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee and to this end, we are happy to announce we will be holding a celebratory afternoon tea on Sunday 5th June from 3-5pm; free of course. Invitations to this are directed to residents of Charlestown; two per household. Look out for posters around the area and on our Facebook page. Unfortunately, we can only cater for 50 guests, so anyone who would like to come along should get their request in early. Please do this by telephoning our normal numbers for queries; either Joe Castleman on 01305 789125 or Marion Hardcastle on 01305 761744 to give your name, contact number and dietary needs. Once 50 places are filled we regret we cannot accept any more, so please do not just turn up on the off chance. We do hope all those who can attend will have a really lovely afternoon and look forward to seeing you.

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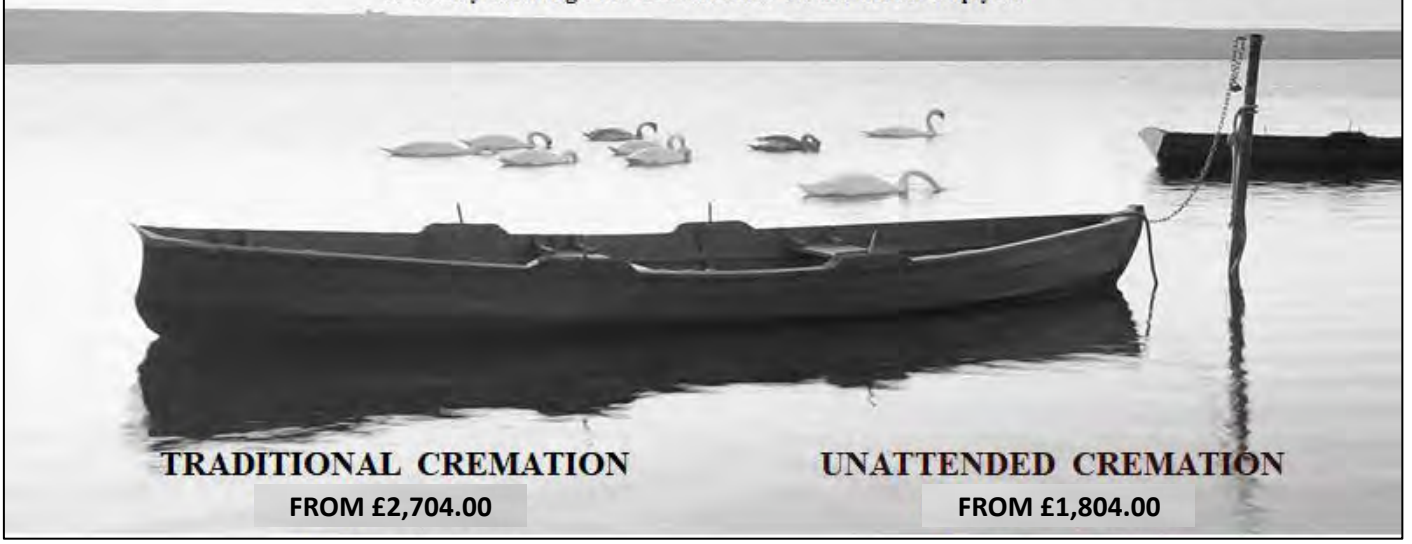

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MORE FROM LOCAL GROUPS, CLUBS & SOCIETIES

SPIRIT OF CHICKERELL runs regular Village Café in Willowbed Hall, Putton Lane & other events

April's Village Cafe and table top sale is on **Saturday 16th April** from 10am to 12.30 pm in the Willowbed Hall, Putton Lane, Chickerell. There will be a range of high quality craft items, custom made greetings cards and discounted Avon products to purchase. The cafe will be serving a range of homemade cakes, plus the ever popular bacon and sausage butties. Funds raised at the cafes are used to sponsor other community events in Chickerell; these include The Party in the Park and the Village Show, this year scheduled for Saturday16th July and the Christmas Carol Concert, scheduled for Friday 9th December. We also make donations to other community groups which have links to Chickerell. Recently we donated £300 to the Veterans Hub, so that the hub could purchase a much needed tumble drier. If you run a local community group and would like some help with funding, please email our chairman, giving details of your group and what you would like the funding for: Email cllrjohn.worth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or call 07787229052. Thank you.

