

CHARMOUTH SCHOOL

A History of the Old School



and

The Journey to the New



by John Broadhurst.

A History of Charmouth School

1834 The earliest mention of a school in Charmouth is in Dunn's Day Book. Samuel Dunn was a builder who had his workshop between Peria and the Court on the Street. In 1834 he made a blackboard for the school.

1836 There is a reference to the school being used for church services, during the period when the church was being rebuilt. However, there is no record of the name of the founder or the date of founding.

1841 Ordnance Survey map shows school in present position.

1842 The school is described as a 'National School' and Thomas Richards as 'National Schoolmaster' in the church register at his daughter's baptism. The schoolroom was over the schoolmaster's residence, and was reached by an external staircase.

1844 Lane name changed from Sea Side Lane to Sea Lane.

1846 George Miller and James Peck (1851) referred to in the church register as being schoolmasters, but they may not have had any connection with the 'National School'.

1848 Kelly's Directory mentions a 'National School' with William Mansfield as Master, and also an Independent School in Charmouth with a Mrs Cousins as Schoolmistress.

1859 David Board, who had been a lodging house keeper, was Master.

1863 The first official records held in the school, the school Log Book, starts in April 1863. Thomas Bunstone was then Master. The Head Teachers since then have been:-

Mr. T. Bunstone	- 03.08.1866	
Mr. G. Trott	27.08.1866 - 05.07.1878	12 years
Mr. H. Jones	02.08.1878 - 21.12.1916	38 years
Miss D. Knight	09.01.1917 - 22.03.1922	5 years
Mrs. A. Stewart	03.05.1922 - 09.04.1936	14 years
Miss N. Meade	21.04.1936 - 01.08.1961	25 years
Miss T. Pascall	13.09.1961 - 31.03.1977	16 years
Mr. J.N. Broadhurst	20.04.1977 - 31.12.1997	20 years
Mr. C. Vincent	01.01.1998 - 31.08.2012	14 years
Mrs. G. Morris	01.09.2012 - 31.12.2017	5 years
Mrs L. Cornish	01.01.2018 -	

Mr. Trott had previously been Head Teacher at Monkton Wyld School.

A Deputy Head was first appointed in the 1970s when Wootton and Whitchurch Schools closed. From that date to the transfer to the new building there were three, Mr Don Harris, Mrs Kathy Foot and Mr Mark Stratta.

Most entries below are selected extracts from the School Log Book or the Minutes of Meetings of School Managers, later Governors. Dates apply either to the entries in the Log Book or the dates of the Managers' Meetings.

The early years in particular give a picture, not only of Charmouth School, but also a general view of Local Social History.

1863

1 st April	School Log begins.
2 nd April	School closed Thursday for Easter.
6 th April	Holiday postponed until Whitsuntide.
14-31 st Aug	Harvest holiday.

1864 Children went to church every Wednesday during Lent.

13 th July	Nothing unusual occurred today.
26 th Dec	No Christmas holiday.

186510th July

Night school.

9th Oct

Sydney A. Potter awarded a Special Prize for being the best boy in Dorset in Prayer Book and Catechism.

1866

H.M.I. of Schools (W.H. Howard) visited the school. Now becoming recognised that the school building was totally inadequate.

28th Feb

The Pupil Teacher Examination at Honiton took place on the Saturday, and the Fast on account of the Cattle Plague on Friday. This was the last day of the School Year.

14th March

Thomas Bunstone. Certified Teacher 3rd cl. 2nd div. Thomas I. Bunstone. Pupil Teacher, end of 4th year. W.H. Howard. H.M. Inspector of Schools.

6th Sept

Found a boy on the Turnpike Road playing truant.

7th Sept

School let out to see Coastguards Drill.

13th Sept

Some boys kept in. They began to learn two verses of the Psalms at 3 o'clock (Written with a 'C' in the Log) and didn't say it till 6.15.

1st Oct

Attendance very thin - a revel at Whitchurch.

6th Nov

The Clergyman (Mr Breton) examined the 1st Class reading and Mrs Breton the sewing. In the early days the school was regularly examined by the Rector and his wife. This was probably because the school was originally a church school.

21st Dec

Mrs Breton came this morning and gave prizes to those who had swept the Schoolroom for the last four months.

1867

Many entries in this year are typical of the time

All extracts for this year are taken directly from the Log Book.

2nd Jan

Very wet - no attendance this morning.

7th Jan

Pence taken after twelve o'clock.

16th Jan

A boy came just after the Registers were closed - by the blessing of the "New Code" he was excluded from the number for the afternoon.

23rd Jan

Kept in all the 2nd Class for being rather noisy.

24th Jan

The ex-pupil teacher came to give news of his success in the Examination for Admission into Normal Schools. (He had previously done 5 years as a pupil teacher.)

31st Jan

Punished several this morning who came with their lessons unprepared.

6th Feb

Punished a boy this morning for not saying his home lessons. He roared and attracted the notice of some passers-by.

7th Feb

Two late pupils of mine from Monkton Wyld came here to school for the morning.

8th Feb

Very wet - attendance small.

27th March

The Rector came this morning and inspected the work of the children, and this afternoon examined the 1st & 2nd Classes in Catechism for an hour.

29th March

Some children from 3rd Class kept in at dinner time and this evening to learn their tables.

30th April

Sent a boy, who couldn't tell all his letters, back from the 3rd Class.

3rd May

In consequence of the great fuss and waste of time in hearing the home lessons when they are not half learnt (which is the case every morning) I've discontinued them from today in the 2nd Class.

7th May

Cautioned the children about coming in late in the morning. Commanded those who couldn't come at 9 o'clock to bring a note from their parents.

8th May

Punished three boys of the 1st Class for coming late without a note.

14th May

Put two boys from 2nd Class down with the last class to learn the Apostles' Creed.

16th May

Punished the two boys who were kept in on Tuesday to learn the Apostles' Creed, and had had till this morning to do it, and couldn't.

17th May

Gave the 1st Class an extra lesson on grammar this afternoon.

22nd May

The Rector came this morning and offered to pay for the children (who were big enough to undertake the walk) to go to an entertainment at Lyme this evening.

23rd May

Kept in one boy till one o'clock to learn the 2nd Commandment, and punished him for running about the Schoolroom instead of learning it after school was over.

27th May

Made the children search for a pencil that was lost. We found it.

6th June

During the dinner hour I was obliged, owing to the number absent, to look for some of them.

11th June

Sent the pupil teacher after a boy who was playing truant. He brought him after much trouble.

18th June

A Friendly Society's Annual Day here in Charmouth; consequently attendance very slack this morning. Dismissed at eleven o'clock and gave the rest of the day for enjoyment.

19th June

Attendance very slack. On going to enquire for them I found a great many in bed tired with yesterday's fun.

20th June

Two boys who had been playing truant this morning kept in tonight until eight o'clock, and made to learn.

25 th June	In consequence of a little girl falling over the steps yesterday I gave directions to the Monitor to be always near the bottom of the steps on the going out of the children. (The Monitor was a senior pupil paid to carry out similar duties to those now carried by Welfare Assistants.)
26 th June	Two girls kept away by their mother because she heard I was going to punish them for pushing down the steps on going out of school.
28 th June	Attendance slack this morning. Half holiday - Coronation Day.
4 th July	Gave notice to those who came this afternoon of the Quarterly Examination tomorrow.
5 th July	Gave them their first Quarterly Examination today. Results:- Reading:- Examined 45; Passed 29; Failures 10; Doubtful 6. Writing:- Examined 45; Passed 22; Failures 17 Doubtful 6. Arithmetic:- Examined 45; Passed 26; Failures 15; Doubtful 4. 1st Standard very weak; 2nd Standard weak in Arithmetic, and 4th Standard very weak in dictation. Scripture and Catechism fair. On the whole I think they've done as well as I expected for this quarter.
11 th July	Attendance very thin - The fair still going on.
12 th July	Attendance still very thin. Kept the children after time to learn a little song.
23 rd July	A boy brought to School by his mother this morning I kept him here till nine o'clock tonight.
25 th July	Allowed the pupil teacher to play in a Cricket Match this afternoon. Place supplied by a Monitor.
24 th July	The boy who was kept yesterday, kept again today till half past seven.
30 th July	Girls sewed from 2.30 to 4.30.
31 st July	Children came at ten minutes before two to learn to sing.
13 th August	Extremely hot; children very lazy.
14 th August	A woman came to School this Morning to make a complaint against one of the boys for throwing her boy's boots in the river last night.
6 th Sept	The Rector came this afternoon and made enquiries for the absent ones.
11 th Sept	Dismissed 4.45.p.m. Second class kept in to learn spelling.
17 th Sept	Several kept in to learn tables.
19 th Sept	Several gone to a Dissenting tea meeting this afternoon.
24 th Sept	Several from 1st Class kept in at dinner time to learn their home lessons.
26 th Sept	Rector came in the School this afternoon and took down the names of some absent ones.
2 nd Oct	Gave them the Second of the Quarterly examinations today. Results:- (Interesting that failures rather than passes mentioned.) Reading Examined 39; Failures 10, Writing Examined 39; Failures 19, Arithmetic Examined 39; Failures 10. All the children in the 3rd Standard but one failed in Dictation. Second Standard also were rather weak in Writing, and the 1st & 4th in Arithmetic, and the 3rd and 4th rather weak in Reading.
3 rd Oct	A good attendance this morning and very full this afternoon being the children's annual treat.
4 th Oct	Rearranged the Standards and appointed the work for another Quarter.
8 th Oct	Gave 1st Class a certain portion of that part of the Catechism relative to the Sacraments to learn as an extra lesson every dinner time till they are perfect.
14 th Oct	A father came and took his boy away this afternoon on account of my punishing him for running away yesterday.
16 th Oct	The boy who was taken away on Monday, sent back today through the mediation of the Rector.
18 th Oct	A gentleman came and announced a reading, to be given by a lady in this schoolroom on Tuesday next for all the children of Charmouth. Admission free.
31 st Oct	Kept in the Monitor and his class for inattention and noise this morning.
8 th Nov	Several from 1st Class kept in this morning to do their sums.
15 th Nov	Teachers and I stayed till one o'clock putting books right whose leaves were loose and out of place.
10 th Dec	A stubborn boy severely punished this morning - he has not made his appearance this afternoon.
11 th Dec	Several late ones punished.
1868	
23 rd Jan	Punished children for running about at dinner time and also some boys for smoking tobacco at the same time.
30 th Jan	Some children who the Head was afraid of put back to lower classes and Standards.
31 st Jan	Last day of School year.
6 th Feb	Two boys punished for telling lies.

13 th March	2nd Class so inattentive to their spelling that they and their teacher were ordered to stay and spell after twelve.
13 th May	Those children who bring their dinners were ordered to put some forms down in the playground and eat their dinners every day during the Summer unless it rained.
29 th May	The children came dressed up in oak twigs and leaves.
17 th June	Very hot - children very sleepy indeed.
18 th June	Children still very sleepy. Several allowed to sleep.
23 rd July	A parent came to school for his boy and abused the Mistress at half past twelve in the Head's absence.
25 th August	Several absent gleaning.
3 rd Sept	Children's treat - Attendance 'uncommonly good.'
7 th Sept	Some children who were able to come to the treat absent with the excuse of no boots.
16 th Sept	Monitor condemned to write two hundred words for letting his class play.
29 th Sept	Confirmation, consequently the children were taken to church.
26 th Nov	A parent complained that the boys were breaking down his hedge which is near the school.
10 th Dec	Penny Readings took place in schoolroom. Someone stole the School fire-shovel.
1869	
20 th May	A mother brought her boy and complained because he had lessons to learn at home. She said she could not have the bother of his lessons. Apparently it was only part of a multiplication table.
21 st May	Several off catching mackerel.
18 th June	Two girls from 1st Class were kept in all the dinner hour to learn a lesson of ten minutes work. At two o'clock they managed to say it and were then allowed to go to dinner.
21 st June	Girl who had been kept in (above) was sent by her mother with an 'impertinent message' and was not allowed into school without the Clergyman's wish.
25 th June	Last day in old school.
28 th June	School moved temporarily to an old shop in The Street, opposite the end of Sea Lane, while a new school was being built. The temporary school may have been at, or in part of, The Limes, which is now part of Charmouth Lodge.
16 th July	11 children absent with Scarlet Fever.
4 th August	The Clergyman, who lived next door, complained about the children congregating within twenty yards of his door.
5 th August	The same Clergyman came again complaining that the children's singing annoyed him. They were only singing the Grace before and after meals!
6 th August	A little boy lost his halfpenny.
11 th August	Some children were absent attending the men working on the corn harvest.
26 th August	The foundation stone for the 'new' school was laid by the Rector's wife, Mrs Breton. All the village shops were closed that day.
18 th Oct	New Monitor - Levi Love
2 nd Nov	Only those children with no mother or sister at home were allowed to stay for dinner.
5 th Nov	Several children absent engaged in taking the Pope (Guy) around the village prior to it being burnt.
30 th Nov	A child came after the register had been marked, but before the two hours required by the Committee of Council so the register was altered.
27 th Dec	School in session.
28 th Dec	Children had a treat of a tea and Christmas Tree.
1870	
7 th Jan	Very dark in school - children could scarcely see to write.
1 st Feb	Beginning of school year.
21 st Feb	Some children who had been poorly were seen standing about the Churchyard. The mother said she didn't like to send them to school because they were so poorly.
10 th March	H.M. Inspectors Report refers to Night School being examined.
30 th March	The Church clock was altered which made many children late.
17 th June	Last school day in temporary accommodation.
27 th June	New school opened. There were not enough desks, and it was 'noisy on account of the want of arrangement by curtain or partition for the juveniles.' (Infants)
22 nd July	Three or four juveniles screaming made the school noisy and so progress was slow and the need of a division for the infants was again mentioned.
3 rd August	Rector called to ask when there would be a holiday for Harvest.
5 th August	School closed for a week.
27 th Sept	Tea at the Dissenting School where many of the children go on Sunday Afternoons.
13 th Oct	Attendance very slack because children were taking up potatoes and gathering acorns.
26 th Oct	Children absent picking acorns and gathering apples.

