

Piddle Valley News & Views



January / February 2012



above **Commissioning of new
Headteacher and blessing of
'The Valley Venturer'**

© Anthony Jones

right **National Road Safety Week Piddle
Valley children led by PCSO Vickie
Hedges, walking & arriving**

© Emma Laing



below **Piddle Valley First School Nativity**



Dates for your diary~~~~~

January

| | | | | |
|----|-------|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| 6 | Fri | Lunch Club | P'thide Mem Hall | 12.30pm |
| 9 | Mon | Mobile Library | AP, P'thide, P'ton | Various |
| 9 | Mon | Country Dancing starts again every Monday | P'thide Mem Hall | 2.15pm |
| 9 | Mon | Gypsy & Traveller Site Consultation Exhibition | Corn Exchange, Dorchester | 12.00-3.00pm |
| 12 | Thurs | Short Mat Bowls starts again every Thursday | P'hinton Village Hall | 7.30pm |
| 13 | Fri | Coffee morning | P'thide Mem Hall | 10.30-12 |
| 15 | Sun | Breakfast Club | P'hinton Vill Hall | 9am-12 |
| 21 | Sat | A Tribute to Grapelli + Reinhardt | Puddletown Middle School | 7.30pm |
| 23 | Mon | Mobile Library | AP, P'thide, P'ton | Various |
| 27 | Fri | Coffee morning + PCSO V. Hedges to 11.15 | P'thide Mem Hall | 10.30am-12.00 |
| 30 | Mon | Gardens Club AGM | P'thide Mem Hall | 7.30pm |
| 31 | Tues | PV Parish Council mtg | P'thide Mem Hall | 7.30pm |

February

| | | | | |
|-------|---------|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| 2 | Thurs | Over 60s Air Ambulance talk | P'thide Mem Hall | 2.30pm |
| 3 | Fri | Lunch Club | P'thide Mem Hall | 12.30pm |
| 6 | Mon | Mobile Library | AP, P'thide, P'ton | Various |
| 10 | Fri | Coffee morning | P'thide Mem Hall | 10.30-12 |
| 11 | Sat | Twinning Jumble Sale | P'hinton Vill Hall | 2.00-4pm |
| 12 | Sun | 'Travels with Grandad' | PV First School | 3.30pm |
| 16-18 | Thu-Sat | Piddle Valley Players – The Boyfriend | P'thide Mem Hall | See advert |
| 20 | Mon | Mobile Library | AP, P'thide, P'ton | Various |
| 24 | Fri | Coffee morning + PCSO V. Hedges to 11.15 | P'thide Mem Hall | 10.30am-12.00 |
| 27 | Mon | Gardens Club: 'Winter Gardens' by Sally Gregson | P'hinton Village Hall | 7.30pm |
| 28 | Tues | PV Parish Council mtg | P'thide Mem Hall | 7.30pm |

From the editor ~~~~~

The New Year is an opportunity for reflection and judging by the PVNV, 2011 in the Piddle Valley has been very busy and very active. The website is up, running and expanding with regularly updated diary, a growing picture gallery and now advertisers, so our thanks to Webmaster Andy Howard.

In the Valley there have been quite a few changes including the end of an era for children travelling by the Abbotts 'school' taxi, a service only curtailed by the decision for a single County-wide provider. It would be good to hear more about your travel experiences over the years. The Post Office Stores reopened to fanfares and many of us have noticed the queue of customers waiting at 8.30 am ! And with no weekly plastic collection or recycling facility in the Valley, it is reassuring to see our local Craigs Dairy moving from plastic bottles to cartons, reducing our plastic waste output.

We hope 2012 heralds greater economic stability, a more peaceful world and a brighter future for all. We have much to look forward to - the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in June, the Olympic Games and Paralympics, and closer to home, the impact of Localism. This opportunity to shape our local environment is hugely important and one that our Parish Councillors have to adopt with vision and intent. See the article on page 29.

New for 2012, we would like to start a Children's section - we hope that children of all ages will send in their articles and photos. In this issue particular thanks to 9 year old Alys for her account of the Piddle Valley First School's new Headteacher's Commissioning and Blessing of The Valley Venturer. Full details of the PVNV Young Photographers Competition will be in the March/April issue. Leading the judging will be professional Valley photographer Jonathon Gooding, so lots of time to practice before the closing date later in the summer. *Dot Browning*

Contents ~~~~~

Dates for your diary ~ News from the Vicarage ~ Services ~ Obituaries ~ News from the Valley Villages ~ Localism and Neighbourhood Plans ~ General News & Notices ~ Clubs, Organisations ~ Parish & District Council ~ Piddle Valley First School ~ Sport

Photographs ~~~~~

Front cover

Visitors enjoy the Piddletrentide Remembered Exhibition © Bridget Bowen

Inside

© Anthony Jones, Emma Laing, Ian Condon, Bridget Bowen, Sue Jennings

MISSING KEYS? A large bunch of keys has been left on the stage of the Piddletrentide Memorial Hall. If they may be yours call 01300 348417.

