

SOUTH WEST NEWS

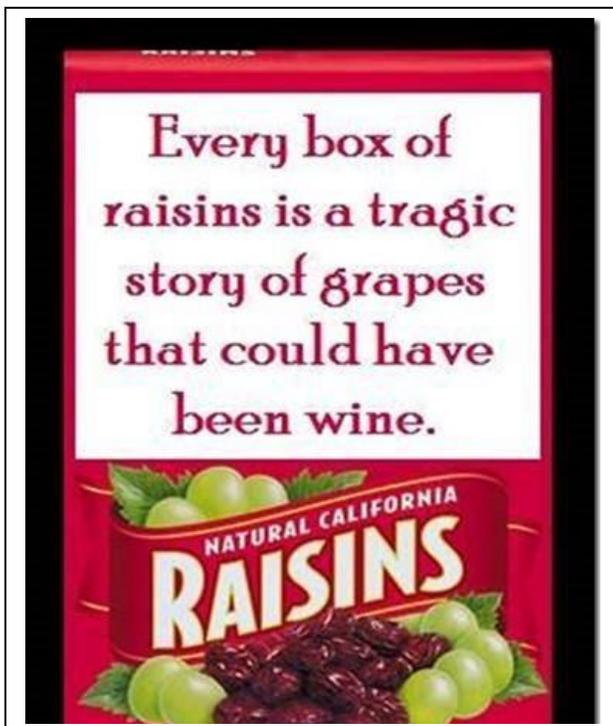
May 2021

Dear All,

The dry sunny period has been and gone but wasn't it nice. It is looking ever more likely that we will have meetings again this year. The PM says that we are still on track "to scrap social distancing on 21st June" and that the vaccine is having a significant impact. I know that several, if not most, branches in the region have plans. Please let me know how you are getting on and if there is anything I can do to help.

I cannot claim to have taken the beautiful picture opposite. For those who don't recognize it, it is Durdle Door at the Eastern end of the Jurassic coast in Dorset. Whoever took it got up early as that is looking East at the sunrise.

I am very much looking forward to visiting some of you in the not too distant future.





STUDIES OF LARGE GATHERINGS AND EVENTS

Across Europe there have been various events held with a follow up study into how many if any contracted Covid. The results have been very encouraging. In the UK, Liverpool was chosen to host a two-day clubbing event with 3,000 people per day allowed in.



As you can see it is "life as normal" for the young and results will appear over the next 2 weeks.

A POSSIBLE OUTCOME FOR THE YOUNGSTERS



and the executive reveller



Update on Live Talks



Please visit www.mirthy.co.uk/NHSRF and you will just need to enter your name and your email address for the talk you wish to register for and then you will receive an email from Alex with a link to click at the start of the talk. Live chat starts just after 10.45am with the talk starting at 11am. This together with the Q&A session makes an enjoyable experience. Remember replays are available on demand. Assuming a member registers for a talk they will receive a confirmation email with a link to join the talk live. This same link can be used for 7 days to watch a replay of the talk on demand.

The next talk planned is 1st of June – 10.45am

Under the Influence

VIRTUAL VILLAGE HALL



All sorts of things, including this week gardening for those without much space
<https://www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/virtual-village-hall>

RECRUITMENT

As people find their confidence to rejoin the world and after a period of semi or in some cases total isolation it could be a fantastic time to recruit some more members to your branch. Why not invite a friend or indulge in a little local publicity. Although I'm sure that most branches are capable of doing this on their own please ask if you wish for any assistance in content or approaching local press/radio.

Please remember that under the constitution the fellowship is open to former members of the NHS, caring professions, their spouses or anyone else (with the approval of the committee) providing at least 51% of a branch are formerly NHS or carers.

Most of you will be aware that in May next year we will be launching a National campaign centred on a message/advert in the P60 for every NHS retiree. But we need to be active between now and then. Central Office will have several initiatives for example the "virtual" branch in Manchester that is now up and running with a grant that was raised. I hope to start some new branches, the first in the Isle of Wight. If you are a postal member reading this in the Isle of Wight please contact me for more details.

I saw these on our Face book page – why not join if you haven't



There is much, much more including activities and news of what others are up to up and down the country.

THESE MADE ME SMILE

THIS IS WHY WE LOVE CHILDREN

A contribution sent to me by Monica Sado.

OPINIONS On the first day of school, a young child handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

KETCHUP A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mummy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

NUDITY A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

ELDERLY While working for an organization that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

DRESS-UP A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.'

'And why not, darling?'

'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

SCHOOL A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'



We hope these little stories brought a smile to your face!



Here's an average-sized giant African land snail. I bet this would wreak havoc in your veggie patch!

As young as you feel! ...



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

Here's the **final word** on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Brits. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Brits. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Brits. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Brits. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Brits. **CONCLUSION:** Eat and drink what you like. Being British is apparently what kills you!!

With thanks to Sally Bundock who let me copy the above from the South East News.

As ever, contributions and feedback are extremely welcome.

Best wishes,

Paul