21 st Nov 1871	No sewing on account of the confinement of the Master's wife.
31 st Jan	Government Returns had to be made up.
28 th Feb	A girl was sent home for her money after several cautions. The mother sent for the girl's brother and neither reappeared that day.
1 st March	The girl and her brother did not appear so another sister was sent after them and she was also kept away.
2 nd March	Children informed the Master that the three would not be returning to school.
6 th March	Children mentioned above appeared and brought their money.
24 th March	The Master began to examine the hands etc. of the children before beginning work.
30 th May	Three children suspended for irregular attendance.
6 th June	Suspended children reappeared with a note from the Rector.
30 th June	Entries in the Log Book changed from daily comments on the attendance and times of dismissal, to weekly reports on attendance and progress.
24 th Nov 1872	Penny Reading held in the evening.
8 th April	H.M. Inspector's Report states "More knowledge of special subjects will be required in order to ensure a grant. The offices (Toilets) of the boys and girls must be separated by a wall of sufficient height. Two more groups of desks, 3 in a group, of about ten and a half feet in length, must be provided. More advanced Reading Books are required for the 1st Class."
3 rd May	Monitor replaced for being absent without leave.
11 th Oct	Mother kept her two children away because the girl had been put out of her office of school cleaner.
1873	
14 th March	One of the teachers and her class kept in after time because of the lazy and inattentive work of herself and her class.
21 st March	H.M. Inspector reported unfavourably on Arithmetic in the upper class. Two sessions of Geography each week, were changed to Arithmetic for the 1st Class. Geography was also excluded from the Government Examination until better results were obtained in Arithmetic.
4 th July	Mumps epidemic.
1 st August	Whooping Cough epidemic.
1874	
18 th Feb	As the children were under Secular Instruction for less than two hours, no attendance could be marked in the Register, and it was, therefore counted as a half-holiday.
1875	
16 th Feb	H.M. Inspectors report states again that 'another set of Offices, either for the use of the Girls, or the Master's House, ought to be provided.' It also said that a Coal House was needed.
3 rd May	Pupil Teacher transferred from Bothenhampton Board School.
16 th July	Ellan Durrant, Pupil Teacher's father refused to sign the form of agreement issued by the Council Office on account of her being unable to continue her studies for health reasons. She continued as Monitoress.
1876	
7 th July	Attendance slack because of hay-making.
16 th Nov	Concert in school in aid of Charmouth Village Hospital.
1877	Difficulty in maintaining sufficient level of subscriptions, so school becomes a 'Board School.' (Provision for Board Schools was made under the Education Act of 1870, which stated that parents were obliged to pay up to 9d per week when they were able. The remainder of the finance was to be met by local rate payers. Children were supposed to attend Board Schools up to the age of 13.)
8 th June	A boy was kept in at dinner time to learn his home lessons. His mother came and demanded that he be allowed home and when the Master refused she became abusive and was expelled. He did not reappear the following week.
19 th June	The Rector distributed prizes won in the Diocesan Examination. Jane Gordge and Arthur Hunter received 7 pence each in books and Louisa Hyde and Sarah Durrant 5 pence each in books.
21 st Dec	Mrs Pavey brought packets of sweets for the children in the morning and cake and oranges in the afternoon.
1878	Charmouth and Catheston School Board was established.
19 th Feb	School examined by the Rev.d W.W.Howard H.M. Inspector.
4 th March	G.H. Trott Certified Master 1st Clafs. (Where a double 's' appears in the Log, the first is a 'f'.
1 st May	Schoolroom used for the School Board Election. Polling from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
4 th Oct	Pupil Teacher in her fifth year transferred to Charmouth Board School from Wool National School.

6 th Dec 1879	Several children absent on account of the Herring fishing.
14 th March	Attendance Officer appointed.
10 th Oct 1880	1st Class boys tested in Physiology and girls in Domestic Economy.
30 th April	H.M.I.'s Report states that another classroom and lights in the roof were much needed.
10 th Dec 1881	Reference to the noise made in building a new classroom.
10 th June 1882	A new classroom built, at a cost of £350. The school could now take up to 140 children. New classroom used for the first time.
11 th August	Poor attendance put down to Charmouth being full of Visitors which was expected to continue for some weeks.
1883	
23 rd Jan	Received the result of the Drawing Examination and the school again obtained the mark of 'Excellent.'
31 st Jan	Copies of H.M.I.'s Reports appear annually, from 1872. Comments are made on the "Standard Subjects" in addition to Geography, Singing, Needlework and Discipline. No mention is made of other subjects.
16 th Nov	All 'pence' had to be paid on Monday mornings. No child was admitted without the fee.
7 th Dec	Improvement in attendance attributed to the action of the School Board in attending weekly into the state of attendance.
1885	
31 st August	Infants' standards fairly good except 4 year olds.
4 th Sept	Mr. Jones, the School Master, was instructed to have washed the hands and faces of all children who come to school with them dirty.
4 th Sept	The Hon. Clerk informed the Board that Thomas Fippin refused to flush out the closets more than once a week unless he was paid extra money. The Hon. Clerk was instructed to inform Fippin that his services would not be required after that day. Mr. Tarr informed the Board that he had seen Amy Newton and that she was willing to flush out the closets every day for 6 pence a week. It was resolved to engage her to do the work.
2 nd Oct	The Hon. Clerk informed the Board that Mrs Larcombe had complained that her daughter Ellen had been struck on the arm by the Assistant Mistress. The Master was called before the Board and instructed to give a warning to the Assistant Mistress.
9 th Oct	The School Master was directed not to admit any child to the school suffering from the Eruption on the Face now prevalent in the village.
1886	
5 th Feb	Mrs. Edwin Hodges waited on the Board to complain that Miss Coombs, the Assistant Mistress, is continuing striking her son Herbert during lessons. Miss Coombs was called before the Board and admonished to be more patient with the boy, who appeared to be, from his Mother's account, very dull and stupid, since he had the fever.
18 th June	Children admitted from a private school, but they were so backward they were put in a lower class and they were even a drag on that class.
6 th August	The Hon. Clerk was instructed to write to the Education Dept and report that the Board intended to meet the increased expenses of the School Board, not by increased scale of School Fees, but by a reduction of expenses of the school Staff. It was resolved to curtail the expenses of School Maintenance by the dismissal of Miss Coombs, the Assistant Mistress, after Christmas.
3 rd Sept	The Hon. Clerk was instructed to write to the Education Dept. and inform them that the Board in end to dismiss the School Attendance Officer as the fines imposed by the Magistrates for non-attendance are not enforced and the Board consider the payment of an Officer whose services are useless and unnecessary. Teaching staff to be reduced in order to cut down expenditure.
3 rd Dec	The Hon. Clerk was instructed to give Miss Coombs three months' notice to leave, to date from 28 th November, the Board wishing to reduce the school expenses, the Education Dept. not giving such extra grant as was anticipated when Miss Coombs was engaged, and at the same time to state that the Board will be pleased to give a certificate enabling Miss Coombs to take another appointment.
1887	
2 nd April	The Hon. Clerk informed the Board that the Education Dept. had omitted to include the usual £2 for Pupil Teacher's Education, which had been paid to Mr. Jones as an addition to his salary.

4 th Nov	In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman it was proposed by Mr. Gale and seconded by Mr. Oliver that Mr. Hopkinson take the Chair. Mr. Hopkinson declined so doing, and as no other Chairman was proposed the meeting broke up without any business having been transacted.
2 nd Dec	Mr. Bradford attended the Board Meeting and stated that his boy had been sent home by the School Master this day fortnight. The boy had not been to school since as Mr. Jones has said he was a bad boy and was not wanted. Mr. Jones was called before the Board and stated that the above was a fabrication either on the part of the boy or his father. About a fortnight since the boy was playing and talking in school hours. He gave him a pat on the back with a short stick (which Mr. Jones produced) whereupon the boy burst into tears and said he would go home and tell his father, but he, Mr. Jones, had not sent the boy home.
1888	
6 th Jan	Letter read from Mrs. William Horly respecting the dirty state some children came to school. The Hon. Clerk was instructed to authorise Mr. Jones to send any child home who came to school dirty with directions to clean the child.
31 st Jan	The end of year H.M.I.'s Report states 'The falling off in the general work of the school must not be attributed to the Master who is an indefatigable worker, but to the action of the School Board in not maintaining an efficient staff.'
9 th March	Progress is impeded through insufficiency of staff.
4 th May	Mrs. Jones be appointed Assistant Mistress at the yearly salary of £10, to date from 25 th March last as Mrs. Jones had been performing duties for several months. Mr. Jones, on being informed by the Chairman of the arrangement, stated that he only wished sufficient salary for Mrs. Jones as would recoup him for the payment of a servant whom he was obliged to employ to do the housework, as Mrs. Jones was occupied in the school, and that £7 per annum would cover the expense. It was, therefore, proposed that Mrs. Jones be appointed Assistant Mistress in the school at £7 per annum.
1889	
7 th June	Rector of Catheston insinuated, at a Clerical Meeting, that no religious instruction was given in Board Schools, including Charmouth. A copy of the Time-table, showing the amount of religious instruction given, sent to the Rector requesting him to retract his statement.
1 st Nov	Miss Rendall from National School, Whitchurch appointed.
1891	
29 th May	Several children who attend very irregularly were so retarding the progress of the rest of the class that they were warned that if they could not keep up, they would be put in a lower standard.
1 st Sept	School fees abolished.
30 th Nov	A School Penny Savings Bank established to encourage thrift. The Board decided to add a penny to every shilling deposited.
24 th Dec	Because there was to be a Drawing Examination on the 7 th January the Christmas Holiday was withdrawn.
1892	
31 st Jan	H.M.I.'s Report states that a porch was required for girls to hang their bonnets.
28 th Oct	Concert given at which sufficient funds were raised to pay the interest on the School Bank Deposit Account and to buy Prize books to encourage regular attendance.
4 th Nov	Nearly £20 deposited in the School Bank in the first year.
23 rd Dec	School presented with a complete set of Window Blinds with Rollers.
1893	
25 th August	New ventilator fixed.
8 th Sept	Lecture given by Mr C. Fletcher, Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. Funds devoted to erection of a swing for the Infants.
10 th Nov	Major General Hales promised prizes to the most regular and proficient boys and girls in each class.
1894	
15 th May	New forms (benches) received.
22 nd August	Entertainment given in the Evening to raise money for prizes to be given to Scholars for regular attendance.
9 th Nov	Board expelled a boy whose parent violently abused the master.
4 th Dec	Annual Drawing Examination. Two boys absent through want of boots.
1895	
21 st June	Very irregular attendance owing to the Lambert's Castle Festival.
1 st Nov	Money from Penny Savings Bank placed in the Post Office Saving Bank.

1896

31st Jan

1st May

Annual H.M.I.'s Report states that "a system of physical exercises should be developed."

Being May Day girls paraded through the village decked with flowers and carrying banners and floral wreaths.



These photographs were kindly loaned by Mr. Ron Dampier whose father, Mr. Don Dampier, was a Manager of the school for 22 years, 10 years as Chairman.

C. 1903

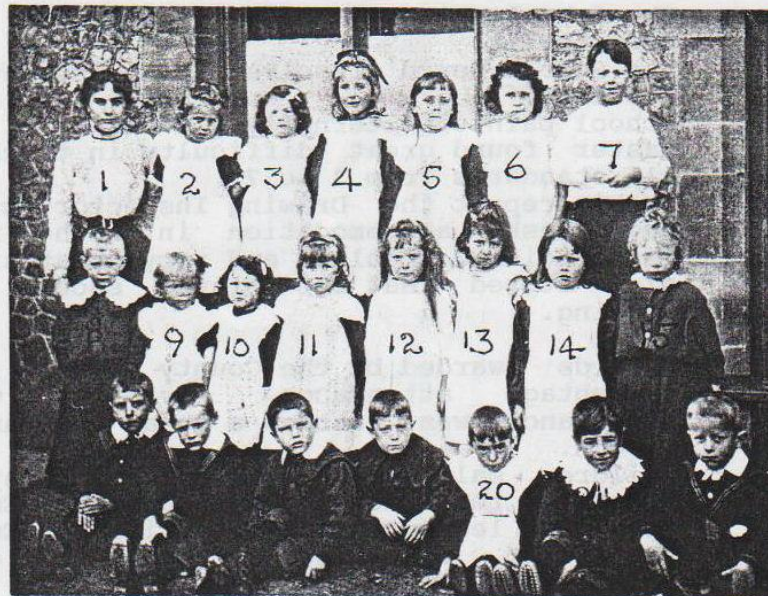
1. Miss Enoch
2. Elsie Hodges
- 3.
4. Ethel Genge
5. Lily Cox
6. I. Gready
7. - Gready
8. Alice Powell
9. G. Cox
10. S. Grinter



- 11
- 12.
13. May Copp
14. W. Farrant
15. E. Grinter
16. R. Dewland
17. Tom Larcomb
18. Cecil Gear
19. W. Gear.
20. S. D. Hodges

C. 1903.

1. Miss Enoch
2. Winnie Penny
3. Gladys Gillingham
4. Eva Coles.
5. Winnie Trevett
6. Maud Bugler
7. E. Nunn.
8. E. Hutchings.
9. Elsie Bugler
10. Dorothy Partridge
11. Mabel Edwards.



12. Madge Lock
13. Alice Taylor.
14. Flossie Brindley
15. A London Girl.
16. H. Lock.
17. A. Bradford.
18. W. Grabham
19. Snow.
20. Mabel Snow.
21. H. Cook.
22. C. Sibley.

8 th May	County Scholarships to be competed for by boys who attend Elementary Schools. Some Charmouth boys entered.
12 th June	Girls held their Flower Class Treat in the evening
9 th Sept	A Concert held in aid of the School Drum and Fife Band.
20 th Nov	Parents prosecuted for their child's persistent irregularity.
1897	
19 th Feb	Monthly examination held.
18 th June	The gravelling of the playground completed.
1898	
14 th Feb	Several new scholars admitted from a private school. They were found backward for their age.
1899	
14 th April	Reading books received for the first class and slates for the lower standards.
3 rd Nov	The Master's Salary was increased by £15 per annum in recognition of 21 years service.
1900	
7 th Sept	Attendance much reduced because Charmouth was very full of visitors.
21 st Sept	A case of diphtheria reported and the children of the family ordered not to attend until sanction of the Medical Officer was obtained.
12 th Oct	The School Board appointed a committee for weekly 'Supervision of attendance'. Improvement noted.
1901	
22 nd March	New supply of books, slates and apparatus received.
1902	
24 th Oct	The School chimney, being unsafe, was taken down and rebuilt.
1903	The School Board dissolved following the Education Act 1902.
15 th May	School painted externally.
19 th June	Master found great difficulty in teaching alone all standards from 3 to 7.
20 th Oct	In his report the Drawing Inspector stated that the desk accommodation in both rooms was insufficient, obsolete and very unsatisfactory. He also stated that the Infants should be taught drawing.
1904	
7 th Jan	Shields awarded by the County Council for highest percentage attendance. Any boy with full attendance was awarded a medal and any girl a brooch.
24 th May	Children saluted the flag, on the playground in front of the school on Sea Lane, on Empire Day. Special lessons on the British Empire and patriotism. This practice continued every year until 1933.
11 th June	County Surveyor brought plans and specifications for new buildings.
17 th June	Many children absent at the Lambert Castle Race Day.
24 th Oct	New cloakrooms completed on front of the school.
1905	
31 st Jan	Only sufficient desks for half the Infants.
29 th Sept	A pupil left to go to the Bridport Pupil Teacher Centre.
1906	
1 st June	Four new desks received.
8 th June	Attention of Sanitary Committee drawn to the shortage of water at the school.
14 th Sept	A new water tank and fresh water supply brought to school.
1908	
27 th April	Children admitted from Monkton Wyld. They were transported by Mr. R. Morgan, Coach and Horses Hotel at a cost of 5 shillings each return journey
19 th June	Attendance poor because of festivities at Monkton Wyld.
4 th Sept	A new skylight fitted in roof.
18 th Sept	Inadequacies of playground space mentioned.
1909	
19 th March	Coastguard Station closed. Nine children left as a result.
9 th July	A start made on construction of new playground.
3 rd Sept	New playground completed. A swing presented.
8 th Oct	New playground needed draining. It was considered to be dangerous to health.
1910	
18 th March	First Medical Inspection of scholars.
1912	
4 th June	14 changes of staff in six months.