CHICKERELL MOONFLEET WI: Meets 7pm on second Monday of each month at Willowbed Hall

This newly formed group meets at 7pm on the second Monday of each month at Willowbed Hall to connect women of all ages and interests. At the February meeting members enjoyed an entertaining talk and demonstration by a local florist who donated her beautiful creations to the group. New members are always welcome; for more information contact Chris on 07983 883480 or Sheila on 07809 680593.

MARSHALLSAY COURT COFFEE MORNINGS every Weds at the flats in Marshallsay Rd, 10-11am

NEWS……NEWS…..NEWS…..NEWS….NEWS….NEWS….

WEYMOUTH'S REPAIR CAFÉ returned to work last month at its new venue in Littlemoor and people attending, normally invited to donate for repairs and advice, were asked to donate in aid of the people in Ukraine. As a result £430 was donated to the Red Cross via SumUp, which matched that donation, so £860 will be going to the Red Cross to help in the humanitarian crisis in the Ukraine. The Repair Café committee says it is very proud of its volunteers, continuing to give their time and skills and very pleased that the people attending donated so generously.

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FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: Keeping your home safe: The national network of neighbourhood watch says there are simple measures that can be taken to protect where you live. The idea is to think WIDE (N): W: WINDOWS: Keep your windows locked. I: INTERIOR: Put inside lights on a timer/smart bulb. D: DOORS: Double or deadlock your doors. E: EXTERIOR: Put outside lights on a sensor. (N): NEIGHBOURS: Keep an eye out for your neighbours.

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DID YOU KNOW: About the amendments to the Highway Code. The amendments, now in force, aim to improve road safety for people walking, cycling and riding horses. Ten sections of the code have been updated, with 50 rules added or updated. A summary is in The Highway Code updates list on the Gov.uk website. They include new rules on parking and exiting vehicles, passing parked vehicles and horses and walking, cycling or riding in shared spaces.

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THE BENEFITS OF COMPOSTING From the Recycling Team at Dorset Council: "Spring is a perfect time to think about making compost for our gardens, hanging baskets and window boxes. Composting is great for the environment. It improves soil, helping to create healthy plants and reducing the need to water and fertilize. It's easy to make, can save money and you only need a small outdoor space. Dorset Council is offering compost bins at £6 and there is a buy-one-get-one-half-price deal (plus delivery). This is for a limited number of bins. See getcomposting.com for details. Free compost bins are also offered to schools. "We offer up to two compost bins and two caddies, plus a visit from a team member. Visit dorsetcouncil/recycle for more details. Good things you can compost include teabags, prunings from plants, cut flowers, vegetable peelings and fruit waste (add citrus peelings sparingly). You can also add cardboard eggboxes and scrunched up paper. These provide fibre and carbon and also allow important air pockets to form in the mixture. Twigs, grass clippings and leaves can also be added, but they will take a long time to break down if large quantities are added at one time. The compost is ready when it's brown and crumbly. Dig into the soil in early spring or late autumn to improve the soil structure and act as a slow-release fertiliser.

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LIBRARY NEWS: Borrowed books can be returned to Chickerell library from any library in Dorset, Somerset, Bristol or Bath; these libraries as a whole are part of libraries west, which covers a large area. You can order books on line and they can sent to Chickerell library. Books can be on loan for three weeks but can be renewed if you haven't finished with them for another three weeks. The library has a good stock of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, also large print and teenage books. Pop up to the library and have a browse, or join if you do not have a library card. We also have computers that can be used. Children are welcome and we enjoy visits from the school and play schools. Our volunteers are there to help.

