

THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE

Liz Napier



It's been raining hard this morning but, now, the sun has come out so it's tempting to dash outside but, with the early deadline for FVN articles so that printing can be done before Christmas, pen has to be put to paper. It's not easy to write about gardening at this time of year. I'm having to dig deep into the grey cells so forgive me if I prattle on – I'll make the excuse of advancing years catching up with me!

In the conservatory I have a white tower orchid, *Dendrobium Nobilis*, which I've had for a few years. They are beautiful orchids and, being popular, are seen in most garden centre shops. It stayed in a relatively small pot until it needed re-potting, using orchid compost (mainly bark). Every year each cane produced many delicately scented flowers, lasting for up to six weeks. Once re-potted, it doubled in size and now has twelve canes. Four of them have flowered both in the spring and late summer but now I see that all of the canes have sprouted new flower buds which should open after Christmas. Three baby plant offshoots, called keikis, appeared last year. These were potted up and one of those is also showing flower buds. Good value plant!

Are plants intelligent? Research has shown that they, in a lot of ways, are more intelligent than animals. Hard to believe, well read on..... Intelligence is the ability to solve problems and plants are amazingly good at solving their problems (quote from Stefano Mancuso). To solve their energy needs, most plants use the sun either by pushing up through shade or by turning their leaves towards the sun. Some plants use insects and even mice and birds for their energy. The Venus flytrap is an obvious one but there are at least 600 species of animal-eating flora. They have developed complex lures and rapid reactions to catch, hold and devour animal prey.

Plants have also evolved an incredible variety of toxic compounds to ward off predators. But they are also thrifty so that, if attacked by an insect, the

compound will only be released to the affected leaf or part of the plant. However, the most intelligent part of most plants is the root system. They search for the best position to take in water, avoid competition and garner chemicals. In some cases, roots will alter course before they hit an obstacle showing that they are "seeing" the obstacle through their many senses. The "wood-wide web" is the internet for plants and can connect trees, shrubs and plants over a huge area using fine thread-like fungi called mycelium. Around 90% of land plants are in mutually beneficial relationships with fungi. They can help out their neighbouring plants by sharing nutrients and information or even sabotage unwelcome plants by spreading toxic chemicals through the mycelia network – underground cybercrime! So next time you look at a plant in your garden, remember that it is probably having a good chat to another plant many metres away.

A visit to Westonbirt Arboretum is a "must" for all tree lovers. It is the national arboretum, created almost 200 years ago by Victorian horticulturalist Robert Holford and is one of the most beautiful and important plant collections. It holds 15,000 specimens and 2,500 species of trees from all over the world. When we visited, in the autumn a few years ago, we were enchanted by the vivid colours and the photos show just some of what you can expect to see. *Symplocos paniculata* (Sapphire berry) with its vivid blue berries shining in the sun and the red fruits of *Taxus baccata* (English yew). *Acer palmatum Seiryu* is one of the few finely dissected acers to grow into a





sizeable shrub or small tree and the photo shows a close-up of its leaves. The incredible colours of *Parrotia persica* (Persian ironwood) took us both by surprise – it was stunning and I decided that it was one to add to my garden.

The autumn colours have been so important this year and have lifted our spirits when all around has been doom and gloom. The sun has shone through the leaves of the acers and has highlighted the bright red stems of pollarded willows but now the leaves have dropped and we enter the time of short days, winter gales, frost and, possibly, snow. All is not lost though – I see that the daffodils have already started poking their noses out of the ground and the snowdrops are just emerging. The winter flowering shrubs are putting on their very welcome display and the heathers are just starting to open their flowers. They are such a good source of nectar and really should be included wherever you have space.

The squirrels have been on the peanut feeders again so I recently bought a proper squirrel feeder. It took several days before they worked out how to get to the nuts and one of them cracked it quite quickly. He/she climbs up the tree trunk to just above it and then opens the lid with its' front feet, dives head first into the container and then runs off to bury the nut in my lawn! Then, back again to eat a few of them before burying even more. I just hope that he/she can remember where they are! One of the squirrels hasn't yet cottoned on and just stands on top of the container – he'll learn in due course!!

I've just about finished planting up the woodland area with some more ferns and sedge grass. The few foxgloves that were planted there last year



have seeded themselves so there will be a foxglove forest if I don't pull out some of them. Not to worry

though – I love foxgloves!