Below are pictures of the 4 schools whose children joined Charmouth School when they were closed.



Monkton Wyld Primary School closed in April 1908. The school was demolished and there is now a privately owned bungalow on the site.



Stanton St Gabriel Primary School, Morcombelake, closed in September 1946. 15 children were admitted into Charmouth School. The building is now a private dwelling.



Wootton Fitzpaine Primary School closed in September 1970. 23 children were admitted into Charmouth School. This building is also a private dwelling.



Whitchurch Canonorum National School, founded in 1840, closed in September 1970. 22 children were admitted into Charmouth School. The building was converted into the Village Hall by Mr Ronnie Izod.

With the exception of Stanton the above schools have a cross on the roof indicating that, at some time, they were probably church schools. Charmouth is one of only two primary schools in the area that are not church schools. The other one being Bridport County Primary School.

1913	
14 th Feb	Cookery classes started
12 th Sept	School repainted and play shed asphalted.
1914	
21 st Oct	Trafalgar Day commemorated by special lessons.
1915	
1 st June	Collection for Empire Day Soldiers and Sailors Fund. (11 shillings)
1916	
23 rd June	Queen Alexandria Day. Collection made for Lyme Regis Hospital.
21 st Dec	Public Meeting in the School Room at which the Rector presented the Head Master (H.L.Jones) with a cheque for £67 on his resignation.
1917	
9 th Feb	Due to lack of fuel all the children taught in one room.
3 rd Sept	New school year. Children put into fresh classes and new work commenced.
1918	
18 th March	A Cargo Boat was torpedoed in the Bay. The German Submarine was within sight and the whole village went onto the cliffs to watch the operations.
1919	
18 th Feb	Dancing classes commenced in the Church Hall. Two classes in the morning and two in the afternoon, for half an hour each.
21 st Nov	Several children were excluded, some for Impetigo others for dirty heads.
1922	
10 th July	'Termly Examinations were started throughout the Upper School.
11 th Nov	The Gardening Inspector gave the boys a whole afternoon's instruction.
1923	
15 th Jan	Two children excluded with scabies.
1924	
28 th Jan	Rev. Markby took the Senior Class in Scripture.
24 th March	Land purchased at the rear of the School for £300.
1925	
17 th March	All the children, Infants included, took part in the Choral Competition in Bridport.
27 th July	School opened after Scarlet Fever epidemic. Had to wait several days for the fumigation to take place.
23 rd Oct	A partition was erected in the big room.
5 th Nov	Prize awarded by Aboricultural Society for an essay on the Larch Tree.
1926	
21 st June	Playground opened on land at rear of school purchased from the Church.
10 th Nov	Supervisor for Physical Education visited the school.
	A copy of the Gardening Report stated that the Head Teacher and scholars were interested and active in the garden. Attempts to control pests were made with paraffin emulsion. A Gardening Examination was also held each term.
1927	
16 th Feb	A 13 year old boy died of double pneumonia after one day's illness.
22 nd June	Girl excluded suffering from ringworm.
13 th July	First report on the Inspection in Religious Knowledge.
4 th Oct	A new Time Table received approval from the County Office.
1 st Dec	The children gave an Entertainment in the Church Hall in the evening to raise funds for Sports and Christmas Prizes.
1929	
4 th March	Miss Churchill, Supplementary Teacher, received notification that she had passed the Preliminary Certificate Examination and was therefore recognised as an Uncertificated Teacher.
5 th March	First Junior Schools Examination, forerunner of the 11+ Examination.
26 th April	Presentation made by Mr. Pavey to two children for the best collection of wild flowers made during the Easter Holiday.
11 th May	1st Class gained a 1st Class Certificate at the Folk Dance Festival at Bridport, and the Juniors a 2nd Class Certificate for Singing Games.
1930	
14 th Feb	Miss Wild, Uncertificated Assistant dislocated her knee whilst taking astride jumps during the Physical Exercise period.

These four photographs are interesting because they show the children's clothing soon after the turn of the century. Exact dates are not known. The two **below** were taken outside the School House window. The top one, on the next page, was taken at the rear of the school, and the bottom one standing in Lower Sea Lane, facing South.







Charmouth School Class Photographs of 1922, kindly loaned for copying by Mrs Rossiter who lived in Axminster, but was formerly the Miss Pitt in the middle photograph.

Back Row Miss Wyld, Dorothy Dampier, Herbert Newton, ? Austin, Norman Farrant, ? ?,
? ?, Fred Turner, Gladys Dampier, Effie Stewart, Mrs Stewart (Head Teacher).

Middle Row Stanley Stapleforth, ? Harris, Margaret Stoodley, Crystal Lenthal, ? ?,
Jim Culley, Tilly Graham, ? ?.

Front Row Eddie Austin, Geoffrey Row, Stanley Lugg, Betty Grinter, ? ?, ? ?, ? ?,
? ?, William French.

Back Row William Elliot, Jack Elliot, ? ?, Stanley Newton, Gerald Turner.

Middle Row Miss Pitt, Bernard Lane, Gilbert Stamp, Ernie Lenthal, ? ?, Daisy Kish,
Jacob Farrant, Mrs Stewart (Head Teacher).

Front Row Stanley Rowe, Queenie Quock, Rosy Lane, Lily Austin, ? ?, ? ?,
Charlie White.

Back Row Milly Stamp, Phyllis Lenthal, Doris Dunn, Wilfred Holman, Emanuel Newton,
George Larcombe, Ralph Rowe, Andrew Findlay, ? ?,

Middle Row Mrs Stewart (Head Teacher), Hilda Culley, Ruth Quick, Gwen Lane,
Ruth Gillingham, Vera Turner, Miriam Brake, Vera Culley, Hilda White
Joan Edwards, Freda Childs, Winnie French.

Front Row Ruth Edwards, Brenda Austin, Robert Dyke, Denis Lezzard, Gordon Findlay,
Donald Dampier, Sidney Jezzard, ? ?, William Jolliffe, Jack Turner.

Additional names were supplied by Mr Ralph Rowe, formerly of Monkton Wyld, then Axminster.

1932

- 19th March A brother and sister died through Measles.
- 4th July Correspondent to the Managers unpaid from this date.
- 18th July 10 year old girl died of heart trouble following pneumonia.
- 21st Dec School held a Mothers' Day.

1933

- 11th Jan School received notification from a Doctor in Dorchester that one little girl had to lie down every afternoon. An improvised couch was made.
- 7th Feb School gardens closed down.
- 15th May Two very backward boys admitted aged 12 and 13. Neither could read and the younger one did not know the letters of the alphabet.
- 24th May Empire Day. Rev. Bennet gave the elder scholars a talk on the relief of Lucknow.
- 14th July A Sports Evening was held in the Playing Fields from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

1935

- 18th Jan H.M.I.'s Report stated that about one third of Class 2 were "probably dull and certainly backward."
- 22nd Jan Two boys attending Woodwork Classes in Lyme Regis had to pay for their own transport.
- 1st Feb Notification received from County Medical Officer that under the Milk Scheme for Schools, Mr. P.J. King, Rax Dairy, Bridport, was approved for supplying pasteurised milk for consumption by the pupils.
- 30th May First District Council's inoculation against diphtheria.
- 11th Nov The children observed 3 minutes silence and listened to part of the Service from the Cenotaph. A wreath of Flanders poppies was put on the local War Memorial.

1936

- 28th Jan To commemorate the Funeral of King George V the children were taken to a memorial service in the Church.
- 14th July First end of year examinations mentioned.

1937

- 21st July Five children tested in swimming and given certificates.
- 8th Dec Owing to snowy weather buses were unable to take children to Woodwork and Cookery classes.

1938

- 10th March Monkton Wyld bus replaced by a taxi. As children from Penn were then expected to walk since they lived within the two and a half mile radius one little girl was kept away from school until July 11th when the bus was reintroduced.
- 16th March Managers' lent their cars to transport 25 children to Whitchurch to look around the church.
- 7th April Mr. Keeley, a local gardener, agreed to take the boys for gardening. Allotments were rented from the Parish Council.
- 29th July Slow combustion stoves installed.
- 8th Sept A Mr. Westlake inspected the hive of bees.
- 29th Sept Instructions for Air Raid Precautions in Schools were sent to all schools.
- 5th Oct An Education Official visited the school to enquire into plans for the provision of A.R.P. trenches in the field behind the school.

1939

- 3rd Feb Rev. Moss, Rector of Monkton Wyld, to give Religious Instruction for first half hour of day.
- 11th Sept 36 evacuated children ranging in age from 4 years to 14+ admitted from St Peter's C.E. School Paddington accompanied by 3 certificated teachers, led by F. J. Thornton Esq. One class occupied the shelter behind the school. Later the coal store.
- 13th Sept The Government commandeered all halls for Army purposes, so there was no woodwork class at Lyme for the boys, and the girls, who had been having Cookery classes, are taking Housewifery in the School-house.
- 21st Sept Some evacuees began to return home.
- 6th Oct Older boys boarded up the play shed to make it weather proof.
- 9th Oct Doctor and nurse inspected evacuees and found one verminous head and two cases of impetigo.
- 23rd Oct Air Raid Drill taken.
- 30th Oct Mr. Thornton took three days for his half-term holiday this week. His class combined with Class 1 under the Head Teacher.
- 7th Dec Mr. Thornton's class had to share Class 1 room as the weather was too cold for work in the play shed. In the cold weather the whole school went into Lower Sea Lane and the boys ran 100 yards, either towards the sea or The Street, and the girls ran 100 yards in the opposite

direction.

18th Dec Mr. Thornton commenced his Christmas holiday this week and returned on January 1st to take charge of evacuees during that week.

1940

8th March 59% attendance due to German Measles Epidemic.

31st May Meeting to consider Air Raid Precautions. Children to lie on the floor under the desks. Cellophane strips on windows, and fine mesh wire fitted to all windows, skylights and glass doors.

17th July County Architect visited the school to discuss the possibility of constructing trenches in the school playing field.

26th July School closed for one week of Summer Holiday. The Teachers appear to have taken holidays on a rota basis while the children remained in school.

28th August Classes 1 & 2 walked to Whitechurch Canoniconum to look over the church.

29th August Children picking and selling blackberries to augment the school contribution towards the Spitfire which Dorset hoped to provide.

9th Sept One child won a Scholarship to Lyme Regis Grammar School.

17th Oct Children taken to gather acorns for pig keepers.

1941

13th Jan Mr. Thornton returned to London. His house had been bombed.

5th Feb Respirators inspected by A.R.P. Wardens.

7th Feb County Architect called to enquire if sand and buckets of water had been placed in each classroom

20th May Letter from Dorset Education Committee regarding holidays, and children helping in hay, corn and potato harvesting. Letter should be sent to local farmers asking for their requirements and stating terms on which children might be employed.

22nd May In connection with the War Weapons Week at 3.0p.m. the children formed a procession at the top of the hill and marched to the Playing Field where Children's Sports were held.

12th Sept Use of school by troops for weekly dance - month's trial.

24th Oct One case of Infantile Paralysis reported.

1st Dec Because of dark mornings school opened at 9.30a.m.

1942

6th Jan Mr. Thornton joined His Majesty's Forces.

27th March At 3.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. a Warship Week Entertainment was given in the school. Most of the children took part. £12.15.0d given to Exchequer.

1st May A discussion of behaviour of troops at dances. Mr. Toyne interviewed the C.O. and asked for the attendance of a senior N.C.O. at dances.

1st July H.M.I. Inspections were carried out Annually even during the War. All were full of praise for the excellent work being done in very difficult conditions.

1st Sept 18 children sent flax pulling at Befferlands Farm, and for the following 4 afternoons at 8d per hour.

21st Sept Classes 1 & 2 picked rose hips in the afternoon. 31 lbs were sent to Bristol.

25th Sept School collected £100 in National Savings towards the effort being made by Dorset to replace H.M.S. Dorsetshire.

25th Nov Architect called to discuss Air Raid Shelters.

7th Dec A.R.P. to be notified daily of attendances. Anyone hiring school must provide own fuel. Military occupied Church Hall.

1943

29th March Annual report on teachers made by Head Teacher. Managers commented on Head. Easter holiday to be fixed to coincide with potato planting. Other holidays to be fixed at short notice with reference to local individual needs. Mrs. Little expressed regret that children were paid for agricultural work when they should be encouraged to give willing help to their country.

27th May Mayor of Bridport presented Certificate awarded to the school for the part played in the successful H.M.S. Dorsetshire Replacement Campaign. School contributed £245.7.6d

11th June The school target for Wings Week was £80. £160 was raised.

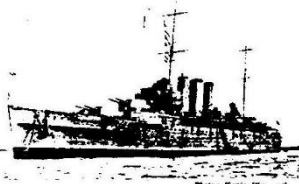
21st June School Meals Service being organised throughout the County.

20th Sept One girl left on being invited to attend the new school at Monkton Wyld where she would receive free education.

10th Nov School meals commenced. A mobile canteen brought hot meals from the Bridport Centre.

1st Dec The Commanding Officer of the American Forces Company stationed in Charmouth gave a talk on America. The children thanked him for the 30 lbs of sweets the Americans had given them.

July, 1942, to —



— December, 1942

SUNK BY THE JAPANESE, 5th APRIL 1942

H.M.S. 'Dorsetshire' Replacement Campaign

THIS IS TO COMMEMORATE
THE REPLACEMENT OF DORSET'S SHIP BY WAR SAVINGS, WHEN £3,057,703 WAS RAISED
AND TO CERTIFY THAT

CHARMOUTH COUNCIL SCHOOL'S SAVINGS GROUP
CONTRIBUTED A WORTHY SUM TO THE GREAT TOTAL

SCHOOL'S TOTAL SAVINGS
DURING CAMPAIGN

£245-7-6

Shephard

President and Chairman

L. Macpherson

Vice-Chairman

A. H. Wright

Hon. Secretary



THIS

CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

IS AWARDED TO

Charmouth Council School

SAVINGS GROUP

IN RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT
DURING THE

WINGS FOR VICTORY

NATIONAL SAVINGS CAMPAIGN 1943

I EXTEND MY THANKS TO ALL CONCERNED
IN THIS IMPORTANT NATIONAL SERVICE.