Digital Champions: Want to feel more confident using online services? The library has two digital champions to help. There are two drop in sessions when the library is open: Tuesday Pam 10-12pm: Saturday Michelle 10-12pm. Book Club: The club a few places if anyone is interested in joining. There are eight to 10 people in the club. The idea is to read a different book every month then discuss it over tea and biscuits. Ring or message 0772566681 if you would like to know more. **Lego Club: Next date: Tuesday 12th April 2-3pm** please call Pam 07778961363 to confirm attendance as numbers are limited. There will be a Easter Egg Hunt; see if you can beat the Lego men! Book of the month: Gardening. Photo Copying: Don't forget photo copying; the only place in Chickerell. 10p black and white per copy; 50p colour per copy.

Next library coffee morning is **2nd April 10am-12pm** for coffee & a chat. Happy Reading!

CHICKERELL PRE-SCHOOLS

DUCKLINGS PRE-SCHOOL: Methodist Church Hall, North Square, Chickerell DT3 4DX
Tel: 766920 email: ducklings.pre@btinternet.com or visit our Facebook page

DUCKINGS SESSIONS Full days available: Monday to Friday 8.45am-2.45pm. Mornings available: Monday to Friday 8.45am-11.45am or 12.45pm. Applications for our two-year sessions are now closed for September 2022. We do have some availability in September for three and four year olds. Contact us for an application form.

INFORMATION: This term we are having an Easter raffle, Easter egg colouring competition, and guess the name of the bunny for the community to join in with. Please look out for information on our Facebook page. We thank you for your continued support to raise money for essential resources for the children. As we approach the spring, and hopefully some warmer weather, we would like to refresh our herb garden and plant some vegetables to promote physical development and understand growth and changes in our environment. Any donations of plants would be much appreciated. For details about registering your child with us, please contact Michelle or Sharon.

CHICKADEES: Rashley Road (by Chickerell Primary Academy) Tel: 01305 773103.
Contact Jenny Lamming, pre-school manager. Email: pre-school@chickerell.dorset.sch.uk

CHICKERELL PRIMARY ACADEMY Rashley Road. School office: 01305 783876

NEWS: After a well-deserved half term break, our children have settled back into their learning and are enjoying their new projects. Last week, the school celebrated **Book Week** with books from the book elf, wrapped and hidden around the classrooms; the children loved opening these and sharing with friends and teachers. Teachers read a range of poems and books to their classes and enjoyed discussing these with the children afterwards. On **World Book Day**, each child was invited to bring 'a book in a jar' into school. They had to create their favourite book within a jar, for example sweets and a golden ticket in a jar if the book was 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We were overwhelmed by the amazing jars brought into school! The children loved telling us about their jars and it was wonderful to hear them share their love of books with each other. We have created a display of these jars in our reception and all the children have had the opportunity to look at them. Each class held a 'Book Café'; where children had the opportunity to 'taste' different types of books set out on red and white checked tablecloths. The children listened to café style music and could record their feelings about the books. We even had Zoom calls with our favourite authors, exciting for the children and helping bring the books they love alive. We are now looking forward to enjoying some lovely, early spring weather and using our all-weather running track to clock up some healthy miles! The children, staff and governors hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

Are you new to the area and do you have a child who would like to join our school? We are now beginning to welcome parents into school for tours again. However, we are asking that only one parent attends a tour. This will enable us to avoid having too many visitors in school at a time when Covid cases remain high in our local area. Please contact the school office on 01305 783876 and our office staff will be happy to arrange a date for your visit.

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NEWS……NEWS…..NEWS…..NEWS….NEWS….NEWS….

