Chairman’s chat:
A prompt reply is appreciated....

Every month I have a crisis.
A small matter of life and death.
Opera (U3A version).

Every season I issue the programme,
Synopsis a fortnight ahead
with a polite request to tell me if they are NOT coming.
Then I wait: will it be 15 or 5? It makes a difference.

Just a matter of seats and cake. Nothing to make a song about.
But it does help avoid last minute chaos.

Multiply a hundred fold and that’s the sort of situation our
redoubtable fundraisers are expected to take in their stride.

Except it’s not about cake, it’s about cancellation – returned cheques, phone calls and emails and upsets. That’s a real crisis.

It’s such a help if you can book early.
And avoids the drama....

John Gooch, Chairman

Housebound Reader Service

A reminder that the Housebound Readers Service is available to any borrower who is unable to visit the library, permanently or temporarily. If you are interested in finding out more about this service, please phone the library on 01202 886676 or e-mail Linda at ccl.colehill@gmail.com

Come on a Coach Trip!

Wednesday, 31st May – Trip to Poole, boat to Wareham and return, with Fish & Chip lunch on board – £28.
Closing date for tickets is 17th May, when we order the lunches; it will be ‘trip only’ for late purchasers after that date.

Wednesday, 5th July :
A visit to Kensington Palace to the new
‘Diana: Her Fashion Story’ exhibition.
Plus see the Sunken Garden inspired by memories of the Princess’s life image and style. You can also visit the ‘Enlightened Princesses’ exhibition.
Tickets £40 – hope you can join us.

Saturday, 2nd December – Portsmouth Dockyard
Victorian Festival of Christmas – £27 adults / £24 children
Tickets from the Library (must be booked in advance).

Pink Rabbit – URGENT!

A well loved pink rabbit is sitting at the library desk hoping that its owner will soon come to take him home.

Special Interest Groups

In the Library, 10am - noon unless stated. Please check the noticeboard or the website for changes to the schedule.

Family History – May 4th and June 1st
Just Write – May 18th and June 15th
Knit and Natter – May 25th and June 29th
Colour It – May 26th and June 30th

Colehill Reading Group (which has been joined by Colehill Bookworms) meets on the first Tuesday, 1-2pm

Summer Reading Challenge

This year’s Summer Reading Challenge theme is “Animal Agents” based on the work of UK’s best-selling children’s illustrator Tony Ross. All kinds of clever animals, furry, scaly and slippery, staff a detective agency and they are out to crack a case with a little help from their friends.

As children read six library books for the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a host of stickers, some with mysterious smells. By collecting the stickers on their collector folder, young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what’s really been going on behind the scenes!

Tony Ross is the author and illustrator of the Little Princess series. As well as illustrating books for David Walliams, he’s also worked with Francesca Simon on her Horrid Henry series, and provided the illustrations for books by Jeanne Willis.

The Challenge starts on 1st July at the Library so put the date in your diary now! Continued >
Keep a lookout for activities through the summer.

**Deans Court Public Openings 2017**

The house & grounds are open by guided tour only.
July:  5,  12,  16,  19,  23,  25,  26,  30.
August:  2,  6,  9,  13,  15,  20,  23,  27,  28,  29,  30.
Tuesdays & Wednesdays Tour Times:  13:00,  14:20,  15:40
Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays:  10:00,  11:20,  12:40
For details see www.deanscourt.org/website/#visit
(look for ‘Openings & Tours’ about half way down).

**Film - A Plastic Ocean - QE School, 5th May**

‘A Plastic Ocean is a new feature-length adventure documentary that brings to light the consequences of our global disposable lifestyle. We thought we could use plastic once and throw it away with negligible impact to humans and animals. That turns out to be untrue. There are currently 8 million tonnes of plastic in our oceans and it’s accumulating.

The film starts at 6pm. After the film there will be a discussion in the auditorium with local experts including the Dorset Wildlife Trust.

More than just a movie ‘Ecotainment!’ is making sustainability mainstream with eco-events that inspire & educate in equal measure. In the foyer / cafe we have a selection of sponsor stalls, campaign groups, plastic-free Sound Kitchen cafe with cinema snacks and bar. This is the place to meet and mingle with like-minded people from across the region so please allow enough time before and after the film to socialise and network.

Tickets from creativedynamo.net/tickets : £7.50 adult, £6.50 seniors, £4.50 student, £5.50 Members of DWT

Nature Notes – Saints’ days are key

Little did I realise that it’s useful to know your saints’ days when out walking. Strolling through the library garden, for example, caused a flurry of saints popping up.

Our dear St George, the dragon slayer, damsel rescuer and Patron Saint of England gave his name to the rather fine, robust creamy white toadstool that has appeared in a few places including right next to the paved footpath leading to the library doors. Why St George’s Mushroom? In the UK it fruits, showing off its fine stature, just in time for St George to see it, around about April 23rd.

On that same stroll, we then disturbed a shiny black fly. A biggish beast hoovering above a flower head, dangling its long, bent pair of legs in a manner suggesting it wasn’t too sure how to use them to land with dignity on the bloom. This fly is so distinctive that I can name it without help. Again, the time of year that it shows itself is key; it’s the St Mark’s Fly. I’ve now learnt that April 25th is Mark the Evangelist’s day. Amazing what looking at wildlife can teach us!  
Christine.

**COLEHILL CONUNDRUMS !  (Part 12 - May)**

Kindly supplied by Jan Seal.

St Michael’s Church erected a green board outside in 1939. Why?
A. For advertisements
B. To detect gas when it would change colour
C. To replace a tree which had been removed

During WWII there was a plague of cabbage white butterflies. Was this?
A. A natural phenomenon
B. Thought to be the Germans trying to destroy England’s crops
C. The unusually warm spring weather

Where were the bonfires lit to celebrate VE and VJ days?
A. Cannon Hill      B. Middlehill Road      C. Marshfield

Answers will be provided on the website from the end of May if you can’t wait for the next issue!

March (Part 11) answers:
A. An itinerant pedlar
B. Broke into storage facility where Colehill records were kept
C. 21

**COPY DATE for next issue: 27th June**