Archibald Sinclair
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AIR

The originals of these certificates are held in the school

1944

- 11th Jan 2nd Lt. Thornton, who came to the school in Sept. 1939 in charge of the evacuees from Paddington, was killed in action in Italy on Nov 23rd 1943.
- 13th March The Rev. Ross gave lantern slides on Canada.
- 20th March Holiday dates to be fixed by County for School Meals and transport. Still some flexibility to fit in potato harvesting.
- 12th June Murphy Wireless supplied by L.E.C.
- 19th June The school raised £350 towards "Salute the Soldier week."
- 26th June Two official evacuees from London readmitted. They left London to escape the danger of Pilotless (V1) airplanes.
- 31st Oct The senior boys attended their first Woodwork class in Bridport.

1945

- 7th May The Cessation of Hostilities was officially announced on the Monday evening.
- 8th May Tuesday was V.E. Day. School closed for two days.
- 10th May Ascension Day. Children attended church at 9.30 a.m. and given a picnic on the beach in the afternoon.
- 29th May Mrs. Way, teacher, congratulated on walking from Marshwood in severe weather.
- 11th June Last official evacuee readmitted.
- 18th June A Ministry of Labour representative interviewed the school leavers to help them in finding suitable employment.
- 9th July Last official evacuee returned home.
- 4th Sept Parish Council asks Managers to organise a victory tea.
- 23rd Oct The total collected by the School Savings Group from the beginning of the War until the end of Thanksgiving Week amounted to £3,021.10.6d.
- 13th Nov Caretakers' wages raised from £26 to £36 a year.

1946

- 1st March Caretakers' wages raised from £36 to £42.2.0d.
- 8th May Miss Jex called to discuss girls Cookery Classes at Lyme Regis Grammar School.
- 15th July Class 1 had their first swimming lesson: evidently in the sea.
- 10th Sept 15 children admitted from Stanton St Gabriel.
- 12th Sept H.M.I. Mr. Matthews called to make arrangements for a school canteen and kitchen to be started in Charmouth. 50 children had to be fed in a room with seating accommodation for 30 children.
- 24th Sept Club Room in Church Hall used for School Meals instead of classrooms.

1947

- 24th Feb The question of the danger in Lower Sea Lane from fast traffic was discussed. A speed limit of 10 m.p.h. was suggested. Class 1 was taken to the beach at low tide to see the fossilised remains of the submerged forest lying off Charmouth beach. They found fossilised hazel nuts and acorns. Mr. Pavey pointed out the spot where two mammoth tusks were found in 1820.
- 8th March The 10-11 age group attended Lyme Regis Grammar School to take the Examination for entry to Secondary School.
- 20th May Cleaner resigned because of heavy work entailed connected with the stoves. It was suggested stove be converted to gas.
- 6th Oct The school Canteen opened in the Church Hall.
- 22nd Oct Dufay Chromax Film Projector provided by County.
- 9th Dec While the Dentist administered gas to 16 children, the remaining children were taken to the Playing Fields for games.

1948

- 1st March The 11+ boys and girls spent the day working on the school allotments. (The allotments were where No. 6 Parkway now is.) A load of farmyard manure was wheeled in and one plot was planted with potatoes.
- 12th July Miss Z.P. Furnis, a 1st year student of St Katherine's College, Tottenham started two weeks' school practice.
- 13th Sept The Principal of Weymouth Training College called to make arrangements to send trainees for teaching practice.
- 18th Oct The senior children travelled by train to the Dorset Industrial Exhibition at Dorchester.

1949

- 5th April Miss Spark sent to take charge of Whitechurch Canonorum School in the absence of the Head Teacher.
- 29th June Throughout June all children, except Infants, taken swimming daily.
- 4th July New stoves to be fitted. Gas would cost £200, which was considered too much.

30 th August	School became a Junior School. 11 older children and one teacher transferred to Lyme Regis Senior School.
1950	
10 th Jan	11 washbasins fitted into cloakrooms.
8 th May	Stoves were badly in need of repair.
1951	
7 th Feb	Dr. Lang gave a short talk on an octopus which the boys found dead on the beach.
12 th March	Stoves fitted! First 'Parents Day' held.
17 th Sept	Land adjacent to playground purchased at a cost of £1500.
2 nd Oct	Mr. Dodd sent to take charge of Wootton Fitzpaine School owing to illness of Head Teacher.
20 th Oct	Class 1 taken to Bridport for West Dorset Children's Festival. Pauline Turner received a Certificate for Elocution.
1952	
6 th Feb	No school Broadcasts owing to the sudden death of the King. George V1
27 th Feb	The field, purchased in September, between our school field and the new Council Houses was ploughed and became the new School Gardens. The school gave up the Allotment Gardens. The wall on the North West corner of the school premises was taken down and rebuilt closer to the School House to give a wide entrance to the new road leading down to Wesley's Close.
4 th April	Class 1 planted potatoes in the new School Gardens to act as a 'smother' crop.
1953	
22 nd Jan	Bramley apple tree in new field pruned and sprayed
28 th Jan	Nine cases of German Measles in the Infants.
2 nd March	School dinners increased to 9d, 8d & 7d
9 th March	Fencing installed around new field. W.I. Hut was inspected and found unsuitable for a School Canteen.
12 th March	An official drought announced. Children busy every afternoon in the new garden.
31 st March	Hedge dividing old school field from new one taken out. School canteen closed. Hot meals brought from Lyme Regis Canteen.
21 st May	Class 1 presented a Coronation Play entitled "Our Flag", and Mr. Pavey presented each child with a Coronation Souvenir Spoon.
14 th July	The Education Committee arranged a showing of the Coronation Film in the new W.I. Hut.
1954	
1 st Feb	Every tap frozen on school premises.
30 th Sept	School playing field ploughed and sowed with 84 lbs of grass seed.
1955	
25 th Oct	County presented school with seven dozen spring bulbs.
1956	
22 nd Feb	Dr. Armit told Mr. Steven not to attend school as his son aged 7 years old had suspected Para Typhoid.
19 th March	Even though stoves were lit at 6.00 a.m., it was still cold at 9.00 a.m. in bad weather. New stoves were to be installed.
23 rd March	Class 1 taken into School House to see the Queen lay the foundation stone of the new Coventry Cathedral on Television.
14 th May	Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic.
27 th Sept	First Harvest Service. Produce sent to Lyme Hospital.
10 th Oct	School redecorated externally. New floor laid in Class 1, which was also redecorated.
1957	
21 st Feb	New wireless set received.
14 th May	New wireless proved unsatisfactory, new set received.
22 nd May	Emergency meeting held - Mr. Woods, the only qualified teacher other than Miss Meade, was to be transferred to the Midlands area, where there was a great shortage of teachers. Dorset had to provide 63 teachers. Deputation sent to Dorchester - supply teacher to be appointed to teach either mornings or afternoons.
11 th Nov	One case of Scarlet Fever.
1958	
8 th Jan	Seven children attended weekly classes for poor posture and foot defects.
1959	
30 th Nov	School meals taken in classrooms again as there weren't enough to warrant hiring the Church Hall.
1960	
21 st March	Children had lunches in school instead of Church Hall.

2 nd June	Toilets renovated and connected to Charmouth Drainage. Central Heating (solid Fuel) to be installed.
12 th Oct	Central Heating started.
1961	
9 th Oct	Major renovations began on the School House.
19 th Oct	First meeting after school of Children's Club for Juniors, 3.45-4.45 p.m. Country Dancing and games.
26 th Oct	Upright Steinbeck piano delivered.
27 th Oct	An Autumn Sale held in school to raise funds for Christmas tree presents and start a School Fund. £26.5.0d was raised.
16 th Nov	Two netball posts received. The field has been marked out for football.
30 th Nov	Two fire extinguishers delivered.
6 th Dec	School uniform introduced. A badge for cap and blazer would depict a seagull. School decorated internally.
1962	
10 th Jan	Main classroom redecorated.
23 rd Jan	A record player, with speaker incorporated, delivered.
2 nd May	Football posts erected on the school field.
12 th July	School decorated externally.
20 th Sept	A new wooden boundary fence was erected on the South side of the playground.
23 rd Nov	School warning signs erected on Lower Sea Lane.
1963	
25 th Jan	School functioned for first time since term began on January 9th, due to severe weather conditions.
12 th March	The front school playground was resurfaced. Children were taken to the beach for a short recreational period as they were unable to go out in the playground and the field was too wet to use
21 st March	Part of the School House garden wall collapsed on the East side.
15 th May	Woodroffe School declared that detailed results of the 11+ would not be published, on the advice of the Educational Psychologist.
2 nd July	A report by H.M.I. gives interesting information about the school stating that 'the accommodation consists of a large room, 950 sq. ft., divided into two teaching areas by a glass partition which can only be moved back by the caretaker and with considerable difficulty. There is a second room, about 400 sq. ft., in area used by the Infants. Another very small room is used as the canteen wash-up and also has to do service as a staffroom. The supply of washbasins is sufficient, but there is no running water. The sanitary accommodation is detached and is not in good condition. There is a good grassed play area, but only a minute hard surfaced playground. The large indoor space cannot be used for P.E., partly because of the immobility of the screen and partly because the junior classroom is furnished with locker desks which are too heavy for the children to move and cannot be stacked...The final solution to these difficulties must await the remodelling of the school.' This was the last full H.M.I. Inspection carried out in the School.
22 nd July	New furniture for the Junior and Infant rooms delivered.
6 th Nov	School used for Catheston election.
12 th Dec	All 62 children and 3 teachers went to Whitchurch School Concert. They went by Mr. Powell's vans. Each child paid 3d towards the cost of transport.
1964	
8 th Jan	The Youth Club has agreed to the school using their premises for one hour daily for P.E. and dancing.
19 th Feb	The School Nurse carried out routine skin tests.
18 th March	The Rodent Officer put down poison under the floorboards, as it was suspected that there was a rat under the kitchen floor.
29 th April	A Kershaw Filmstrip projector delivered.
21 st July	All 11+ children transferred to Woodroffe School which had had become 'bi-lateral'.
9 th Sept	New floor laid in Infant room.
10 th Nov	Extra lights fitted in the three classrooms, 14 instead of the previous 4, and a Sadia electric water heater supplying hot water in cloakrooms.
17 th Dec	A T.V. aerial installed.
1965	
11 th Jan	First Television set installed - Baird 23 inch.
14 th Jan	Rodent Officers came to investigate persistent unpleasant smell in main classroom. They discovered two dead rats under the floorboards.

23 rd Feb	Water heater fitted in kitchen.
22 nd March	Staff toilet installed.
14 th June	Larger water heater fitted in kitchen.
12 th July	Bottom part of play area tarmaced, but no suitable path provided. Peripatetic violin tuition provided
6 th Dec	Path to playground 'muddy'.
1966	
10 th Feb	Children having violin tuition free of charge.
24 th March	A meeting held to discuss I.T.A.(Initial Teaching Alphabet) the new reading scheme for the Infants.
20 th May	Concrete posts and wire removed from part of the field which had previously been the School House Garden and school allotment. It was later seeded.
24 th May	Old decorative coping stone removed as several pieces had fallen off.
1 st July	Paved path to playground provided.
7 th Sept	Area used as a classroom during the war, made into a coal store.
25 th Oct	Collection made in school for Aberfan Disaster.
1967	
21 st March	Second hand sewing machine provided.
27 th April	Outside light fitted at the back of the school.
3 rd July	Classrooms used for lunches; very difficult.
7 th Nov	Paper towel dispensers fitted. Lunch time cut to one hour. School therefore finishes at 3.30 p.m.
20 th Nov	Head reported on unsatisfactory toilet facilities.
1968	
15 th Jan	Pedestal type toilets fitted in boys toilets.
30 th April	First Open Assembly of hymns and prayers. 12 parents attended.
15 th May	County Officials called to discuss proposed closure of Wootton and Whitchurch Schools.
27 th May	New Measles vaccination given to youngest Infants.
28 th June	The George Social Club presented the school with a Grundig Tape Recorder.
11 th Sept	South side of School House roof retiled. One school chimney removed from the front. New guttering fitted
17 th Sept	Telephone installed.
25 th Sept	Plans for three temporary classroom delivered.
30 th Sept	I.T.V. aerial fitted. Managers' meeting held to discuss siting of temporary classrooms.
24 th Oct	Secretary appointed for two hours per week.
7 th Nov	County Officials met parents about new classrooms. Covered ways between classrooms and main building were requested by parents.
1969	
10 th Jan	Wendy House received for Infant Room.
21 st Jan	Small gate constructed on the North side of the chain link fence to give pedestrian access to Wesley's Close.
3 rd March	Mobile classroom scheme in abeyance as Charmouth parents lodged an objection. The objection was noted by the Education Minister and the local M.P.
21 st April	Minister of Education stated that the proposed enlargement of Charmouth School and subsequent closure of Wootton and Whitchurch Schools would take place, despite protests from parents of all three schools.
1 st May	Meeting held to discuss safety of children boarding buses outside new gate.
10 th Sept	Secretary's hours increased to five and a half hours per week. Extra teaching hours allocated to allow Head Teacher to make regular visits to Wootton and Whitchurch Schools to get to know the children before they join Charmouth School.
2 nd Oct	Wootton and Whitchurch children visit on alternate weeks.
20 th Nov	Sites for mobile classrooms marked out.
24 th Nov	County were informed that classrooms were being wrongly sited due to error in survey.
3 rd Dec	The County informed the Head Teacher that to rectify error would be expensive and cause delay.
10 th Dec	Two members of staff withdrew their labour.
1970	
7 th Jan	Zalpon soap dispensers fitted in all cloakrooms.
20 th Jan	Three parts of the mobile classrooms delivered to Lower Sea Lane Car Park because the ground was waterlogged.
6 th Feb	New temporary toilet block delivered to car park.
3 rd March	Work began preparing site for mobile classrooms. It could not continue because crane was too near to electric cables.

This photograph of the South side of the School house roof being retiled in 1968, was taken from a slide kindly given by Mrs Olivia Hole. Older photographs of the school indicate that the tillers kept to the original attractive pattern of the roof dating from 1870.



This aerial photograph shows the temporary classroom which were erected to make room for the children

from Whitchurch and Wootton who joined the school in September 1970.

1970

- 11th March Work began again on mobile classrooms after much difficulty with muddy field.
13th March Work ceased again owing to mud and rain.
23rd April Mobile classrooms completed.
8th May Furniture for new classrooms delivered.
11th May Children moved into new classroom. This enabled meals to be taken in rooms previously used as Junior classrooms. First time for many years all classes were able to eat in a different place from their own classroom.

18th May Kitchen modernised.
10th July Children from Wootton and Whitchurch came and were given provisional places in their new rooms, ready for the next term.