FROM DORSET TRADING STANDARDS: DID YOU KNOW THAT FROM APRIL new legislation requires large businesses with more than 250 employees to **display calorie information for food and drink** prepared for customers to eat immediately. Information can be provided on menus, online menus, or labels. The types of businesses covered can include: Restaurants, fast food outlets, cafes, pubs and supermarkets: Home delivery services: Cafes and takeaways within larger shops and venues, such as supermarkets, department stores, and entertainment venues such as cinemas: Specialist food stores, delicatessens, sweet shops and bakeries: Contract catering; for events and canteens: Domestic transport businesses including planes, trains and ferries. The changes are part of the Government's strategy to tackle obesity; to make it easier to make healthier food choices when eating out. Dorset Council Trading Standards will be working with businesses to understand the changes needed. If you find something you feel is false or misleading, you can contact Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

****

SPRING CRAFT & COFFEE MORNING: Saturday 9th April at Portesham Village Hall, 10 till 12. Bacon rolls, sausage & vegetarian sausage baps, tea, coffee and cake, stalls inc., cakes, raffle, tombola, jewellery, books, bric a brac. Profits shared between Feral Cat Care, Portesham & Paula's Wildlife Rescue, Portland (known for hedgehog care). Please come and support us.

****

NOTHE FORT: The historic fort on Weymouth's harbourside has events for the final week of the Easter Holidays with an Easter Hunt that promises to be for all the family. There is a hunt for Easter Eggs, including a golden egg plus an Easter Quiz. The fort is also planning celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend from 2-5th June this year. For more details see the Nothe Fort website: nothefort.org.uk

****

MORE GROUPS & SOCIETIES IN THE AREA

SOUTH DORSET CALEDONIAN SOCIETY: Holds weekly Ceilidh and **Scottish Country Dancing** classes at the **Moose Hall, Chickerell Road** on **Monday evenings**, 7.30 to 9.45pm. Beginners welcome. £3 per head. Includes tea/coffee. You do not need a partner. Learn easy Ceilidh and Scottish Country dances. The society also holds St Andrews Day Celebrations, Burns Night, Ceilidhs and other events. www.southdorsetcaledonians.org - For further details contact: Frank 01305 835075. Or email the secretary at: sdcssec@gmail.com

WYKE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: The Trading Post in Rylands Lane is open Wednesdays 2 - 4pm and Saturdays 9.30 - 12.30pm. To join (£5 a Year) just pop in when we are open. Last call for potatoes! **April is ideal for sowing potatoes** and there are plenty for sale at the Trading Post. We are sowing vegetables and flowers in the polytunnel ready to be grown on or planted out. Advice and encouragement always available!

RADIPOLE & SOUTHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Meets at Southill Community Centre, 7.30pm on **Tuesday 12th April** with John Colton on the Royal Horticultural Society Wisley glasshouse 'The Jewel in the Crown'. Open to members and non-members. For more details call 01305 788939.

DROP IN CAFÉ for people with Dementia and their carers at Weymouth Bay Methodist Church, Melcombe Avenue, DT4 7TH. Come and enjoy a cuppa and cake, music and activities. First Friday of each month from 2-4pm. £2 per person. First session: Friday 1st April. Info from Esme 01305 812637.

SOUTHILL SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB meets at Southill Community Centre Mondays 2pm and Wednesdays 2pm and 7pm. £3 per session. First three sessions free. New members welcome.

WEYMOUTH HOLZWICKEDE TWINNING SOCIETY meets on **Thursday 28th April** with a visit to Holmes Garden Centre near Wareham. Anyone wishing to join us should contact 01305 832007. In May a short boat trip on the river Frome is planned. Further details on web site nearer the time. We look forward to spending time with our members and being able to catch up with their news.

INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF YOUR FAMILY? Somerset and Dorset (*Family History*) Society, Weymouth, meets third Friday afternoon each month at St. Aldhelm's Church Centre, Spa Road; Cost £2 per meeting. Contact John 01305 776008 to book a seat.