Tips for January and February:

Complete pruning of deciduous trees and shrubs while they are still dormant

Take root cuttings of any perennials with thick, fleshy roots

Feed bulbs with a general purpose fertiliser as soon as they begin to push through the ground

If the lawn is not frozen or waterlogged, spike to aerate and rake over to remove debris

After strong winds, check that climbers are still firmly attached to their supports

If weather permits, plant new trees and shrubs

Check stored bulbs and tubers for signs of drying out or rotting

In suitable weather, prepare borders for spring planting by forking in well-rotted farmyard manure or garden compost

In February, prune late-flowering clematis to within 9-10 inches of the ground and mulch with decayed manure, leaf mould or compost

Check leaf mould containers and water them if the top layer has dried out

If you intend to have a bonfire, check the pile for hibernating animals before lighting

Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and try to forget all of those jobs you didn't get round to doing – there's always tomorrow!

What welcome news we've just had – a vaccine for the dreadful virus. But, and a big but, we've still got to be very careful and stick to the guidelines whether we like them or not. Don't just think of yourselves, think of others around you. Having said that, I hope that your Christmas and New Year have brought you hope and joy. 2021 should bring better times to us all. Keep gardening!!!





BREED - Large Whippet

NAME - Ben, 8 years old

OWNER - Mark, Peacock Lodge, Frampton

PET LOVE - Sleep

PET HATE - Hard surfaces to sleep on

OWNERS TIP - Apparently whippets follow a trail by sight rather than scent and if they come across something interesting, they will quickly take off. Getting them back could take hours, so do try to anticipate this action.

BON APPETIT!

Whisky Seville Marmalade

Ingredients:

4 medium Seville oranges (1 kg)

2 litres (8 cups) water

2.4 kg (11 cups) sugar, approximately

1/4 cup (60 ml) whisky

METHOD:

Slice unpeeled oranges very thinly; reserve seeds. Put seeds and 1 cup (250 ml) of the water in a small bowl; cover, set aside.

Place sliced fruit in a large bowl with remaining water. Stand both fruit mixture and seeds separately, overnight.

Drain seeds over a small bowl; reserve liquid, discard seeds. Combine fruit mixture and seed liquid in a large saucepan; bring to the boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered for about 1 hour or until rind is tender.

Measure fruit mixture, allow 1 cup (220 g) sugar to each cup of fruit mixture. Return fruit mixture with sugar to pan; stir over heat without boiling until sugar dissolves. Boil uncovered, stirring occasionally, about 30 minutes or until marmalade begins to set. Stand for 5 minutes then stir in the whisky.

Pour hot marmalade into warm sterilised jars; seal while hot.



Frampton Parish Council

NEWS

Since the first lockdown, your Parish Council has managed and achieved most of the key projects planned for this year.

Covid-19 has forced some public meetings to be delayed or cancelled but the day to day running has been unaffected and there is still work in progress in the Playpark.

Tibbs Hollow has sadly been targeted again by fly tippers. A large heap of domestic waste was dumped at night in November. Dorset Waste Partnership was quick to respond and removed all of it within 4 days. The person/s responsible are under investigation at the time of writing by DWP (see photographs).



Fly Tipping – how to report it

The best way to report this is by contacting the Frampton Parish Clerk, Mr Wayne Lewin on 07419 136 735 or email: frampton@dorset-aptc.gov.uk. Also, please inform any of the Parish Councillors whose contact details are given in the FVN Directory page.

The Playpark

We are most grateful to Mrs Rene Green for kindly donating £45.78 towards the Playpark which she and her colleagues had raised from the Childrens' Games evenings activities. This will help towards the replacement, and repairs to come, of the equipment.

We would also like to thank Wendy Frampton, Joanne Holmes, Hayley Thorne, Peter Cox and Rebecca Gollidge for permitting the Council to utilise the Play Area capital funds to purchase new equipment for the children. This will be done in March/April. Repairs to swings are being carried out at the moment and fencing repairs are scheduled to be done in the next few weeks.

Andrew Thomson
Chair, FPC

Frampton Parish Council - Meeting dates for 2021

Monday January 18
Monday February 15
Monday March 15
Monday May 17 (AGM)
Monday June 21
Monday July 19
Monday September 20
Monday October 18
Monday November 15

These public meetings are usually held in the Village Hall at 7pm. It is most likely that the first three meetings will have to be conducted by ZOOM. We are increasing the frequency of meetings so that decisions can be made faster and each meeting should take about one hour rather than two hours plus.