17th July Some furniture transferred from Wootton and Whitchurch.
20th July A red acacia bush was planted by Mr. Pavey, Manager for over 40 years, and Mr. Bastin, near the school door to mark the centenary of the building.

9th Sept 22 children admitted from Whitchurch Canonorum School and 23 from Wootton Fitzpaine. Main building redecorated internally and old screen removed. Steps leading to temporary classrooms remodelled.

24th Sept Mr. Manners, from Woodroffe School, took the Head's class for Music for half an hour a fortnight.

1971

- 21st April Boarding fixed along the base edge of playground fencing. School milk provided for Infant children only.

7th Sept Work began on staff toilet and conversion of boys' cloakroom into a staff room.
9th Nov Frosted glass fitted in South facing windows of kitchen and Upper Junior Classroom, because extensions to an adjacent house overlooked those rooms.

1972

- 21st Jan Carpet laid in Staffroom and floor of the kitchen tiled.
17th March Electricity put in staffroom.
19th April Tarmac area extended to school gate.
3rd May Fencing erected on Eastern boundary of playground.
15th May Preparations started for another mobile classroom.
28th June New mobile classroom erected.
16th Nov Miss Pascall moved out of school house.

1973

- 10th Jan Solid fuel central heating boiler fitted.
8th Feb Two fire bells fitted. Replaced 1st March 1988.
25th May Central heating completed.
5th Sept Night store heating fitted in school house. One room for the Head Teacher, one for remedial groups.

1975

- 19th Nov Inaugural Meeting of the P.T.A.
26th Nov First P.T.A. Committee Meeting.

1976

- 27th April Curtains fitted across Hall to allow better T.V. viewing and an extension area for the Top Junior Room.

17th July First School Fete held in school grounds. £280 raised.
9th Sept School began to use two football pitches on land designated for new school at Double Common.

20th Sept Colour T.V. installed.
2nd Nov Listeners' Groups began.

1977

- 1st Feb Climbing frame, now in village playing field, delivered.
9th May The boys were joint winners, with St Mary's, Bridport, of the Kenway Cup, an 11 a side football competition open to all schools in the area.

17th June First cycling proficiency sessions started by Constable Monty Harris.
13th July Parents and staff erected display boarding on the Hall walls.
6th Sept Gas central heating boiler fitted. Shelving installed in Hall for reference library. T.V. moved from hall to School House making room to use hall for indoor P.E.

17th Oct First residential London visit. £34 for 4 day trip
21st Dec First Carol Service held in Charmouth Parish Church.

1978

- 26th Jan P.T.A. A.G.M. agreed that committee be open to all interested parents.

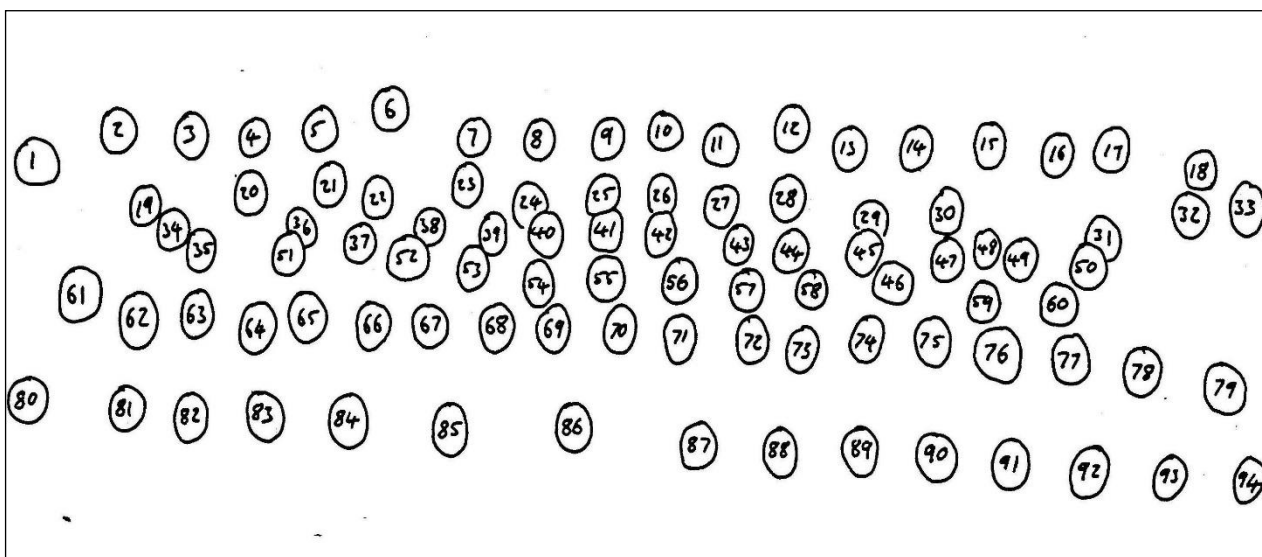
4 th March	First Jumble Sale raised £132
8 th March	Climbing frame installed in Hall. Transferred to new school.
14 th March	Stephen Krywold first recipient of Chess Trophy.
20 th July	Mrs Spicer special guest at the first Leavers' Concert.
24 th Nov	Charmouth Coat of Arms adopted by school as crest.
1979	
8 th Jan	Severe weather in the holidays caused burst pipes in all temporary classrooms, the toilets and the boys cloakroom in the main building.
22 nd Jan	52 children absent with influenza.
23 rd Jan	Due to influenza and heavy snow only 55 out of 148 children in school.
30 th Jan	P.T.A. A.G.M. to be held in September in future.
26 th April	School House rewired.
14 th May	Catheston Leweston Parish Council held their meetings in the Hall.
4 th June	Sterilising sink and new hatch between kitchen and Hall installed.
4 th July	Children visited the exhibition of the proposed Charmouth by-pass, eventually completed in 1990. During August the kitchen and cloakrooms were redecorated.
1980	
12 th Feb	Cuts in Dorset Education budget discussed at P.T.A. Meeting - Things haven't changed!
29 th Feb	Cleaning hours 26 hours per week. It is 23 hours per week in new school with nearly twice the area.
7 th March	Dinner ladies hours cut from 10 to 7 3/4 hours per week. It is 5 1/2 per week in new school.
10 th March	Seven trees planted in school grounds as part of Charmouth Society's initiative to plant trees all round the village. 4 were planted on playing field, present site, and 3 between fence and playground on the South side.
26 th March	Joint Schools' P.T.A. set up to fight Education cuts.
15 th April	School lunches increased to 45p per day. Many started to bring sandwiches. Only 48 out of 133 on roll had school dinners compared with 77 before the increase.
1 st Sept	School lunches ceased to be provided in Dorset Primary Schools.
4 th Sept	Three temporary classrooms re-roofed.
10 th Sept	First P.T.A. A.G.M. held in September. New video recorder demonstrated, costing £600+.
26 th Sept	Re-roofing of temporary classrooms unsatisfactory. To be re-done.
8 th Oct	School flagpole taken down, unsafe.
13 th Nov	Infant temporary classroom roof still leaking.
19 th Nov	Managers become Governors.
1 st Dec	More leaks appeared in temporary classrooms. Ceiling in school house bedroom fell in.
1981	
9 th Feb	Under 5's Group started, taken by three parent volunteers.
16 th Feb	Infant classroom roof re-done. The girls were runners-up in the County Netball finals at Weymouth, open to all schools in Dorset.
24 th July	Due to falling rolls, a teacher is redeployed to Dorchester. P.T.A. present all children with commemorative mugs for the wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer.
17 th Sept	More plaster fell from walls of the school house bedroom.
7 th Oct	Prizes presented to winners of the Royal Wedding Scrapbook Competition.
15 th Dec	Christmas Production was a Nativity Play as it was not possible to have a Carol Service due to staff illness.
1982	
6 th Jan	Further leak in Infant Classroom roof reported.
8 th Jan	Due to heavy overnight snow only 43 out of 102 children present.
1 st April	School became one of only nine schools in Dorset to have their Capitation paid into a bank account. Forerunner of Local Management of Schools.
20 th July	First appointment system Open Evening.
1 st Sept	School decorated externally. Teacher redeployed from Bournemouth.
9 th Oct	Smiths Crisps six-a-side football tournament held on our field, and every year until 1991.
1983	
11 th Feb	57 out of 94 present due to heavy overnight snow.
16 th July	First Fun Run, 160 entrants. Cleaners hours reduced by 5 hours.
21 st Oct	Security system fitted.
1984	
1 st Feb	A large hole discovered under path leading to girls' toilet when a new fence was being erected. 2 cubic metres of concrete were required to fill the hole caused by faulty plumbing under outside toilets.
27 th Feb	First 'Superschools' with Brian Hooper, World Super Star Champion as celebrity. Our school was the one which raised most money per pupil since Super Schools began.

17th Nov

First Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning. £200.81 raised.

This whole school photograph was taken by Mr Mike Davis, the village chemist, on 6th May 1983.

The school sign on the wall was designed and painted by Mr Horace Colby, who was the representative from Whitchurch who served on the School Managers when the schools were amalgamated in September 1970. The sign was then transferred to the new school and placed on the East wall above the Head Teacher's office window.



Key to the photograph on the previous page.

Name Home	Year	Home	Name	Year	
1) Miss Giles			51) Lorraine Holmes	M.I.	Charmouth
2) Mr. Broadhurst			52) Heulwen Powell	L.I.	Wootton
3) Maria Norman	4 th	Charmouth	53) Hayley Ruffle	M.I.	Wootton
4) Catriona Cater	4 th	Charmouth	54) Charlotte Cook	M.I.	Charmouth
5) Ruth Saphorghan	4 th	Charmouth	55) David Young	L.I.	Charmouth
6) Julia Eaton	4 th	Whitchurch	56) Tim Fowler	M.I.	Wootton
7) Jackie Kolich	4 th	Charmouth	57) Michael Churchill	M.I.	Whitchurch
8) Margaret White	4 th	Charmouth	58) Kirsty Penman	L.I.	Ryall
9) Amy Tucker	4 th	Wootton	59) Sasha Ray	L.I.	Whitchurch
10) Lisa Craddock	4 th	Morcombelake	60) Richard Legg	L.I.	Whitchurch
11) Michelle Bowditch	4 th	Charmouth			
12) Mark Tarry	4 th	Charmouth	61) Paul Hill	3 rd	Charmouth
13) Darren Smith	4 th	Charmouth	62) David Cormack	3 rd	Charmouth
14) Richard Poulton	4 th	Charmouth	63) Neil Ruffle	2 nd	Wootton
15) James Holmes	4 th	Charmouth	64) John Luxton	2 nd	Morcombe
16) Daniel Saphorghan	4 th	Charmouth	65) Steve Minchin	3 rd	Charmouth
17) Tony Broadhurst	4 th	Whitchurch	66) Anita Smith	2 nd	Whitchurch
18) Mr. Harris			67) Clair Banting	3 rd	Charmouth
			68) Jennifer White	2 nd	Charmouth
19) Julia Conway	4 th	Charmouth	69) Catherine Poulton	2 nd	Charmouth
20) Karen Thomas	3 rd	Charmouth	70) Phillipa Forsey	3 rd	Charmouth
21) Sarah Matteson	3 rd	Charmouth	71) Sara Bentley	3 rd	Whitchurch
22) Sharon Aburrow	3 rd	Charmouth	72) Laurence Patterson	1 st	Ryall
23) Susan Legg	3 rd	Whitchurch	73) Donna Edwards	1 st	Ryall
24) Polly Duplock	3 rd	Charmouth	74) Maya Ray	1 st	Whitchurch
25) Simon Hughes	3 rd	Whitchurch	75) David Bentley	1 st	Whitchurch
26) Sean Gillings	3 rd	Charmouth	76) Jack Duplock	1 st	Charmouth
27) Kieron Harris	3 rd	Charmouth	77) Kyle Minchin	1 st	Charmouth
28) Kieron Price	3 rd	Charmouth	78) Cecil Thompson	U.I.	Whitchurch
29) Robert Hall	4 th	Charmouth	79) Robert Pitt	M.I.	Charmouth
30) Oliver Larcombe	4 th	Whitchurch			
31) Kip Hansford	4 th	Charmouth	80) Alan Luxton	U.I.	Morcombe
32) Miss Bird			81) Simon Hill	U.I.	Charmouth
33) Mrs Varndell			82) Craig Prosser	U.I.	Charmouth
			83) Edward Brooks	1 st	Wootton
34) Joanne Craddock	2 nd	Morcombelake	84) Ben Cooper	U.I.	Charmouth
35) Davina Hansford	M.I.	Charmouth	85) Simon Gillings	U.I.	Charmouth
36) Georgina Bearpark	3 rd	Charmouth	86) Caroline Bay	U.I.	Whitchurch
37) Tracy Prosser	3 rd	Charmouth	87) Charlotte Wyatt	M.I.	Charmouth
38) Helen Peach	3 rd	Charmouth	88) Clare Phillips	L.I.	Charmouth
39) Mark Bulgin	2 nd	Charmouth	89) Michelle Cook	M.I.	Ryall
40) Jonathan Butler	3 rd	Morcombelake	90) Simon Forsey	L.I.	Charmouth
41) James Gorfin	3 rd	Charmouth	91) Martin Larcombe	L.I.	Morcombe
42) Luke Larcombe	2 nd	Whitchurch	92) Paul Chapman	L.I.	Monkton
43) Danielle Kolich	2 nd	Charmouth	93) James Cook	L.I.	Ryall
44) Jeroen Berger	U.I.	Uplyme	94) Lucy Gorfin	L.I.	Charmouth
45) Mark Hill	1 st	Charmouth			
46) Michael White	M.I.	Charmouth	U.I. = Upper Infant		
47) Karen Thomas	U.I.	Charmouth	M.I. = Middle Infant		
48) Jeffrey Bulgin	4 th	Charmouth	L.I. = Lower Infant		
49) Laura Gorfin	1 st	Charmouth			
50) Emma Blake	1 st	Lyme Regis			