CHICKERELL TOWN COUNCIL

Council offices adjoin Willowbed Hall, Putton Lane. Office open Mondays and Thursdays 9.30am to noon with restrictions. Masks must be worn at all times. Tel: 01305 767458.
Website: www.chickerelltowncouncil.co.uk email townclerk@chickerell-tc.gov.uk

Town Council monthly meeting
Normally (non pandemic) **every third Tuesday of each month at 7pm** in the council offices, Putton Lane.
Full council meetings and committee meetings are public meetings..
..and are open to the public when not held on Zoom

Anti-social behaviour: Please report all incidents no matter how small immediately to the police either online (The website is dorset.police.uk - see the Contact Us section where you can report crime online) or by calling 101. This is the non-emergency number available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Remember, if a crime is in progress or life in danger call 999.
CCTV is around the Willowbed field & is constantly monitored

HALL HIRE

WILLOWBED HALL, Putton Lane & THE SPORTS PAVILION, Lower Way: Both available for hiring with added measures along with conditions for hirers. Contact the council offices (see above) for queries and bookings.

IMPORTANT AND USEFUL COUNCIL DETAILS

REFUSE/RECYCLING, RUBBISH BIN PROBLEMS, FLY TIPPING: Call Dorset Waste Services on 01305 221040 or report online via dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-litter and follow the link.
The main number for Dorset Council is 221000. The main number for Dorset Council West Dorset Services, which covers this area is 251010.
HIGHWAY ISSUES: Roads, verges and hedges, public footpaths, streetlights, road signage, winter maintenance and bus timetables – if you have any queries regarding any of these contact Dorset Council.
DOG WARDEN: 01305 252244.
STREETLIGHTS: If there is a streetlight out, please phone 0800 0684145.
FLOODING: For sandbags please call 01305 251010 and ask for emergency planning who will advise where sandbags can be purchased.

Water problems: Report to Wessex Water – 0845 600 4 600.
Electric Emergencies: 105. Call this number for emergency help and advice.

CITIZENS ADVICE: Details on website www.westdorsetca.org.uk

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT: Dorset Council on 01305 251010. See website www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and follow links to planning section. Chickerell is in the West Dorset area.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications since last edition of Contact and as Contact went to press: P/CLP/2022/01468: Handborough Park, Chickerell Road: Certificate of Lawfulness proposed to station one further caravan for all year round residential occupation. Taking total of caravans on site to 41.
P/FUL/2022/01588: 2-4 Land opposite Brown's Crescent: Erection of three three-bedroom terrace houses with associated parking (*application covers parcels of land opposite 1-4 Brown's Crescent*)

COUNCILLOR JOHN WORTH: If you need to contact your Dorset Councillor, call or email John Worth on 01305 835805 / 07787229052 Email: cllrjohn.worth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
****

CHICKERELL FOODBANK UPDATE

As expected, the numbers of those requiring help are still rising. We know it is getting expensive for us all and understand some are unable to help us which is leaving us very little stock; if anyone knows any companies that may be able to help, please let us know. If you, or someone you know, needs a helping hand, please do not feel embarrassed; we will help with weekly or fortnightly parcels for as long as required.
Text or telephone 07872861523/Email:placemarys4@gmail.com. At this time we would be grateful of: Long-life milk, tins of meat; hot dogs, meat balls, tuna, pasta and pasta sauce; tinned veg, cup a soup, Easter treats. Donation points: Chickerell Pharmacy, 56 Lilly Lane, 15 Marshallsay Court, Chickerell School and 11 Randall Close. We can collect donations; ring 07872861523 or 07895851075. The food donation cage in Aldi does not provide support to us and we are unable to find out more at the moment. Thank you all. Jacqui and the team.

Music, cinema, theatre and film

WEYMOUTH PAVILION (Box office 01305 783225) Tributes this month include Queen, The Hollies, Reggae music, Elvis, The Moody Blues; with Coldplace, (Coldplay tribute band) all set for May 1st. For the young at heart **WOW presents Grease from April 13th to 16th**; there is **Dinosaur Adventure Live! At 2 & 4.30pm on April 17th** – promising an unforgettable interactive experience as the audience is taken through the Jurassic Park era (Tickets from £15.00) and **Easter Panto the Wizard of Oz, on April 22nd** Fans of TV's Mock the Week may be interested to know that **Sunday Night Comedy on April 24th is with Maisie Adam**, a regular on the show.

