

The Shroton Lines

The Shroton Lines is a community newspaper which celebrates the life of the village and its inhabitants. It is compiled by local volunteers and provides information and news. Those of us who are involved with the creation of the Lines are hugely grateful for everyone who contributes and particularly to Emma who is responsible for printing it. Contact: shrotonlines@gmail.com. Editor: Helen Christmas, Quince Cottage, The Corner. Please do submit stories, recipes and letters!

Issue 259

January 2023

Dates

Main Village

Jan 2	Rubbish
Jan 9	Recycling
Jan 16	Rubbish
Jan 23	Recycling
Jan 30	Rubbish
Feb 6	Recycling

The Corner/Courtney Close

Jan 4	Recycling
Jan 11	Rubbish
Jan 18	Recycling
Jan 25	Rubbish
Feb 1	Recycling

Garden Waste (all)

Jan 11
Jan 25

Every Wednesday in the Village hall: coffee morning. All welcome.

Lunch and Chat

24th Jan 12.30

28th Feb 12.30

Please contact:

Barbara Briggs 863643 for booking and cancelling lunches and for lifts

Ena Rees 861039 or enabrookcottage@gmail.com for menus, cooking arrangements, serving team.

Shroton Christmases of yesteryear

Dorset County Chronicle 2 January 1862

Seasonal benevolence. We are most happy to be able to state that the poor of this parish have been well cared for this Christmas, the employers manifesting more than usual sympathy for the employed. Through the liberality many a cheerful fireside was kept, and many a hearty meal was made on Christmas Day, and we trust that the gratitude shown by the poor will always be remembered by the rich at this festive time.

Western Gazette 2 January 1920

Carol singing. The Shroton Church carol singers made a round of the village on Christmas Eve. The church bells rang out merrily early on Christmas morning and also during the day. The church was prettily decorated with Holly and Evergreens. There were celebrations of Holy Communion at 8am and after the Morning Service.

Western Gazette 27 December 1935

Christmas tree and tea. The school children of Shroton were entertained to tea and a Christmas tree in the school room on Friday evening. After the tea each child received a present from under the tree from the hand of Lady Baker. Rounds of cheers were given by the school children for Lady Baker and Mrs Cameron (the Rector's wife). Games were indulged in during the evening, and a very pleasant time was spent, the children going home very delighted with their presents.

1970s Shroton Carol singing memories from Judith

As a child I have fond memories of climbing aboard a tractor and trailer with about 30 other villagers on the night before Christmas Eve. We were then driven to both Ranston and Step-leton Houses where we were invited inside to sing carols at the foot of the stairs and were then treated to a hot mince pie (I think the adults were given some mulled wine!). This evening was the 4th night of singing Carols around the village. The money was raised for the National Children's Home and organised by the Hall family. Seems like yesterday.....!

Happy New Year to you all,
Judith

Christmas trees

Dorset Council does not collect Christmas trees of any kind with rubbish or recycling at the kerbside.

You can recycle your real Christmas tree by:

home composting it

cutting it up and placing it in your garden waste bin

taking it to a household recycling centre

booking a Christmas tree collection with a Dorset-based charity or service:

Blandford Young Farmers and Sandbanks Cancer Ward, Poole Hospital - covers the Verwood, Wimborne and Blandford area. To book a collection email Blandfordfc1@hotmail.com or telephone (07730) 398975



A message from the Riding for the Disabled group from Julia:

We would like to thank the people of Shroton for their support at our Christmas Fair. We made **£1068** which is a staggering amount of money for you lovely people to give at this time.

Thank you so much!

RDA



Walks for the New Year

If the rain stops and the sun shines again, you may wish to venture out to counterbalance the mince pies, wine and festive food...or just to enjoy the winter scenes.

Although spring and autumn are often cited as the times to view Shroton and its surroundings at its best, I love walking in winter, even when it is overcast or, more likely, wet!

With the leaves lost from the trees, the views change and new vistas emerge. Even the ploughed fields and bare hedgerows have their beauty.

So... I am going to recommend a winter walk:

At the Shroton Cross crossroads, turn up to the main road. Cross the road and go over the stile. Follow the path to the top of the hill, climbing two further stiles.

Pausing to catch breath after the steep climb, look back at Hambledon which seems to dominate the landscape even more strikingly from this angle.