Mr. Broadhurst Head Teacher.
Mr. Harris Deputy Head Teacher

Miss Bird Assistant Teacher
Mrs Varndell Part-time Teacher

Miss Giles 1985	Head of Infants
9 th Jan	Only 50 out of 104 children present due to snow.
21 st June	Sinks installed in outside toilets.
2 nd Sept	County imposed charges for children travelling from villages on school transport.
4 th Oct	Lyme Regis pyramid of schools formed.
18 th Nov	County Councillors called to discuss transport.
29 th Nov	County representative called to discuss problems arising from various parents refusal to pay for school transport.
11 th Dec 1986	Christmas production put on video for first time
4 th Feb	In-service teacher training organised in pyramids. Bids have to be made for school based in-service.
24 th Feb	Pipes frozen in main building. Not thawed out until lunchtime.
14 th April	Cleaner put her foot through the floor of one of temporary classrooms.
3 rd Sept	All temporary classrooms strengthened externally by putting timbers up the sides and across the tops of the classrooms.
1987	
15 th Jan	Only 42 children out of 135 attended. Pipes and toilets frozen.
4 th March	ShortTennis Club started in Village Hall.
6 th April	The girls won the West Dorset Netball League for the second year in succession.
27 th April	Leaks in Infant Classroom roof repaired.
9 th May	The girls won the Thorncombe Shield at the Netball Tournament held at Woodroffe School.
13 th May	Position of new temporary classroom discussed.
2 nd June	An exchange trip with 4th year children from a school in Exeter. Our children spent four days in Exeter and slept on the school premises.
7 th July	First Annual Governors' Report to Parents, demanded by the Education Act, held in the school hall. 9 Governors and 4 parents attended.
7 th Sept	First In-service Training Day under the Pay and Conditions of Service Act. New temporary classroom put on site. All other temporary buildings re-roofed and redecorated at a total cost of approximately £20,000.
5 th Oct	Fire drill held. Both fire bells found to be faulty.
2 nd Nov	Carpets fitted in temporary classrooms at a cost of £1013.
1988	
14 th Jan	Children entertained Senior Citizens at their Christmas Dinner in the W.I. Hall.
16 th Feb	School Hall used for a Public Enquiry in connection with the proposed Charmouth by-pass.
29 th Feb	Whole school went to Youth Club Hall to see a 33ft Ichthyosaur found on the cliff near Stonebarrow before it was taken to Bristol Museum.
5 th March	The boys were runners-up in the County 6-a-side Football Tournament held at Wareham.
25 th April	The boys football team were outright winners of the Kenway Cup, beating Bridport C.P. School in the final.
21 st Oct	Fittings removed from school house bathroom to make a Deputy Head's Office.
31 st Oct	4" by 4" props fitted to the centre of all the temporary classrooms for safety reasons.
16 th Dec	Christmas Production disrupted by influenza. 38 children absent, but the show went on!
1989	
20 th Feb	P.T.A. volunteers completely redecorated the Hall.
14 th March	Representatives of the designers and builders of the by-pass, recently started, came to talk to the children about safety.
28 th April	Fire Drill held - bells ineffective.
1 st Sept	National Curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science came into force.
30 th Oct	Hall floor completely sanded down to make it more suitable for indoor Physical Education.
1990	Several extra meetings held. See New School data.
1991	
15 th Jan	Booked by Dorset began. An extraordinary meeting of Governors held to discuss Grant Maintained Status. No decision was taken.
8 th Feb	Only 54 out of 151 present due to heavy snow.
18 th Feb	The school opened after half-term to find burst pipes in all temporary classrooms.
28 th March	An extra Training Day given by the Government to familiarise the staff with the new Standard Assessment Tasks for 7 year olds.
1 st April	School Cleaning put out to private tender. Carried out by Dorset Direct, using same personnel, but paying them for 4 less hours per week.
13 th May	First Year 6 Activity Week.

14 th May	First Government Tests for 7 year olds held.
26 th June	Inspection of teaching styles - Favourable report.
12 th Oct	Last Smiths Crisps six-a-side Football Tournament held on our field, now the new school.
25 th Oct	County Architect's representative called to discuss work to be done on old school. It was due to be redecorated, but it was decided to defer this in view of the possibility of the new school being built.
1992	
7 th July	First Musical Evening.
23 rd Oct	Lay-by constructed inside fence parallel with Wesley Close for school transport, because Wessex Water closed the lower part of the main street. A separate pedestrian access was made across the grass to the playground.
4 th Dec	Year 6 entertained the Blind Association Annual Christmas Party at the Alexandra Hotel, Lyme Regis
1993	
10 th March	Packing crates delivered.
11 th March	Library reclassified in Dewey system.
15 th March	Whole staff had first visit to the new school!
2 nd April	Last full day for children in old building. The children watched a video film in the afternoon with ice-creams during the interval. The school closed at 3.30 p.m. after 123 memorable years in the beautiful old building.
3 rd April	The windows and doors of the old building were all boarded up. A very sad sight.



The old school building has been converted into four habitable units for letting, first occupied Easter 1995.

With that begins a whole new story.

Some Interesting Additional Reasons for Closure taken from the School Log Book. Closures were for one day unless otherwise stated.

1863

6th April The usual Holiday postponed until Whitsuntide.
 14th August Harvest 'Holy-day'.
 29th Sept C.C.C. playing a match.
 17th Nov School inspected by Rev. R S Hutchings. Children behaved nicely and are given a 'holy-day'.

1864

26th Oct Head's wife had scarlet fever - 6 weeks.
 26th Dec No Christmas vacation this year, only half a day.

1865

14th June The Club Anniversary.
 14th Sept Regatta.

1866

11th June The burial of the Head Teacher's son, John Henry.
 1st Oct Attendance very thin – Revel at Whitchurch.

1867

4th July Very wet.
 10th July Charmouth Fair - half day.
 15th August Regatta at Lyme.

1868

24th Dec 'Broke up today for a fortnight's holiday, because tomorrow is Christmas Day.'

1869

29th July Volunteer encampment at Burton Bradstock.
 21st Sept Measles was so bad in the Parish - three days

1870

2nd June Club Day
 5th August 1 week for the Harvest at the request of the Rector.
 3rd Oct Circus at Lyme Regis.

1871

4th April Circus at Lyme Regis.
 11th Sept Penny concert in the village.

1872

19th Feb Examination by H.M.I. - half day.
 15th Nov Visit of the Diocesan Inspector - half day.

1873

28th Feb Deep snow.
 8th August Lyme Regatta - half day.

1874

12th June Anniversary of the Charmouth Branch of the Manchester Sick and Burial Association.
 10th July Charmouth Fair - half day.

1875

9th June Charmouth Club Anniversary. 'It being useless to attempt to keep school on the Club Day or the day after.' - 2 days
 27th Oct Master absent.

1876

3rd Feb Polling Place.
 29th Sept Harvest Festival at Wootton - half day.
 6th Oct Measles epidemic - 1 week.
 16th Nov Concert in aid of Charmouth Village Hospital.

1877

26th July Scarlet Fever epidemic - 3 weeks.
 5th Oct Wild Beasts Show at Lyme.

1878

6th Dec Herring fishery.

1880

1st Oct To see a Menagerie - half day.

1883

5th Oct Measles epidemic - 3 weeks.

1884

10th Oct Scarlet Fever - 3 weeks.

1886	
26 th March	Confirmation Service - half day.
1887	
22 nd Dec	Mistress attending Certificate Examination - 2 weeks for Infants.
1888	
18 th Feb	New Cemetery consecrated by the Bishop of the Diocese.
11 th March	Whitewashing the School walls - 1 week.
17 th June	Queen's Jubilee Festivities - 1 week.
23 rd Dec	Scarlet Fever epidemic - 1 week.
1889	
11 th Jan	Measles epidemic - 2 weeks.
1890	
28 th Feb	Influenza epidemic - 1 week.
1892	
12 th July	General Election.
1893	
17 th Feb	School walls cleaned and coloured - 1 week
6 th July	Royal Wedding – Prince George, Duke of York (later George V) to Princess Mary of Teck
1 st Dec	Whooping cough epidemic – 6 weeks
1894	
14 th Dec	Measles epidemic - 2 weeks.
1895	
14 th May	West Dorset Election.
26 th August	School's Annual Festival
14 th Feb	Construction of paths around the school - 1 week.
9 th Sept	Concert in aid of School Drum and Fife Band.
1897	
18 th June	60th Year of Queen Victoria's reign - 1 week.
17 th Sept	District Council Election.
23 rd Nov	Government Enquiry re Water Supply.
1898	
2 nd May	Confirmation - half day.
1899	
24 th May	Queen Victoria's 80th Birthday.
1900	
24 th May	Relief of Mafeking - medals presented to children.
1901	
5 th July	Funeral of a little boy at the school - half day for children to attend.
30 th August	Flower Show Day.
4 th Oct	Teachers and some children had their Annual Choir Outing to Weymouth.
1902	
28 th Feb	Measles - 5 weeks.
2 nd June	Ratification of peace in South Africa.
17 th Oct	Choir outing.
1903	
17 th July	Annual Choir Festival.
1904	
24 th May	Empire Day. Children given an address on the British Empire, sang the National Anthem and had a half day.
9 th June	Teachers went to Lyme Regis Choir Festival - half day.
29 th August	Alterations in premises - 1 week added to Summer Holiday.
1905	
12 th June	Charmouth Club festival.
15 th Dec	Scarlet Fever - 5 weeks.
1906	
15 th Feb	Scarlet Fever - further 5 weeks ordered by Medical Authority.
6 th July	Scarlet Fever - further 6 weeks under Medical Authority.
1908	
13 th Nov	School Room used for a Local Government Board Inquiry respecting Loan for Parish.
1909	
12 th Feb	Meeting of School Managers.

1910	
20 th May	Funeral of King Edward VII
3 rd June	Charmouth and neighbourhood Club Festivals - 2 days.
1911	
16 th June	Coronation Holiday - 1 week.
1913	
16 th May	Measles - 5 weeks.
1915	
12 th Nov	Scarlet Fever - 8 weeks by order of the Medical Officer.
1918	
24 th June	Whooping Cough - 2 weeks.
19 th Sept	Picking blackberries for Government. 109 lbs.
11 th Nov	Peace declared with Germany. Children lined up in playground at 11 o'clock, sang "God Save the King" and had the rest of the day off.
1919	
3 rd March	Inflenza in the village - 2 weeks.
7 th April	Influenza - 3 weeks.
21 st July	Children's Sports to celebrate Signing of Peace of the Great War. Held then because school had been closed on original date.
1 st Sept	'Colouring of the walls' not completed - 1 week added to Summer Holiday.
1922	
20 th Feb	Influenza and Whooping Cough - 4 weeks.
14 th July	Sanger's Circus in Lyme Regis - half day.
1923	
17 th April	Singing Competition at Beaminster.
15 th May	Choral Festival at Weymouth.
1924	
5 th March	Influenza - 1 week.
17 th July	Reward for good attendance and to enable the children to go on the choir outing.
1925	
11 th Feb	To enable Teachers to attend an Educational Meeting in Dorchester.
7 th July	Scarlet Fever - 3 weeks.
1926	
17 th June	Village Outing.
1927	
20 th July	Suspected case of Scarlet Fever. Chairman of Managers wired the County Medical Officer who replied by telegram to close the school immediately. School only remained closed for one week as many of the reports relating to cases were found to be false.
4 th Nov	Ceiling fell in.
1928	
2 nd April	School used as a Polling Station.
1929	
30 th May	Polling Day
1932	
24 th Feb	County Medical Officer instructed that the Infants be excluded because of Measles.
1933	
21 st June	Police Sports and Lambert's Castle Fair.
1934	
7 th June	Elder children visited Oxford.
29 th Nov	Wedding of Prince George, Duke of Kent and Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark.
1935	
6 th May	King George V's Silver Jubilee - 2 days.
27 th June	Senior pupils visited Hampton Court.
6 th Nov	Wedding of Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester to Lady Alice Montagu-Douglas-Scott.
1936	
18 th June	Rounders Team took part in a Physical Training Demonstration at Bridport - half day.
7 th Sept	Whooping Cough - 4 weeks.
1937	
9 th April	Suspected leakage in the sewer outside the school - 10 days by order of District Medical Officer.
11 th May	Coronation of King George VI - 3 days.

1938	
21 st March	Chicken Pox epidemic - Infants excluded.
23 rd June	Guides and Brownies attended a Rally at Canford.
8 th July	22 children conducted over Fry's Cocoa Factory at Somerdale.
17 th Oct	Staff A.R.P. training.
1940	
7 th Feb	To allow children to see the King as he passed by car through Charmouth.
1941	
26 th Sept	Second half of the Summer Holiday.
1943	
29 th March	Potato planting.
1944	
15 th Sept	Potato picking.
1945	
29 th Jan	Icy roads and frozen taps.
8 th May	V.E. Day - 2 days holiday.
1946	
1 st April	Charmouth Parish Council elections.
1947	
30 th Jan	Very snowy morning. Children from Monkton Wyld and Morcombelake unable to attend.
20 th Nov	Wedding of Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Phillip Mountbatten.
1948	
26 th April	Silver Wedding of the King and Queen.
1949	
19 th May	Children competed in West Dorset Athletic Sports - half day.
11 th Oct	Teachers attended a Conference on the Agreed Syllabus of Religious Instruction.
1950	
23 rd Feb	General Election.
4 th July	Occasional holiday - 3 days.
15 th Dec	Heavy fall of snow with deep drifts.
1951	
25 th April	Head Teacher attended the Diocesan Syllabus Conference.
1 st June	Head Teacher took her class to Bath & West Show.
26 th Sept	Head Teachers' Conference.
25 th Oct	General Election.
1953	
2 nd June	Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II - 3 days.
24 th June	Children taking part in Bridport Royal Charter Pageant 1253-1953.
1954	
3 rd Feb	Lack of water.
26 th March	Teacher attending course in Bridport.
7 th April	Teacher's child developed Scarlet Fever, so teacher had to stay away and Head Teacher felt too unwell to carry on alone.
1955	
26 th May	General Election.
1956	
3 rd Feb	Frozen tanks. Stoves lit at 6.00 a.m. and room temperature at 9.00 a.m. was 32 degrees.
29 th June	Class I visited Cheddar Caves and Wells Cathedral Clock.
2 nd Oct	Teachers attended one day Conference on the Agreed Syllabus of Religious Instruction.
1958	
18 th June	Head Teachers' Conference.
1959	
7 th Oct	General Election.
1960	
6 th May	Wedding of Princess Margaret to Anthony Armstrong-Jones.
8 th July	Head Teachers' Conference.
1961	
18 th Oct	Cuisenaire Conference.
1963	
9 th Jan	Severe weather conditions - 1 week.
1964	
3 rd July	Upper Juniors went to London accompanied by the teaching staff and kitchen staff.
15 th Oct	General Election.

1965	
18 th June	Upper Juniors went to Bristol Zoo.
1966	
10 th May	Rural District Council Elections.
10 th June	Juniors visited Plymouth.
1967	
16 th June	Juniors visited the River Dart and Paignton Zoo.
1968	
7 th May	R.D.C. Elections.
21 st June	Older children went to Southampton Docks, a small zoo and Poole Park.
1969	
6 th May	R.D.C. Elections.
16 th May	Upper Juniors and top group of Class 2 were taken to Longleat.
1970	
5 th June	Upper Juniors, teaching and kitchen staff went to the Bath & West Show at Shepton Mallet.
1971	
18 th June	3rd & 4th Year Juniors visited Poole Pottery, quay and had an hour's boat cruise around the harbour.
1972	
16 th Feb-	Power Strikes - Classes stayed away for 2 days each week on a rota system.
1 st March	
12 th May	Junior classes (61 children) went on trips to the River Dart Railway and Paignton Zoo.
20 th Nov	The Silver Wedding of the Queen and Prince Philip.
1973	
11 th May	2nd, 3rd and 4th year Juniors (57 children) went to the Exeter Maritime Museum and Exmouth Aquarium
14 th Nov	Princess Anne's Wedding to Captain Mark Phillips.
1974	
28 th Feb	General Election.
1978	
20 th Feb	All schools in Dorset - one week after half-term because of severe weather conditions.
1 st May	First Labour Day Bank Holiday.
1985	
8 th Jan	Heavy snowfall - half day.
1987	
15 th Jan	Pipes and toilets frozen.