CINEMA: The big family friendly film showing locally at the end of March, spilling into April is **The Bad Guys**, billed as an animated comedy where the bad guys (a bunch of animals, plus a snake and a spider, all looking more cuddly than scary) get tied up with a wolf (in sheep's clothing?).

Another film due out at the beginning of April locally is **Sonic the Hedgehog 2**, with Sonic battling the evil Dr Robotnik and his sidekick. EVENT CINEMA (Bookings needed): Both Cineworld in Weymouth and the Plaza in Dorchester have Royal Opera House London 2022 Live Opera **La Traviata on April 13th** and on **April 21st** fans of Shakespeare can see **National Theatre Live: Henry V**.

NATURE NOTES – what has been seen in Chickerell

The sunshine in March heralded the sight of butterflies soaking up some warmth including a lovely **Peacock butterfly**. Meanwhile it was lovely to hear, while on the footpath behind the electricity sub-station, a **Greater Spotted Woodpecker**, drumming on one of the trees, signalling its territory. It was also interesting to hear a **Cetti's Warbler** in the pond behind Hunger Hill Garage in Lower Putton Lane. This brownish red backed bird, not very big or with distinctive plumage, is recognisable for its sudden and loud outburst of metallic notes. It is more commonly heard, not so easily seen, in the reeds around Radipole Lake, the RSPB reserve in the centre of Weymouth. Another bird with a green/greyish brown back and loud song is the **Chiffchaff**. It has clear, forceful notes 'chip chop' spaced apart and is famed for being a migrant, bringing the sound of early spring. So much so, in fact, that the famous 18th century naturalist Gilbert White made a note of seeing it on March 18th, 1780, which had an exceptionally warm spring. However, thanks to the increasingly warm winters in recent years, some now overwinter in this country. It has been heard around the Willowbed Hall. Top spot had to be two **Snipe,** seen to take off from the green space opposite The Willowbed Hall. These birds normally inhabit very damp, marshy areas of the countryside and are not normally seen in the Chickerell area.

Finally, despite all the bad news in the world, it continues to be a tonic, as the darkness fades before sunrise, to hear the dawn chorus with its happy, cheerful notes.

****

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CHURCHES PAGE FOR APRIL

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHICKERELL & HOLY TRINITY, FLEET

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St Mary's, Chickerell. Our 10am services are as follows:

April 3rd: Rev David Wilson **April 10th Palm Sunday:** Rev Mike Stear
April 13th: Rev Richard Simmons **Maundy Thursday 14th April:** Rev David Wilson
April 17th: Easter Sunday: Rev Geoff Hebbern
April 24th: John Bennett. Service of prayers, readings & hymns.

Enquiries for weddings, baptisms or funerals, please contact our Churchwardens: Valerie Hale 01305 781096 or Elizabeth Eames 01305 774405. **Holy Trinity Fleet:** Our April service is at 9am on **Sunday 10th April.** Based on our usual 30 minute said Eucharist service, it will be taken by Fr Gregory Lipovsky who it is intended will be our permanent priest from now on. The Annual Parochial Church meeting in the church (approx. at 9.30am) will follow the service, to elect members of the Laity to serve on the PCC for the coming year. Please come and join us even if you do not want to be a PCC member, but can offer support and help through the year, as many of you have done. Any queries please contact Geoff Taylor PCC secretary for Holy Trinity Fleet on 01305 78275.

CHICKERELL METHODIST CHURCH: DT3 4DX On the corner of North Square & West Street Home to the Ducklings Pre-school

April 3rd: Rev John Yarrien **April 10th :** Gill Bumphrey
April 15th: Good Friday Service at **2pm** **April 17th:** Jean Churchill – Holy Communion - Easter
April 24th: David Ninnim.