News from the Vicarage ~~~~~

READ, MARK, LEARN AND INWARDLY DIGEST

In 2011, we celebrated the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible. In 2012 we have another anniversary marking the publication of another great work of literature: the 350th anniversary of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the prayer book of the Church of England. A prayer book is not of course a book of prayers but contains the words of the liturgy. The full title of the BCP is The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church according to the use of the Church of England together with the Psalter or Psalms of David pointed as they are to be sung or said in churches and the form and manner of making, ordaining, and consecrating of bishops, priests, and deacons.

In the late mediaeval Church, the Latin Mass was said according to local practice or 'use'. The most common form was the 'Sarum Rite' established by Saint Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury in the 11th Century and originally the local form used in our own Cathedral and Diocese of Salisbury. Part of the purpose of the BCP was to provide standard liturgy that would be used in common in the Church of England rather than variable local forms of liturgy.

Thomas Cranmer, then Archbishop of Canterbury, compiled the BCP in the sixteenth century. It went through various modifications until the definitive version published in 1662 which is still widely in use today despite various attempts at further modification. As the British expanded their empire, they took with them the Anglican Church and the BCP which was often adopted and then revised to meet local need. The influence of the BCP is consequently felt all over the world.

Together with the KJV and the works of Shakespeare, the BCP has been a major influence on modern English. As it has been in regular use for centuries, many phrases from its services have passed into the English language, either as deliberate quotations or as unconscious borrowings. They are used in non-liturgical ways. Many authors have used quotes from the prayer book as titles for their books – for example, PD James' *Devices and Desires*. Other examples of well-known phrases from the BCP include: "Speak now or forever hold your peace", "Till death us do part", "Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest", "All sorts and conditions of men", "Peace in our time" and so on.

Rev Tony Monds

The Vicarage, Piddletrenthide

T 01300 348211 E tony.monds@btinternet.com

From the Registers

Holy Baptism Yazmin Lucia Critchell was baptised on the 6th November 2011 at St Pancras', Alton Pancras.

Abbie Marie White was baptised on the 27th November 2011 at St Martin's, Cheselbourne.

Holy Matrimony -

Funerals The funeral of Alan Gerald Read of Piddlehinton took place at Weymouth crematorium on the 21st October 2011 followed by a Service of Thanksgiving for his life at St Mary the Virgin's, Piddlehinton.

The funeral of Sydney Trevor Whetton of Dewlish took place at All Saints', Piddletrenthide on the 18th November 2011 followed by burial.

The funeral of Nora Eileen Kellaway of Cheselbourne took place at St Martin's, Cheselbourne on the 23rd November 2011 followed by burial.

The funeral of Monica Anne Lambert of Weymouth took place at All Saints', Piddletrenthide on the 2nd December 2011 followed by burial.

The funeral of Benjamin Gwynne Cox of Blandford Forum took place at All Saints', Hilton on the 5th December 2011 followed by cremation at Weymouth crematorium.

Obituaries

Monica Lambert 1933-2011

Monica was born at Colchester Garrison Hospital to Company Sergeant Major David Brown and his wife, Doris. She became the regimental mascot as the first baby to be born in the hospital, attending regimental parades in her pram, whence her lifelong love of military music. Come the war, her mother, and sister Malyn, moved into London, while father survived the fighting in Africa and Italy. She excelled at her convent school although classrooms would ring to the shout "Monica Brown stand up" whenever there was trouble, redeemed by her playing the piano for morning prayers!

Always energetic, uncharacteristically when aged 20 she almost didn't attend an event at Colchester Officers' Club but mother persuaded her. That night she met a dashing young army officer in full uniform who immediately fell for her. On their second date, John Lambert arrived in his old Bullnose Morris car and asked her to marry him. He kept trying and they married in Colchester in 1955.

Home was Virginia Water, Surrey, in the same road as John's sister Pam and husband Leslie. Their children Joanna and Caroline were born there and soon home became a playgroup for the rest of the street, where Monica demonstrated that she would have made an excellent if slightly unorthodox teacher! In 1967 they moved with John's job to Hythe, Kent and in 1979 another career-move led to a derelict mill in Piddletrenthide, which John transformed into an attractive family house, with Monica converting the garden.

A talented tennis player, Monica was instrumental in the formation of the valley club, joined the Gardens Club and made many friends, notably near-neighbours Mike and Sally Howard-Tripp. She was a receptionist at Cerne Abbas Surgery and active in country life for some 20 years until declining health meant a move to Dorchester and later to Weymouth.