Comparison of Costs of Running the School between 1893 and 1993.

	1893			1993	
	£.	s.	d.	£.	p.
Teachers' Pay	159	0	0	142445	00
Monitors	3	14	6		
Secretary & Ancillaries				11686	00
Mid-day Supervision				4727	00
Books, Apparatus & Stationery	5	9	8	6339	00
Fuel, Light & Cleaning	11	18	0	6506	00
Repairs	1	19	6	329	00
Telephones				596	00
Rent, Rates & Taxes	5	15	4	837	00
Total	£187	17	0	£173465	00
Number of Pupils	113			143	
Cost per Pupil	£1	13	3	£1213	04
Days Open in the Year	231			190	

In 1893 the Head Teacher earned three times as much as the Assistant Teacher.

The repairs amount for 1993 was very low because only essential maintenance was carried out prior to moving to the new school.

NUMBERS ON ROLL

In the early days the N.O.R. was very rarely mentioned. The first recorded was 126 in February 1865.

The school was originally an all age school and only became a Primary School on 30th August 1949 when 11 older children and one teacher transferred to Lyme Regis Senior School.

In the 1880's and 1890's the numbers fluctuated between 90 and 115, and reached 134 in the early 1900's.

By the end of the First World War the numbers fell to between 70 and 80.

In July 1939 the number was 69; but with the onset of the Second World War, in September 1939 had risen to 124 with the addition of evacuees from St Peter's C. of E. School, Paddington, London.

By 9th January 1940 the numbers had fallen again to 99. Official and unofficial evacuees were admitted almost daily. Some returned home and were later readmitted depending on the conduct of the war.

Miss Meade, the Head Teacher at the time, kept a very regular record of the number on roll, which at its highest during the war reached 130. That averages 43 per classroom! From August 1942 it fluctuated between 70 and 85.

On 16th September 1959 the N.O.R. fell to an all-time low of 47; but increased slowly to 62 in December 1963, 91 on 6th September 1970, and 136 on 7th September 1970 with the closure of Whitchurch Canonorum and Wootton Fitzpaine Schools.

During the early 1970's the numbers remained in the 130's and 140's rising to a maximum in June 1978 of 173. This is the highest number recorded in the old building.

The numbers fell dramatically in the early 1980's to as low as 88 in September 1983, rising again to between 130 and 155.

143 children made the move into the new building and then rose to 186 in January 1996. (See figures on the next page)

In January each year every school has to complete a Pupil Count. This now takes place on the third Thursday after the start of the Spring Term, but previously it took place on a date, in January as specified each year by the government.

Data from this pupil count is used nationally by the Department of Education for funding, planning and statistical purposes and this is mirrored by the local Authority. January numbers are used in forecasting, place Planning and for school funding.

Prior to 2001 data was collected at school level. Schools completed a form called Form 7 listing how many pupils were in the school at each age group. From 2002 onwards the paper Form 7 return was replaced by an electronic return called the Pupil Level Annual School Census, but has subsequently evolved into a more extensive return called the School Census. The Local Authority receives details of pupils from the electronic database of each school and this is aggregated to provide the Number on Roll Summary, which it uses to calculate allowances to schools.

The Local Authority allocates a sum of money per pupil. At primary school there is a sum for infant age children, Years R, 1 & 2, and a slightly larger sum for Junior age children, Years 3 to 6. These sums, multiplied by the number on roll forecast for the September on the Form 7, made up the sum the school had to spend for the year.

Slight adjustments were made if the numbers in the September proved to be different from the projected figures.

Secondary Schools receive a considerably larger sum per pupil and the amount allocated by central government to each Local authority varies from authority to authority enormously, with Dorset being near the bottom of the list.

Listed below are the Form 7 figures for Charmouth School from 1973 to 1997.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>N.O.R.</u>	<u>Year.</u>	<u>N.O.R.</u>	<u>Year.</u>	<u>N.O.R.</u>
1973	139	1974	128	1975	130
1976	144	1977	143	1978	148
1979	148	1980	129	1981	114
1982	103	1983	94	1984	91
1985	104	1986	113	1987	135
1988	140	1989	145	1990	153
1991	151	1992	150	1993	144
1994	177	1995	180	1996	186
1997	182				

From the introduction of children from Whitchurch and Wootton until 1980 the numbers remained reasonably static, but then fell dramatically until 1987 when numbers increased due partly to the fact that, under the government's policy of parental choice, children came to the school from Lyme Regis Infant and Junior Schools and Symondsbury Primary School.

In the 1970s the Form 7 numbers were used by the Education Department at County Hall to decide the allocation of staffing for the coming school year, September to August. Usually that decision was not made until the end of the Spring Term making class organisation difficult.

From 1982, when Charmouth became one of the nine schools to pilot the new method of funding whereby the school had its own bank account, decisions about how the money should be spent were made by the school. This was the forerunner of Local Management of Schools.

Whilst LMS made things much easier because staffing could be decided earlier, there wasn't so much room to manoeuvre as the teachers' salaries were such a high proportion of the overall budget.

TEACHERS and OTHER SCHOOL STAFF

To become a teacher in the eighteen hundreds, according to references in the Log Book, it was necessary to serve as a Pupil Teacher for 5 years and then pass an examination. When Thomas Bunstone was Head Teacher, his son was recorded as being at the end of his 4th year in March 1866.

As well as pupil teachers the school also employed 'Monitors'. These were senior pupils, possibly thirteen or fourteen, paid to carry out duties similar to ancillaries today, except that monitors were given class responsibilities as on 31st October 1867 when the monitor, and his class were kept in for 'noise', and again on 16th September 1868 the monitor had 'to write 200 words for letting his class play'.

There were two occasions mentioned when the teacher and the class were kept in: first for poor standards and second because the teacher and the class were 'lazy'.

In 1886 Miss Coombs, the Assistant Mistress, was dismissed to save money, nothing changes! In May 1888 Mrs Jones, the Head Teacher's wife, was appointed Assistant Mistress at £10 per annum. Her salary was to be back dated as she had been doing the job for several months. Mr Jones stated that £7 would be sufficient to cover the employment of a maid to do the housework, so Mrs Jones was paid £7 per annum!

There are few records of the numbers in classes in the early days, although there are several occasions when classes had to be put together when a member of staff was ill, and sometimes the Head Teachers mentioned that they had to take the whole school, either on their own or with the help of a Monitor.

From the school photos in 1903 there appear to have been 2 teachers to 73 children, assisted by one or two monitors. The top photo on page 8 shows a senior girl in a different uniform, called Laura Hann, who was probably a monitor. The school is split into four groups for those photos, but this may have been more to do with the limits of photography than class sizes as there were only three separate teaching areas at that time. Mr Jones states in June 1903 that he was finding it difficult to teach standards 3 to 7 on his own. However in the 1922 photos on page 14 the children appear to be in class groups with their teacher, with the Head Teacher, Mrs Stewart, having the largest class of 30.

The school employed an uncertificated teacher in the 1920s although she had had to pass an examination to achieve that status. In April 1937 the Head Teacher had 38 in her class, with the rest of the 77 children split between two other teachers.

During the war the teachers took their holidays in a rota system while the children remained in school. Reference is made, in March 1943, of the Head making an annual report on the teachers whilst the Managers commented on the Head. The school also began taking student teachers from St Katherine's, Tottenham, London and Weymouth teacher Training Colleges in 1948.

In May 1957 there was only Miss Meade, the Head Teacher, and one other teacher, Mr Woods. He was one of 63 Dorset teachers transferred to the Midlands because of staff shortages in that area of the country. After a deputation was sent to Dorchester a supply teacher was sent, for half days, leaving the Head to cope with the whole school on her own at all other times. No mention is made of the number of children at that time. By December 1962 there were 62 children and three teachers and in February 1971 the class sizes were 36, 36, 40 and 28 following the closure of the schools at Whitchurch Canonorum and Wootton Fitzpaine.

Until October 1968, when a secretary was appointed for two hours a week, there was no administrative help. This was increased to 5 ½ hours in September 1969.

No reference is made in the Log Books as to the Caretaker/cleaner's hours until February 1980 when it was 26 hours a week, reduced to 21 hours in July 1983. School cleaning was put out to private tender on 1st April 1991. The contract was awarded to Dorset Direct. They used the same personnel, but payed them for 4 hours less, i.e. 17 hours a week. That was only increased to 23 hours a week in the new school with nearly twice the area to clean.

In March 1980 the Dinner Ladies hours were cut from 10 to 7 ¾. When Dorset ceased to provide school lunches in all their primary schools in September 1980 the number of Dinner Ladies was cut from six to three. The dinner ladies hours were further reduced to 5 ½ in the new building.

Due to falling numbers in July 1981 a teacher had to be redeployed to Damers Road First School in Dorchester. When a vacancy for a teacher came up the following year a teacher was redeployed from Winton School in Bournemouth rather than the school being allowed to make its own appointment.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s the staff would hold a meeting voluntarily on the day before each term began to discuss plans for the term's events, and then spend time in their classrooms. From September 1987 In-service training became part of Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service making the days' attendance before each term compulsory. This took away much good will and seemed to change the atmosphere of the days.

The 'Training Days' became known as 'Baker Days' after Kenneth Baker, who was Minister of State for Education who introduced them. Five such days each year were set aside for In-service Training, the timing and content left largely to the discretion of the school.

Monitors, Welfare Assistants, Ancillaries were all names for those people who assisted the teacher in the classroom. In the 1970s there was one ancillary for a few hours a week based in the reception classroom. Her duties were to help with the preparation of lessons, clearing up afterwards, assisting the children as they changed for PE and hearing children read, all under the supervision of the teacher.

Occasionally, after a recommendation by the Education Psychologist, a child with special educational needs was allocated a welfare assistant, but that would be for a specific child rather than a group.

A second ancillary was appointed in the late 1980s and as she was a fully qualified teacher she could legitimately take charge of a class in an emergency. As the use of audio visual equipment increased she also took charge of radio and TV recordings as well as assisting generally in classrooms. The second ancillary spent time with some of the Junior classes where extra help was needed.

This picture, taken under the porch leading to the school house, shows some of the staff members just before they moved into the new school. From the left: Mrs Jacki Bollen, Assistant Teacher; Mr Mark Stratta, Deputy Head; Mr John Broadhurst, Head Teacher; Mrs Avril Smith, Caretaker; Mrs Judith Mallabone, Head of Infants; Mrs Alison Bloxham, Secretary & Dinner Lady; Mr Paul Curtis, Assistant Teacher; Mrs Mandy Wiscombe, Assistant Teacher. Not in the photo were Mrs Vivien Smith, Ancillary; Mrs Myra Sealy, Assistant Teacher; Miss Sue Johns, Ancillary; Mrs Rose Wheeler & Mrs Gill Poulton, Dinner Ladies.

At that time Mrs Bollen and Mrs Sealy shared Class 3, 2 ½ days a week each and Mrs Wiscombe and Mr Broadhurst shared the top group, Class 5, Mr Broadhurst taking the mornings and Mrs Wiscombe the afternoons. Mrs Mallabone took Class 1, Reception, Mr Stratta, Class 2 and Mr Curtis, Class 4.



SCHOOL BOARDS, MANAGERS and GOVERNORS

At first Charmouth was probably a church school, but from 1878 it was governed by an elected Board, and referred to as a Board School. The Managers took over their role, their first meeting was mentioned in 1909, and the first Chairman appears to have been Mr Pavey, from a well known Charmouth family. Mr Don Dampier was the next Chairman, followed by Mr Norman Sturgess, Mr Tony Stevens and Mrs Molly McAuley, who was Chairman during the transfer to the new school. She handed over to Mr Howard Wickes.

Managers became Governors on 19th November 1980. The Governors were made up of representatives from the County, three members, the Parish Council, one member, parents, the number depending on the size of the school and elected by a secret ballot, an elected member of the staff and the Head Teacher.

The first Parish Council representative, elected by the Council, was Mr Don Dampier, followed by Mr Stan Scivers, who was also Clerk to the Council and he was succeeded by Mrs Margaret Bettes, who stayed on as a County Council representative when she left the Parish Council. Parent Governors were first elected under the Education Act of 1980. The County has a pool of suitable people who have indicated that they would be willing to act as a Governor. These people are then allocated to a school when a vacancy appears.

The Governors were very well represented at school events, particularly the Leavers' Concerts and the Christmas Productions at which one of them always gave a vote of thanks to the children and staff.

School Photographer

The school used the national school photography firm H. Tempest to come into school annually to take individual and group photographs according to the wishes of parents. Parents were also given the opportunity to bring in pre-school children if they wished to have them included in a family group. Class photos were taken every other year as it was felt that it would prove too expensive for parents to have them taken annually.

In the late 1980s whole school photos were taken at the same time as the individual and family photos, but these were later done by a team specialising in large groups.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE NEW SCHOOL

1946

24th Sept Mr Pavey, Chairman of the Managers, informed the meeting of a proposed scheme to build a new school in Charmouth. No details were given.

1947

24th Feb The Correspondent to the Managers presented the plan for the new school which he had received from the Education Office.

20th May Meeting held to discuss proposed new school. Representatives from the County Council, R.D.C. and Parish Council were invited. No manager was invited to attend. Mr Dampier reported that it was being recommended to convert present building.

1952

22nd July Charmouth Development Plan discussed – re-planning of school.

1964

28th March Report by H.M.I. following inspection - school needed remodelling to allow P.E. in Winter.

1967

11th July Meeting to discuss proposed extension to the school - two floored building considered.

1968

15th May A letter from County stated that, due to financial situation, there was no chance of any improvement to school.

1972

3rd May A letter was received from County to confirm that a new Primary School had been included by the Secretary of State in the 1972/73 preliminary list for the School Major Building Programme.

12th Dec Letter from County stating that they had been notified by the Department of Education and Science that a replacement school for Charmouth had been included in the 1973/74 Design List at a gross cost of £78,428.

1974

10th Jan Letter from County informing the Head Teacher that all primary replacement projects in the 1973/74 and 1974/75 Starts Programme had been deferred until further notice.