Keep following the grass track up the hill until you emerge onto a stone road via a gate. Keep straight ahead and take in the view to your right over one of my favourite valleys. Look out for deer and hares.

As the trees start on the **RH**, look for a signposted, but hidden track on the **LH**. This will take you into a field where you follow the **RH** hedge onto a track. This soon drops steeply and eventually becomes a stone track with lovely views over Iwerne Minster and the Blackmore Vale.

Follow the track down hill. About half way down, you have the option of taking a steep grassy track on the **RH** which will take you down via the fields into Iwerne (and The Talbot!) or continuing down the track until it meets the road.

Here, cross straight over and in 200 yards, take the signposted path through a gate on your **LH**. Follow this through a gate, past Oyles Mill and make your way across the water meadows and over the bridge back into the village.



Raising money for charity....and a great idea for your New Year's resolution to do something different in 2023!

The Shroton Ukulele Band is donating **£100.00** to both Blandford and Shaftesbury Food Banks .

We are able to do this after having performed at venues in Blandford, Shaftesbury and Gillingham .

We meet in the Village Hall on Mondays at 5 o'clock. **New faces welcome.**



Extension of energy bills support to even more homes

Households without direct domestic energy supply to receive up to **£600**



News about household fuel bills, with thanks to Jim Bird

There is up to £600 of energy bills support to help households without a direct domestic energy supply.

The new support will help 900,000 households who are off-grid or get their energy through a commercial contract, as well as those who use alternative fuels.

This includes residents who are:

in care homes

in park homes

in caravans and houseboats

off-grid in domestic farmhouses

private and social tenants

These customers will get **£400** of help through the **Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding**, supplied by their council. They can apply online or over the phone from January. Those using alternative fuels like biomass or heating oil will also get a £200 Alternative Fuel Payment from February, through their energy supplier.

More info: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vital-help-with-energy-bills-on-the-way-for-millions-more-homes-across-great-britain-and-northern-ireland>

At this time of year, I have to admit to getting a little bit bored by constant articles telling us what to do with leftovers from Christmas. If they haven't been used up yet, then maybe they shouldn't still be in the fridge! My recipe for January isn't mine at all, for which I hope to be forgiven! A friend cooked this for us recently and we couldn't get enough of it. What January calls for is healthy, comforting, and a bit of zing, and this curry gives bucketloads of all three. It's a very inauthentic curry - but delicious.

Baked red curry chicken with coconut dahl

Adapted from a recipe by Donna Hay

Serves: 6

Ingredients

2 tbsp vegetable oil
2 onions, diced
2 tbsp finely grated root ginger
1 long red chilli, sliced
½ tsp ground cumin
½ tsp ground coriander
1 tsp ground turmeric
500ml chicken stock
400ml can coconut milk
125ml water
400g split red lentils
6 stalks kale (170g), stems removed and leaves roughly chopped
salt and black pepper
Coriander leaves, lime wedges and naan bread to serve

For the red curry chicken

75g Thai red curry paste
125ml thick coconut cream
6 chicken thighs on the bone, skin-on (or you can remove the skin, if you prefer)

Method

Preheat the oven to 200°C. For the red curry chicken, mix the curry paste and coconut cream together and spread over the skin of the chicken. Set aside for 30 minutes.

Heat a large, deep, round ovenproof frying pan over a medium-high heat. Add the oil and onions and cook, stirring occasionally, for 7 minutes, or until golden. Add the ginger, chilli, cumin, coriander and turmeric and cook for 1 minute.

Add the stock, coconut milk, water and lentils to the pan and bring to a simmer.

Fold the kale through and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Arrange the chicken over the lentils and place the pan into the oven. Bake, uncovered, for 40 minutes, or until the chicken is golden and cooked through, the juices run clear and no pink meat remains.

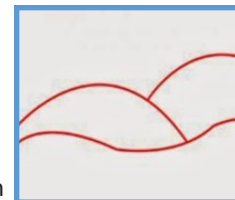
Top with coriander and serve with lime wedges and naan bread.

All the best,

Kathy



News from the Hill



It's been a while since my last update back in the summer about what we have been doing at Hambledon. Erosion repairs were successfully carried out in September to the Eastern entrance and ramparts, which have blended in well. Thanks to the North Dorset Volunteer Ranger Group for all their efforts in what is a very demanding and physically challenging task. We will be continuing this work next September as part of a rolling programme of restoration works. Our Historic Archaeology Ranger Team HART volunteers have again surveyed Hambledon since their last inspection in 2017, as part of our five-yearly monitoring programme. The reports resulting from these careful and methodical surveys form the basis of all programmed repairs to the hillfort and help to keep Hambledon hillfort whole for future generations.

