

Spring 2001

## THE HAWKINS TRUST

As usual we are delivering Easter Eggs on behalf of the George Hawkins Trust to each child in the area up to the age of 14. We trust the residents eligible to receive hampers and bottles enjoyed these gifts for Christmas and to welcome them into the year 2001.

## VICE CHAIRMAN

As our Vice Chairman, Celia Meaden, moved away from the area in December we welcome Barry Quinn from Wistaria Cottage, Binnegar as our new Vice Chairman.

## PROJECTS FOR THE COMING YEAR

- (1) Back in the 90's, not so long ago really, there was a small band of people in this Parish known as the East Stoke Fun Club (I'm not kidding) who arranged several community functions, i.e. fete, barbecue and socials in the Village Hall. The result of their efforts was in cash a profit of approx. £1300, and many pleasant hours for parishioners. Quite a grand result for this small community. The money is to be spent on improving the Churchyard, by way of installing a standpipe for those who need to tend graves and to replace the entire eastern boundary fence which has fallen into disrepair. The total cost of this will be in the order of £1000 and the remainder has been given to the Parish Council to go towards the cost of maintenance, if any. This is most generous and the Parish Council are grateful.
- (2) Protection of the Ruins of St. Mary's. Followers of this project will recall that we were looking at preserving the ruins of St. Mary's from further deterioration and so far have obtained a quote for the materials required, whilst the Landowner, Malcolm Barnes had agreed to supply the machinery necessary. Over the last few months we have made enquiry with various grant organisations amongst them Entrust and English Heritage as well as talking to the Purbeck Heritage Officer who suggested the Local Inheritance Initiative as a potential source of funding. Unfortunately the Entrust route has largely been discounted as a registration fee of £250 was required with no guarantee of the funding being given to the project. The Local Heritage Initiative seems to be tailor made to our requirements. Here funding is provided when the project is a mix of public participation and material costs and certainly the Purbeck Heritage Officer supports and would help our grant application. The next problem to overcome is that before the grant application can be prepared we have to meet the representatives of English Heritage who have responsibilities for the site including determining the extremities of the monument itself. They will also have views over the type of fencing to be erected. The foot and mouth outbreak has meant that a decision has been made not to invite the representatives of English Heritage to the site until the present crisis has passed. Thereafter it is hoped that the meeting can take place and the matter move forward.

## PRECEPT

At the January meeting of the Parish Council it was proposed the Precept for the year to April 2002 be increased to £2800. This was an increase in line with inflation as recommended by Purbeck District Council.

## FOOTPATHS

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Hanger of Woodlands who are the new Footpath Liaison Officers for the Parish Council now that Roger Meaden has moved from the area. Any problems with footpaths or bridleways please contact Mr or Mrs Hanger and they will get in touch with us.

## SCOPING OPINION

In late January the Parish Council were asked by DCC to comment on a Scoping Request produced on behalf of SITA and relating to Binnegar Quarry on the Puddletown Road. This fairly comprehensive document is a precursor for the full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which would support a planning application for further development of the Binnegar Quarry sites. It is SITA's wish to rationalise existing mineral extraction permissions

as well as exploit other areas within their site boundaries. An integrated materials recovery facility is also proposed and there would be some land filling of exhausted quarries. It is understood that this will be inert materials and that no household waste is to be buried. The area affected is mainly to the north of Puddletown Road but the Scoping Request covers the area south of the Puddletown Road and east of Binnegar Lane. Three members of the Parish Council visited the site on 24<sup>th</sup> February and were briefed on the proposals by SITA representatives. By definition the Scoping Request addresses the main environmental areas of concern such as screening of activities, archaeological sites and impact on wildlife. The Parish Council have provided a detailed response to DCC and have highlighted a number of areas of particular concern including additional traffic on the Puddletown Road. Additionally we need to be sure that the activities will not upset the water table and affect local properties, also the wooded area must be retained to screen the Southern part of the site when viewed from the south. We are also liaising with Arne Parish Council on this issue.