1975

The Charmouth Draft Village Plan showed the site "reserved for a new County Primary School, to replace the small and unsatisfactory accommodation with vehicular access off Lower Sea Lane. There was to be a footway provided in a programme of road improvement schemes for 1981/82. It also stated that the old building should be maintained as an attractive feature, converted to dwellings or put to community use. The remainder of the site was to accommodate about 12 houses."

1978

10th Oct Discussions about turning old coal store into work areas. Decision deferred for 6 months, by which time the County may have a clearer picture about the date of the proposed new school.

1988

14th Nov Governors' Committee set up to investigate the replacement of the outside toilet block.

18th Nov Governors' Committee met to discuss suggested plans for an extension toilet block to be added to the T.V. Room. This was to be the 1st stage in a three phase development to improve the existing premises.

25th Nov Governors' Committee met to see final plans to be submitted to County for a new toilet block and eventual redevelopment of the school.

1989

24th Feb Governors' Committee met to discuss redevelopment plans prior to a meeting with County Officials. This was 42 years to the day from when plans for a new school were first presented to the Managers.

28th Feb Meeting held to show plans and discuss the redevelopment, attended by the Chairman of the Education Committee, County Councillors, County Officers and all Governors. It was agreed that a feasibility study should be carried out by the County Architect.

3rd Nov A meeting was held with representatives of Education Planning and Development to discuss proposed redevelopment plan. The principle of selling existing land, to pay for redevelopment, established.

13th Dec The Governors' Committee met representatives of Education P. and D. to discuss the completed feasibility study. The project was viable and County decided to apply immediately for planning permission.

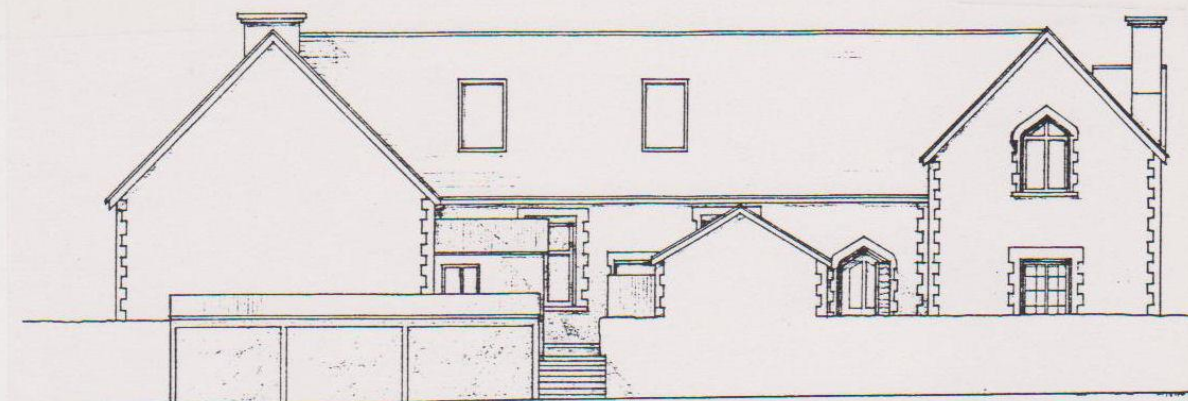
1990

8th Jan Full Governors' Meeting discussed feasibility study

11 th Jan	Governors' Committee discussed further progress of redevelopment plan and submitted formal recommendations to County.
22 nd Jan	Mrs Cotterill, Chairman of the West Dorset Planning Committee called to discuss the planning application for the land on Double Common which, if sold, would provide the money for redevelopment
23 rd Jan	Mr Terrett, County Councillor, called to discuss the planning application.
30 th Jan	A full Governors' Meeting was held to discuss the choice between the redevelopment of the old site and an entirely new building on the playing field.
1 st Feb	Staff Meeting held to discuss redevelopment. Staff decided unanimously in favour of a new building as there was insufficient information about what would be done to the old building. The County had said that what was done depended on the money available.
2 nd Feb	A representative from Education P.& D. met with the Governors' Planning Committee to discuss the various options. He was unable to give definite details of what would be gained by redeveloping the existing site.
5 th Feb	A further Staff Meeting, at the request of the Chairman of Governors, was held to acquaint staff with the information provided at the meeting of 2nd February. The Staff decided that there was nothing to make them alter their original decision.
6 th Feb	Full Governors' Meeting to discuss points put to Sub Committee. After lengthy discussion it was resolved to write to the County telling them that the Governors and Staff had unanimously decided to ask for a new school rather than redeveloping the existing site.
6 th April	Sir James Spicer M.P. called to discuss the progress made on the school's redevelopment.
5 th Nov	Sir James Spicer, Mrs Seaton, Chairman of the Education Committee and officials from the County attended a meeting to discuss the progress of the new school. The County Officials tried to assure the Governors that they were doing everything to make the project possible. The Governors did not share their optimism. Sir James asked to be kept informed.
1991	
25 th Jan	Governors' Planning Committee met to discuss a response to the County's letter indicating that there was likely to be still further delay in the new school development. The meeting was attended by the local County Councillor.
5 th March	Mr Robson, Education P. & D., who had taken over the new school project, came to discuss the Governors' requirements for the planning of the new school.
21 st March	Governors' Planning Committee met to discuss the draft for the Project Architect for the new school
25 th March	A meeting was held to discuss the re-routing of the public right of way from the North side of the new school site to the South side. Parish and County Councillors and Governors attended.
14 th May	Governors' Planning Committee had their first meeting with Mr Stephen Forsythe, the Architect appointed for the new school.
3 rd June	Governors' Planning Committee had another meeting with the Architects who submitted detailed plans of the proposed new school.
11 th June	Staff Meeting held to discuss new school plans.
12 th June	A meeting of Governors and Staff was held to formulate a response to the plans presented by the Architect.
18 th June	Governors and Staff met Architects to discuss response to the plans before they were submitted for planning permission.
23 rd July	Governors and Staff went by minibus to see some of the schools in Hampshire which had been designed by the Architects responsible for the new school.
28 th August	A site meeting was held on the Lower Sea Lane Sports Field to discuss the access/exit point for the new school. County and Parish Councillors and Governors attended. It was decided to stick to the County's suggestions.
10 th Sept	Governors' Planning Committee met to discuss the developments that had occurred during the holiday.
26 th Sept	A further site meeting was held on the Sports Field at which County representatives met the Managing Director of I.M. Properties who were developing Hammonds Mead, to discuss the access/exit to the new school. I.M. Properties wanted both the entrance and exit to be onto Lower Sea Lane instead of using the Hammonds Mead access road. No firm decision was reached.
16 th Oct	The Landscape Architect showed his plans for the grounds around the new school. Much consideration was given to plants that would withstand salt air and strong winds.
19 th Nov	The footpath leading through the school playing field was blocked off and re-routed through Hammonds Mead in readiness for the building of the new school.

These elevation plans, and those overleaf, were drawn up by Mrs Elizabeth Fortescue, a Parent Governor, as part of the three phase development plan of the old building, when serious consideration was being given to the possibility of redeveloping the old site.

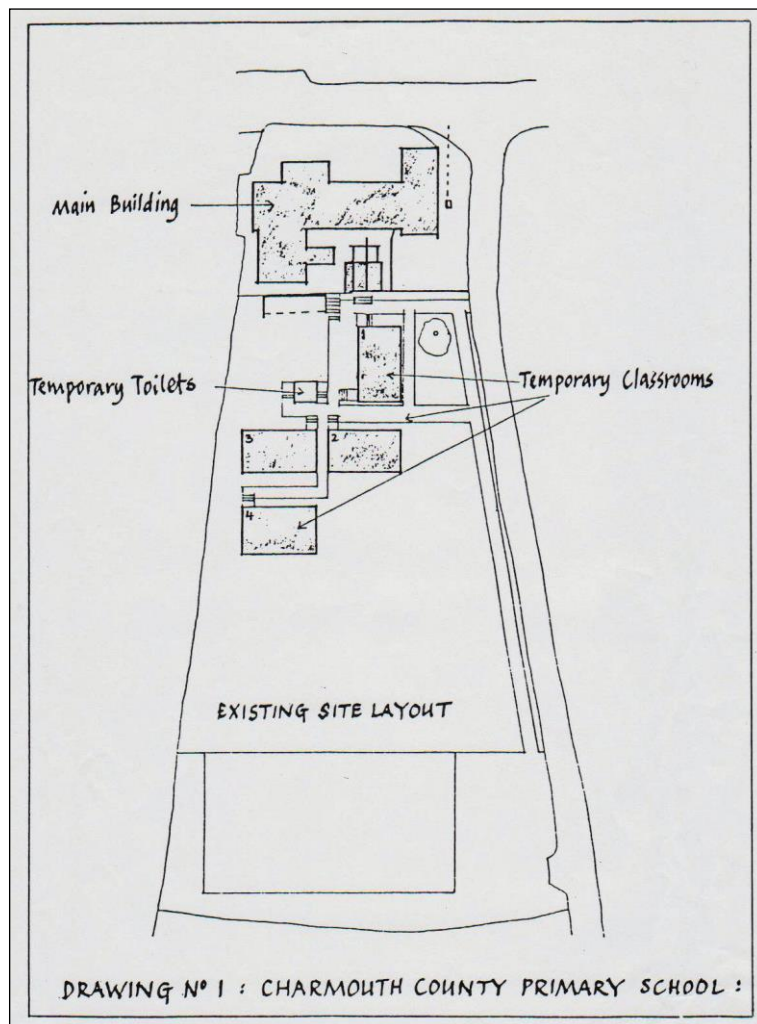
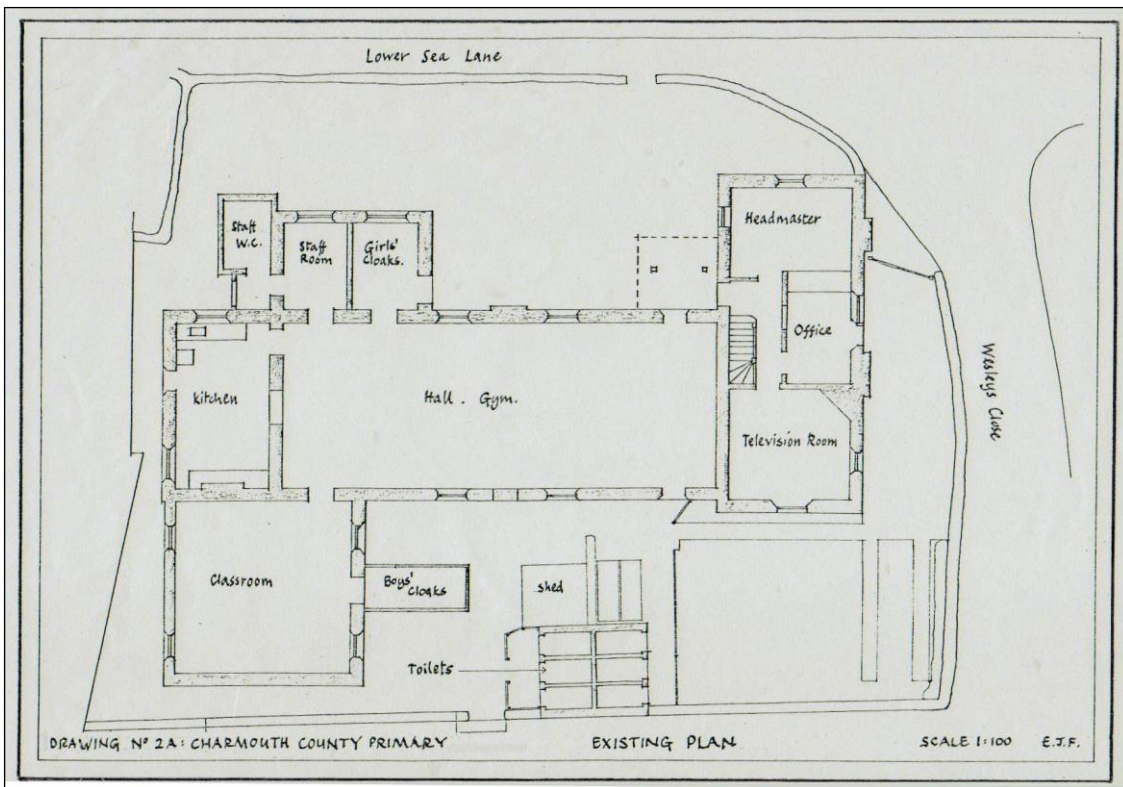
The plans were presented to the County following a Meeting of the Governors on 25th November 1988. They show the layout of the school at the time of closure.



EXISTING EAST ELEVATION : Note the clutter of sheds taking light from the Hall windows.



EXISTING NORTH ELEVATION



1992

13th April

A pre-contract meeting was held in Dorchester. Knapp Construction of Exeter was to be the main contractor, and was to commence on 27th April, with a completion date of 19th March 1993, at a cost of £758,892.

27th April

As promised, a J.C.B. moved onto the new school site.

30th April

A furniture and Fittings Plan for new school was discussed.

12th May

A Turf Cutting Ceremony was carried out by Mrs Pamela Seaton, Chairman of the Education Committee watched by the whole school, Governors and invited guests. Refreshments were provided in school, with a special cake to mark the occasion. Alterations to Furniture and Fittings Plan discussed.



17th Nov

Furniture and equipment for new school was discussed.

1993

10th March

Packing cases were delivered.

15th March

The whole staff had their first visit to the new school.

19th April

Four days were allocated to move all the furniture and equipment to the new site.

23rd April
proposed!

Children had their first day in their new school, 47 years after the scheme was first

The sale of the old building and land attached for redevelopment, and the sale of the land owned by the council at Double Common for development went towards the cost of the new school which was £759,000. The architect was Mr Stephen Forsyth of Jackson, Greenen, Down and Partners and the principal contractor was Knapp Construction Ltd, of Exeter. The County Education Officer was Mr Peter Gedling and the Education Department representative for the project was Mr Peter Robson. The start date was 27th April 1992 and the completion date was 19th March 1993.



This photo shows the first of the timber pillars being erected, after three days puzzling by the contractors.





The lines indicate the drainage system crossing the playing field area before covering with top soil and turf.



The timber pillars and beams came from Scandinavia and the concrete blocks walls built around the frame.



There are several inches of expensive insulation in the roof and under the floor to minimise the heat loss.







Picture from Old Lyme Hill, overlooking Charmouth Beach, with Golden Cap in the distance. The school is in the left foreground.



All the carefully packed boxes had to be emptied and books and equipment put in a new home.



After three days the school was ready for the children thanks to the hard work of **all** the staff.



These pictures show Lord Digby, Sheriff of Dorset, addressing the special guests and children at the official opening of the school in June 1993. He was welcomed by Mrs Molly McAuley, Chairman of Governors.



The staff, and children seated on PE mats, watched the opening ceremony.



Balloons were released, one for each child in the school with their name on a label. The furthest reached Northern France.



After the ceremony there were refreshments in the school hall.