After weeks of mild weather, winter has finally made its presence felt and the grass has stopped growing. The hard frost and low winter light really accentuate the texture of the Hambledon landscape, with its earthworks, lumps and bumps which characterise and make it so special.

Sheep have made a return to the hill so please could all dogs bear this in mind and please keep your owner on a lead, as given the many banks and ditches a ewe could be hidden from view surprisingly close by. Occasionally we have reports of sheep being attacked which is always distressing for the shepherd and the dog owner.

The winter scrub works have been completed on the western slopes above the beech avenue and to break up the blocks of scrub as well as removing some of the scattered thorns which are beginning to close in on the open species rich grassland. Scrub is an integral component of the habitat and essential for many species from perching songbirds to microscopic gall wasps, but like all habitats intervention and disturbance is required to stimulate biodiversity.

Arboricultural contractors have carried out some conservation-led tree surgery on the magnificent Hambledon beeches to try and keep them going for longer and to make them more resilient when extreme weather and wind events occur. The butterfly transect continues on a yearly basis (which we conduct in partnership with Butterfly Conservation), and the volunteers also completed a Priority Habitat Survey in June/ July to record the plant species within quadrats across the hill.

Lastly, I hope that you enjoy Hambledon in all its winter glory into the New Year.

Kind Regards

Clive

Clive Whitbourn

Area Ranger, North and West Dorset Team

Tel: 01747 841152

Mobile: 07788 480686

National Trust

Stourhead Estate Office, Stourton, Wilts BA12 6QD

RECIPES for your CAT and DOG.....yes, really!

With thanks to Ali for finding these:

TASTY CAT TREATS

Ingredients

2 cups of whole wheat flour

280g of chopped salmon/other fish

1 large free range egg



Method

Preheat oven to 180c

Stir all ingredients until combined into a dough

Cut out shapes with tiny cooker cutters

Place on an ungreased baking tray and bake for 20 mins until golden



(Make sure that the shapes are completely cool before giving them to your cat)

RSCPC Honey and Banana dog biscuits

(makes about 45 biscuits)

Prep Time: 15 mins

Cook Time: 50 mins

Ingredients

250ml water

1 banana mashed

1 tsp vanilla extract

1 egg

600g whole wheat flour

1 tsp of baking powder

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180c

Lightly grease 2 baking sheets

Mix water, mashed banana, honey, vanilla and egg in a large bowl

Stir in flour and baking powder and beat dough with an electric mixer or by hand until ingredients are fully combined.

Turn out dough onto a floured surface and knead for 5—8 mins until no longer sticky.

Roll out dough to 1/4inch thickness and cut into mini shapes with cookie cutters

Place on baking sheets and bake until shapes are lightly browned (about 20 mins). Turn off the oven and leave until biscuits are thoroughly dry and crisp: 30-40 mins.

Remove from oven and allow to cool for 10 mins on the baking sheets before transferring them to a wire rack to fully cool.

(Make sure that the shapes are completely cool before giving them to your dog)



National Service

I would like to write an article about National Service and those who live in Shroton who took part in this to publish next month.

If you are a National Serviceman or woman and would be happy to share some of your memories with me, please contact me:

shrotonlines@gmail.com Thank you, Helen

What to with your Christmas tree: RHS website)<https://www.rhs.org.uk/garden-inspiration/seasonal/farewell-christmas-tree>)

‘Let it rot: *Real trees are biodegradable, and unlike other many other types of timber, free from wood preservatives. This soft wood rots away disappearing into the soil within a year or two if nature is left to take its course. Simply cut up a Christmas tree into sticks and stack neatly in a shady out-of-the-way part of the garden. The rotting tree fragments support many insects and other wildlife, as well as improving the soil and feeding nearby plants.*

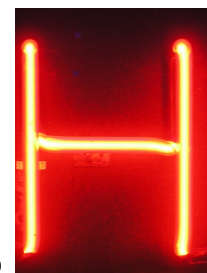
Shred it: *Shredding Christmas trees greatly speeds up their decomposition. Shreddings make a good mulch for shrubs and paths. Many councils and some retailers offer a shredding service with the chipped trees being composted in a green waste site and the resulting compost used to enrich farmland.*