Le Petit Canard

*Dinner – Thursday to
Saturday evenings*

*Lunch – 1st and 3rd Sunday
of the month*

Dorchester Road

Maiden Newton, Dorset DT2 OBE

T : 01300 320536

E : le-petit-canard2@btconnect.com

W : www.le-petit-canard.co.uk

One AA rosette 2020

Booking essential

Monthly themed evenings

**Meet your Safer
Neighbourhood Team
(PCSOs)**

**The Saxon Arms, Stratton
1st Friday every month from 11.00 – 11.30**

If for some reason you cannot make this but would still like to speak with us please contact us on 101 or e mail
Dorchester-rural-npt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Dorchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

Sgt 1756 Andy Napper

PC 0229 Pete Moore

PCSO 5410 Sarah Pilcher

To contact us please either :-

Phone 999 – emergency

Phone 101 – non emergency or e mail
101@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Kitchen Style

of

Dorchester Ltd

All your kitchen and bedroom needs

Free design & planning service

Free colour 3 dimensional drawings

*All tradesman qualified & under the personal
supervision*

*of the owner Mr L Hastings Murray
(Advanced Craft C&G Carpentry & Joinery)*

Tel/ Fax 01305 251587

Showroom: 13 High East Street, Dorchester

email: leigh@kitchenstyleltd.com

website: www.kitchenstyleltd.com

For all Village Hall bookings please contact

Jackie Wilcox

fvhletting@outlook.com

telephone: 01300 320 251

mobile: 0755 133 7375

R Smith Window Cleaning

A traditional, experienced & professional window cleaning service at affordable prices

Mob: 07964 328229

Tel: 01300 320984

Beggars Roost, Frampton, Dorchester DT2 9NB

Frampton's Christmas Tree



A BIG thank you to Kevin (Frampton Roses) for donating the Christmas tree on the Green this year. The lights were donated jointly by the Millennium Green, the Village Hall and Frampton Parish Council.



Carols on the Green – the first Frampton public gathering since March ... £215 was raised for Dorset Poverty Action Group and St Mary's Church, Frampton, at the event



Sadly batteries and the box for the lights have been 'removed' from the Christmas tree. If anyone knows where they might be, please contact Vic on 01300 320003.

Reflecting On The Past - Lucy Warren -

Living in the village of an old estate, it is easy to spot the influences of the Sheridan family everywhere in Frampton. From the surviving servants' and stable wing of the old manor house in the park, to the Reading Rooms and Almshouses.

Some of them aren't always so easy to find. How many times have I walked past the church where I was married, and had our child baptised, and not thought twice about the windows which cast such beautiful kaleidoscopes of colour onto the walls and floor within?



One particular window, to the right of the main church door, was installed at the request of Caroline Norton, granddaughter of the playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan, in memory of her eldest son Fletcher, after he died from TB.

While the window itself is said to be of importance, I will explain first a little about why Caroline was a pioneer, back in the days before women could vote, and when women and children were believed to be the husband's property, by law.

Caroline Sheridan was born in 1808, and became a campaigner of women's and children's rights, following her unhappy and abusive first marriage to MP George Norton. She married at age nineteen, after the death of her father Thomas Sheridan had left the family in financial trouble.

They had three children together, Fletcher, Brinsley and William, but she was later denied access to her children when the marriage broke up amid rumours of a relationship between Caroline and Home Secretary Lord Melbourne. The laws of the time saw the children as the husband's property, and if the wife left the family home, he had the power to deny access, whatever the behaviour of the husband.

A novelist, poet, and friend of Mary Shelley and Benjamin Disraeli, she became editor of *La Belle Assemblee* and *Court Magazine*. She wrote several essays on this discrimination and campaigned to get the law changed. Sir Thomas Talfourd, MP for Reading introduced the bill which allowed mothers, where adultery had not been proved, to have custody of children under seven, with a right to access of older children. This became the *Custody of Children Act 1839*, the first piece of feminist legislation passed into law.

George Norton maintained his power over her, refusing her a divorce and sent the children to school in Scotland, out of the jurisdiction of the English courts. It was only when her son William died from injuries after a fall from a horse, that George Norton let the two remaining children live with their mother.

Despite that, he attempted to take the proceeds from her writing, and legacies given to her following the deaths of Lord Melbourne, and her mother, as it legally belonged to him. Her subsequent campaigning to ensure women were supported after a divorce, were influential in the passing of the *Marriage and Divorce Act of 1857*.

Using her writing skills, she also campaigned for factory reforms and exploitation of the poor. She was unable to marry life-long friend Sir William Stirling-Maxwell until Norton's death in 1877. She remarried at the age of sixty nine, but died three months later. Her last remaining son, Brinsley, died only a few weeks later at the age of 45.