Services start at 10.30am Sundays and coffee is served afterwards. Masks are worn at your own discretion.
Good Friday service (2pm) will be led by Janet Amey followed by tea and hot cross buns.
Craft & Chat meets at 2pm in the Chapel on **Wednesdays 6th & 20th April**. Bring your own craft and enjoy a chat with friends or perhaps learn something new. Crafty Sew & Sews meets at 7pm in the hall on **Fridays 15th & 29th April.** We welcome new members to our Craft Groups, or just come along for a chat. We also have a Zoom Craft Group which meets every other Tuesday afternoon – please contact Pam 07955 167 750 for the link if you would like to join us from your own home. Our next Coffee Morning will be in the hall on **Saturday 30th April 10am – 11.30**. Coffee, tea & cake served, plus a raffle. Come along & chat with friends, old and new. All are welcome.

CHICKERELL GOSPEL HALL: www.chickerell-gospel-hall.co.uk

PRAYERHOUSE CHICKERELL, East Street, (by library). Contact David and Caroline White at chickerell@theprayerhouse.co.uk or 01305 759968 www.prayerhousechickerell.

ST EDMUND'S CHURCH Lanehouse Rocks Road, Weymouth. Services 11am Sundays

Vicar: Rev Brother Alasdair Kay, Assistant Priest, Rev Betty Port. Holy Communion fortnightly (variable), alternating with services led by our Licensed Lay Ministers, Janet Hall and Maxine Legg. Occasional joint services with our Sister Church, All Saints, Wyke Regis. Friendly coffee and chat after services.

LANEHOUSE ROCKS METHODIST CHURCH Lynch Lane, Weymouth. Services 10.30am Sundays

3rd : T Wells **10th:** J Walker - Holy Communion **17th:** R Phillips **24th:** M Barnsley
Services commence at 10.30am; light refreshments served afterwards and all welcome

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THE LIGHT WEYMOUTH CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH Preston Village Hall, Preston Road, Weymouth. Details on Facebook.

WEYMOUTH COMMUNITY SPIRITUALIST CENTRE Moose Lodge, Chickerell Road. Sundays 6-7pm

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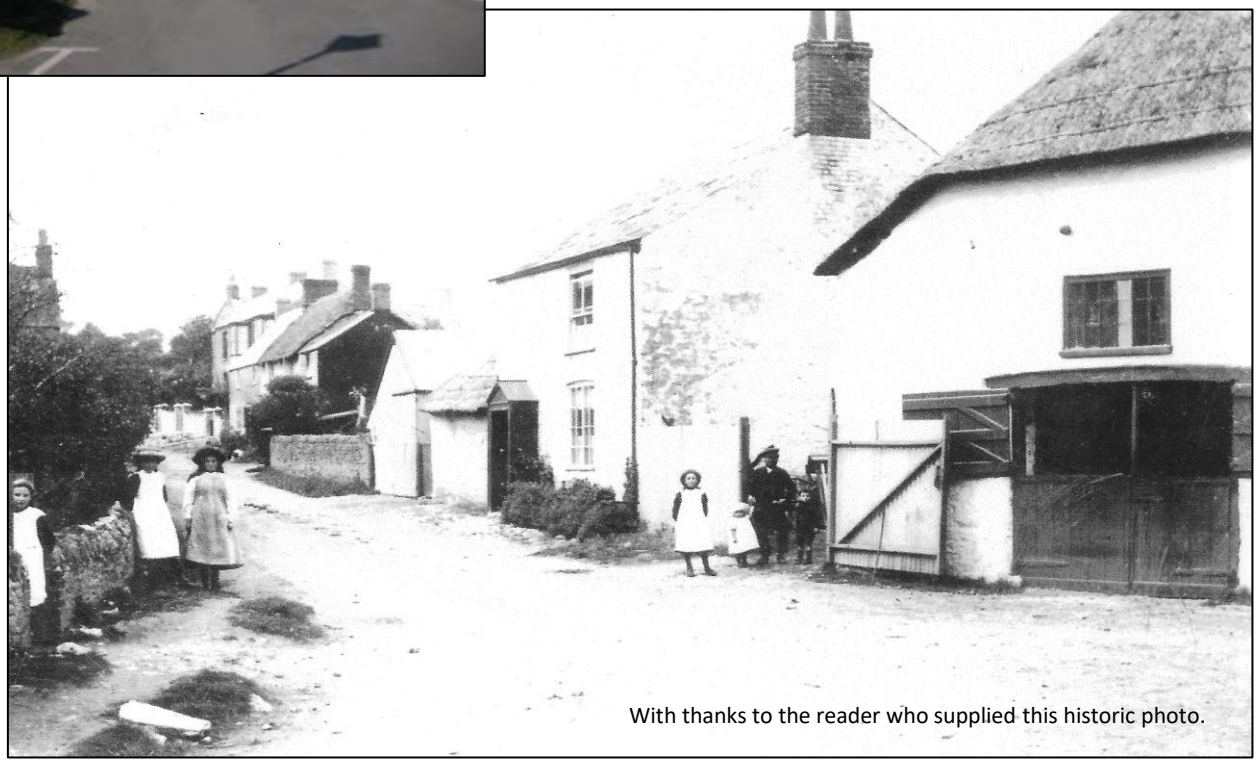
Looking back at Chickerell in times past