Chop it and stack it: *If you do not have access to a garden shredder, you can chop the tree up with secateurs – sawing the trunk into short sections will help. The chopped-up tree can be stacked in an out of the way part of the garden where it will slowly break down and disappear, feeding and sheltering wildlife as it decays.*

Create a dead hedge: *If you fancy a ‘dead hedge’, composed of packed prunings held in place with stout posts, Christmas trees will make a good filler. Neighbours are likely to be keen to contribute their spent trees. This is another wildlife-friendly option. ‘*

...and thank you to Tash who organised a fantastic light trail for the children around the village, collecting **lit letters** to make a festive phrase.

This was a lovely idea: thank you Tash and to all the householders who took part and of course all the children who participated. Perhaps this can be an annual event?



PRODUCT OF DORSET
20 21

**SHROTON
FAIR GIN®**

DISTILLED IN DORSET,
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

SHROTONFAIRGIN.CO.UK

SHROTON
FAIR GIN®
TUMBIT DRY®
42% ALC. 750 ML

**Wessex
Internet**

Join the journey to

**brilliant
broadband**

Say hello to a connection you can depend on
with ultrafast full fibre broadband.

<p>Up to 900Mbps</p> <p>Up to 11x faster than the UK average broadband speed.</p>	<p>From £29 a month</p> <p>Packages from just £29 per month with free installation.*</p>	<p>Local friendly support</p> <p>If you need us, speak to our friendly support team based in Shroton.</p>
--	---	--

Learn more at [wessexinternet.com](https://www.wessexinternet.com)

*We may apply for government funding on your behalf to offer you a free installation subject to survey.

Thanks to all who donated to the RBL Poppy Appeal.

The village raised nearly £250 which coupled with that raised at the Remembrance service which was another £250 means that this village donated almost **£500**. For such a small village I think this is amazing.

Well done!
Jim Bird



Don't forget that you can book the village hall for your parties and events: contact Tracy or Emma House
campbellbriggs.t@gmail.com
emmahouse1@outlook.com

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF VARIOUS ROADS, SHROTON

DORSET COUNCIL has issued a Notice under Section 14 [2] of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 as amended. All vehicles will be prohibited from proceeding along Bessels Lane, Shroton and Telegraph Street, Shroton between Frog Lane and Park House Farm Lane (in both directions), a distance of approximately 950 metres. The Notice is needed in order to comply with health and safety regulations which require the provision of safe working areas and to minimise likelihood of danger to highway users. It will come into operation between 09:30 - 15:30 on 13th January 2023 and remain in force for five days, however it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 13th January 2023.

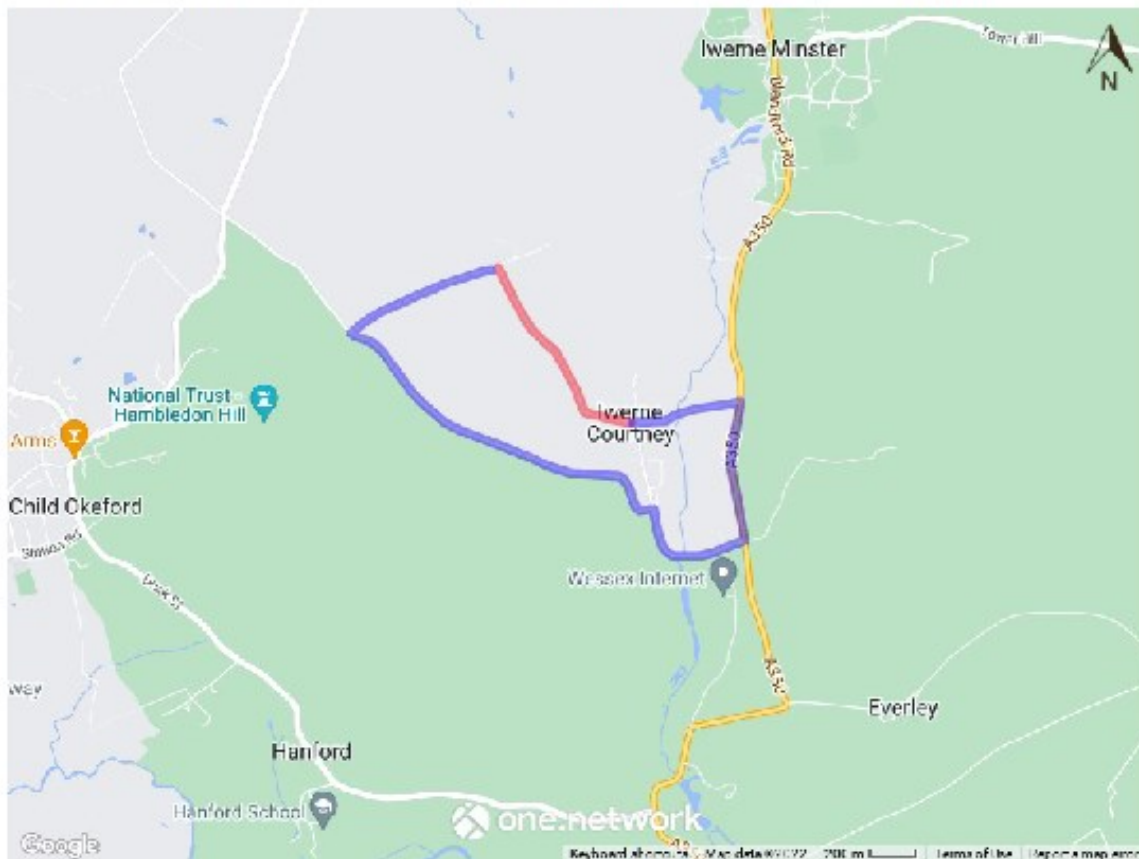
This Notice will enable Openreach safe access to carry out pole testing in the highway.