I am ashamed to admit I knew nothing of this remarkable woman's achievements, neither of the village connection she had nor the window, made in memory of one of her children who she fought so hard for, which bears even more poignancy since I learned about Caroline's tale.

A survey of the window was undertaken by John Callun, a locally respected stained glass window expert. He reported that the window was possibly of continental origin, totally different from windows of the same period of domestic origin, and as such might be described as being of national importance. Yet, the lasting memory Caroline created in the church of St Mary the Virgin, is in dire need of repair. The lead work of the window has started to rip apart, this being the result of movement in the masonry,

with holes appearing in the glass. Refurbishment is likely to cost over £3,000 and while a grant is available, this will only be given once the PCC has raised the same balance. The church is looking for fundraising ideas and help to move forward with the window's restoration. Maybe, once fundraising events are again permitted you may be wondering which good cause to support? It's fair to say there

will always be issues with old buildings. The church has suffered with stolen roof lead, and requires regular maintenance. It's easy to forget the past in a busy age of phones, the internet, cars and TV. But when we consider the plight of women such as Caroline, maybe it's time we remembered who shaped the past and helped change the future for all our sakes.

'LOCK UP' - NOT 'LOCKDOWN'
- From Dorset CEV person! -

In February it dawned on us all that we had to move out.
Our house has two children all running about.
On the telly they kept banging on about 'CV19'.
Now what on earth we wondered do that all mean.
"It's come over from China" somebody said
"'tis microscopic- but will knock you stone dead"

"So where is it now, and how does it travel"
"By air I suppose, or on ships or a lorry -
Or even by birds, dogs or cats - But DON'T WORRY
Matt Hancock and Boris, they've got it in hand
They'll send out a letter to all in the land
You'll get it next week,
It'll say what to do
Well we waited and waited
A few weeks went by
Then people started asking

"Who, what, when and why?"

Some people got just a little bit scared,
Wore a mask when they went for a walk if they dared
Well, the first wave it came and it went
In summer we hoped that it would relent.

And now Christmas is coming, we're given four days
To hug the grand-children, eat a meal with the "horde"
(That's what my Mum called all our kids)
With five of them and nine little uns you will never be
bored

So to hell with this 'LOCKDOWN', I don't like that word
I'll 'LOCK UP' if I have to, but don't be absurd
We'll weigh up our own risks and win through - if we
heard!

M C Champion, 11 December 2020



Frampton Footlights - soon to be freed! and operating on screens

We have been continuing to Operate, all be it quietly, throughout this sad, sad year, where fun is difficult, and performing even more so. We trust all our friends have kept well and we are planning for better times in 2021.

We were banjaxed to cancel our Autumn Review but ask you to keep your talents honed. Any video clips you like to submit to us at:
mike.champion@btinternet.com or Paul Champion
pchampio@hotmail.com will be reviewed and released on our website — FREE PUBLICITY for You!!

So, what are we doing?!

Two small group of actors have tried reading short scripts, and we intend to video these and other playlets, including one written by Douglas Clark from Frampton in response to Jane Burden's script writing competition. These will be uploaded to our website.

We continue to hold our Committee meetings over video links, the next is in December.

We are planning to go on stage with an adapted version of Fawlty Towers in March and will start rehearsing as soon as we are able!! Let us know which are your favourites!!

With our hope alive, our hands pure, our hearts alive, and our heads held high we shall perform again!!
The Chairman

Family Hamper Only £45

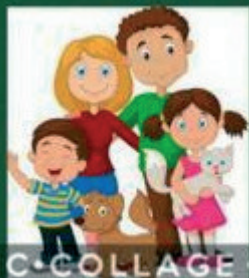


- 1.5kg Loin Pork
- 1.5kg Whole Chicken
- 500g Diced Beef
- 500g Steak Mince
- 450g Sliced Ham
- 400g Mature Cheddar
- 2 x 1lb H/M Sausages
- 450g R/Back Bacon
- 2 x 4 x 4oz Beef Burgers
- 12 Fresh Eggs



TRADE & RETAIL

Free Local Delivery Tel: 01305 267317
Manor Farm, Grimstone, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9NA
Facebook www.littleangusbutchers.co.uk