This historic picture is the corner of North Square with West Street, looking up towards the Lugger and the coast road. (*View today left*). It shows Mr Hawker's workshop, replaced by a modern house in 1970. The workshop, with its double doors opening directly onto the road, was built on an old malt house. Mr Hawker was a wheelwright and smith and one of two undertakers in the village.



With thanks to the reader who supplied this historic photo.

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A Look back to Contact Magazine April 1990

- Members of the 1950s Charlestown Youth Club were to gather together for a grand re-union at the end of this month in 1990.
- From the parish council this month in 1990: 'The land of which it is hoped to build the community centre will produce a reasonable quantity of hay. Anyone interested in cutting and removing this hay for their own purpose, please submit your tender offer in a sealed envelope clearly marked 'hay tender' to the clerk.'
- A housing officer from the district council was due to be based in Chickerell at set times to answer questions from members of the public on housing matters. This facility was to be available to council tenants, people in private accommodation and private home owners alike.
- Contact put in an article about the Easter Simnel Cake this month: 'The Simnel cake was originally made for Mothering Sunday, the middle of Lent, when girls in service were allowed home that day. The 11 marzipan balls on top represent the Apostles at The Last Supper (the missing 12th ball is Judas Iscariot who had slipped away from the meal to betray his master).'
- A surveyor confirmed that the youth club walls and floor were in such a bad state that the club had ceased to use the building and was operating temporarily from the church hall.
- Chickerell Monday Club was to host a Easter Flowers and Easter bonnet competition on April 2nd 1990.
- Victory Hall in Charlestown was hoping to build up a list of volunteers to make up a Task Force to help tidy up the hall and grounds. It was open to anyone willing to 'hold a paint brush or bang in a few nails.'
- A trip to see the Blackpool Illuminations for four days in September was on offer for £70. 'Early booking essential'.

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Gardening Notes – from Carrie Dalby, Wyke Regis Horticultural Society

APRIL

There are rumours of a heatwave in April! There will be lots of tender new growth as shrubs and herbaceous plants rejoice in spring, together with all the seedlings planted last month. Strong sunlight will scorch new foliage, so a gentle cover with fleece may be required, lifted off as the heat declines each day. Greenhouses should be painted with whitewash, or have fleece curtains, and the floors dampened each morning to increase humidity. Open the doors on warm days.

TIME TO SOW

The soil is now warm enough to sow flower and vegetable seeds outdoors in situ. Potatoes are traditionally planted on Good Friday to coincide with the new moon, but in Dorset we can plant them earlier. Keep weeding! Erect supports over herbaceous plants for them to grow through: always tidier than adding later. If couch grass is appearing in reawakening plants, lift the whole clump and separate the roots carefully, replanting with good compost and feed.

FEED, WATER & MULCH

A general feed such as Blood, Fish and Bone, Growmore, or chicken pellets forked into all beds now will give everything a boost. Bare soil watered, then mulched, will protect against drying out.

****

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