The alternative route, which will be sign posted is as follows: Frog Lane - A350 - Main Street - New Field Lane

For further information about the work being undertaken, call Sunbelt Rentals (Agents for Openreach) on 03700 500792. To discuss this Notice, call Dorset Highways Traffic Team on 01305 221020 or email trafficteam@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk. Find this information online at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roadworks-events.

23rd December 2022

JOHN SELLGREN, Executive Director of Place, Dorset Council, County Hall, Dorchester DT1 1XJ. Any person who uses or permits the use of a vehicle in contravention of the Notice will be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1000.



File ref. NCO 434.22 | Application ref. 1198298

Why has Santa been banned from sooty chimneys? Carbon footprints.

My attempts to combine nitrous oxide and Oxo cubes made me a laughing stock (Olaf Falafel!)



The Noble Cleaner

All Domestic Cleaning Duties

Cleaning, Washing, Ironing, General Daily Duties

All ironing now undertaken, free collection and deliveries
(excludes weekends)

Here to make life easier

Please call Mrs Colborne

01258 861651 or 07938 389250

Coal Merchants

Open Sacks delivered to your door

Contact F Compton

The Glen

Berwick St John

Shaftesbury

SP7 0HD

Please call with enquiries or orders

01747 828353 or www.fcomptoncoal.co.uk



Artisan Baker

Lovingly Home Made
Cakes, Tarts
and Puddings,
Savoury quiches and
Pastries

Call Kate on
07970297037

NATURAL BEAUTY

Mobile Beauty Therapist Beauty Treatments in the comfort of your own home

*Manicure / Pedicure / Waxing / Shellac / Facials / Massage /
Lash / Brow Tinting / Pamper Parties*

For more information: 07920269664

kellyrbrady@hotmail.co.uk

www.kellynaturalbeauty.co.uk



SHROTON OIL SCHEME

Taking orders for delivery now

Also available for free delivery:

Water Softener Salt (Block and Tablets) TOP-UP, Please don't RUN OUT

Tel: 01258 861285 for details

Happy New Year to all residents of
Shroton, young and old, from
SHROTON LINES!

If you would like to advertise in the Shroton
Lines, please contact Helen:
shrotonlines@gmail.com

NEWBOURNE FARM COMPOSTING



A local, family run business based in Rockbourne since 1995,
offering green waste disposal and the sale of top quality
accredited topsoil and compost

Onsite processing of materials produces excellent screened 10mm top-
soil, landscaping compost for domestic and commercial use and agri-
cultural spec compost.

Also available, seasoned mix of hard and soft wood logs, cut and split

Local delivery service available in bulk bags or loose loads.

For more information about our products and services, please contact

Rod: 01725 518673/07896 544197 or Andy 07766 163203
www.newbournecompost.co.uk