PIC-COLLAGE

JANUARY & FEBRUARY SPECIAL - A FREE SACK OF POTATOES
WHILST STOCKS LAST



WOODS FUNERAL SERVICE

11a Icen Way, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1EW

**Chapel of Rest
24 Hour Service
Pre-Payment Plans
Monumental Masons**

**Members of the
National Association of Funeral Directors**

Tel: 01305 250 425

Fax: 01305 250 625

email: enquiries@woodsfuneralservices.co.uk



British Institute of
Funeral Directors



Frampton Directory

Frampton Parish Council

Andrew Thomson (Chairman)	321 150
Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	074 19 136735
Roger Harris (vice Chairman)	321 353
Charlie Adler	077 91 285 092
Carolynn Bednall	079 12 142 170
Steve Westrip	079 60 586 028

Sandra Christopher 321 719

Patricia Taylor 321 697

FPC email: Frampton@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

website: www.FramptonDorset.uk

Frampton Village Hall Trust

Colin Pook (Chairman) 320 200

Vic Pullman (Vice Chairman) 320 003

Neil Hawkins (Treasurer) 320 029

Val Ghose (Minutes Secretary) 320 515

Jackie Wilcox (Lettings Sec) 320 251

mob: 07551 337 375; email: fvhletting@outlook.com

Frampton Footlights (www.framptonfootlights.com)

Mike Champion (Chairman) 320 694

Karen Graham (Secretary) 320 824

Malcolm Potter (Treasurer/events) 321 008

Mike Champion (Membership) mike.champion@btinternet.com

Frampton Millennium Green, Harry's Wood

Paul Mutti (Chairman) 320 477

Cynthia Whyte (Secretary) 320 346

Heather Emery (100 Club) 320 785

Frampton Fete Committee

Cynthia Whyte (Chairman) 320 346

Karen Graham (Secretary) 320 824

Dorset Alert co-ordinator

Jill Vines 320 084

www.dorsetalert.co.uk

Hospitals and Doctors

Doctors' Surgeries:

Maiden Newton 01 308 861 800

Cornwall Road Medical Practice 01 305 251 128

Cerne Abbas 341 666

GP Out of Hours Service 084 56 001 013

NHS Direct (24 hours) 111

Dorset Dental Line (NHS) 01 202 854 443

Winterbourne Hospital 01 305 263 252

Dorset County Hospital 01 305 251 150

A&E 01 305 255 541

Hospital website www.dch.org.uk

Minor Injuries Units (Community Hospitals)

Weymouth (8am to midnight) 01 305 762 545

Bridport (8am to 8pm) 01 308 426 245

Portland (8 am to 8pm) 01 305 820 341

Dorset Emergency Care Service 08 45 600 1013

Weldmar Hospicecare Trust Hospice 01 305 215 300

Weldmar Hospicecare Trust 01 305 269 898

Schools

St Mary, Charminster 01 305 263 880

Dorchester Middle 01 305 265 651

St Osmunds Middle School 01 305 262 897

Thomas Hardye 01 305 266 064

Sunninghill Prep 01 305 262 306

FVN Editorial Team

Cynthia White (Chairman/Sec) 320 346

Graham Hart (Treasurer) 079 05 794484

Sue Forrest (Production) 321 662

Colin Pook 320 200

Jacqui Burden 07 923 440 965

David Tharby (Distribution) 320 114

Dorset Council www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Out of Hours Emergencies 01 305 221 000

Magna Housing Association 01 305 261 000

Dorchester Library 01 305 224 311

Western Area Office 01305 251 010

for: housing, planning, benefits, council tax,
pubic health, environment, parking, elections

Citizens Advice 01305 262 220

St Mary's Church, Frampton

Rev'd Pene Kennedy 01 305 251 422

email: revpenekennedy@yahoo.com

Jean Garrard, Administrator 01 305 259 083

email: churches@chalkstream.org

Dorset Councillor for Frampton:

David Taylor 07 905 352710

email: cllrddavidtaylor@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

POLICE

Emergency/crime in progress 999

Requiring Police Attendance 101

or via Dorchester-rural-snt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Crime Stoppers 08 00 555 111

Dorchester Police Station

(9am - 9pm) 01 305 226 802

Safer Neighbourhood

Answerphone 01 305 226 815

Utilities (emergency numbers)

Wessex Water 0 345 6004 600

Southern Electric 08 00 111 999

Environmental Agency 08 00 807 060

Travel

National Rail Enquiries 034 57 484 950

National Express Coaches 08 71 781 8181

Damory Coaches 01 202 338 420

NeighbourCar Catherine Hodgson 341 386

Frampton Website www.framptondorset.com