Her family supplied the best description of her on the cake to mark Monica and John's silver wedding; "Never a Dull Moment". *Colin Dean*

Alan Gerald Read (1927 – 2011)

Alan was the second of seven children born to Arthur and Madeline Read who farmed at Gussage St Michael, so from an early age he was used to helping with chickens, cattle, pigs, crops and machinery. WW2 interrupted his education at Blandford grammar school but he became very proficient in building anything required on the farm or in the house, maintaining and repairing machinery and raising good quality livestock and crops.

In 1951 he married school-friend Ruth Gill and they would have daughters Gillian, twins Judith and Rosemary, then Nicola. In 1960 the family moved to Hanford near Shillingstone where Alan managed a 720 acre farm, much bigger than the family farm! In 1964 they moved to Piddlehinton's Bourne Farm to work for the rapidly-expanding Hanford Farms, where he stayed until retirement in 1992. He earned the respect of his colleagues by never asking them to do something he wouldn't do himself (except typing!) and was very proud to be part of one of the most progressive agricultural businesses in the country.

Alan served the local community for some fifteen years as parish and district councillor and even after retirement attended parish council meetings until September 2011. His love of Dorset led to membership of the Society of Dorset Men, he also served as President of PROBUS, the organisation for retired professional and businessmen. He kept his links with the British Association of Crop Growers, begun when Hanford's installed a grass drier at Bourne Farm, attending meetings in London and Europe.

Alan loved life at Dales Corner, Piddlehinton, conquering typing, becoming computer-literate and writing a fascinating memoir of his farming life for his children and grandchildren. The family thanks everyone for their lovely letters and memories of Alan, and their donations to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and the Cardiac and Stroke units at Dorset county hospital where Alan received such good care.

Colin Dean

News from the Valley Villages ~~~~~

Alton Pancras

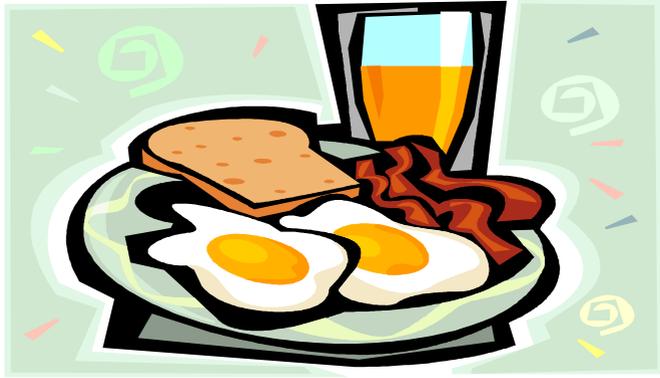
AP David and Hilary Webb send new-year greetings to friends and former neighbours in AP from their days living at Higher Barton. They liken the community 'feel' of Langton Herring to that of AP, with the added advantage of a pub (The Elm Tree) and a meeting venue (the former school).

AP Visitors (and obviously the Best Kept judges) say that they start to admire our church as they walk up the lane towards it, noting its attractive entrance gate, the babbling brook and neat garden-meadow of Austral Farm, and the architecture in a setting of a beautifully-kept churchyard. John Squibb has raised the standard to its current high over several years but has now handed over the role to Simon and Jon Coombes of Flintcumb, which on recent evidence looks like safe hands.

AP The annual village fete, organised on behalf of the AP Trust by Andrew Graham, will again be held in the lovely rural setting of his Manor House garden at 2pm Saturday 26 May.

AP Rachel Olley and Heather Bland are organising a village-wide family event to celebrate the Royal Jubilee, including tea, in a field near the village centre on the afternoon of Tuesday 5 June.

AP Welcome to Tim Hurren and partner Kelly James who have moved from Kings Stag. Tim has merely to stroll across the road, albeit at 5am, to start milking in the new Barcombe Farm parlour while Kelly can leave much later for her Dorset CC job.



Come and join us for a delicious breakfast
and a chat at the

BREAKFAST CLUB

SUNDAY 15 JANUARY 2012

From 9.00am to 12.00noon

In

**PIDDLEHINTON VILLAGE
HALL**

Everyone Welcome

⚡ Our councillors are investigating possibilities of Village Gateways to act as reminders to drivers about the 30mph limit through the village, as seen at Buckland Newton and more recently, Cosmore on the Old Sherborne Road.

⚡ Fortunately it rained heavily when a WDDC engineer visited to assess the risk of flash-floods through AP, so he saw first-hand how water emptying off fields to the north of our parish increases our risks. He was closely followed by a highways team clearing and widening drainage points from the road but when Wessex Water had one man in the river below road-level and another providing protection from passing traffic, guess which one was wearing the high-vis jacket?

Colin Dean | colinsuedean@btinternet.com

Piddlehinton

Ride & Stride Fundraising

The Ride & Stride event in September in aid of the Historic Churches Trust, returns half of the sponsor monies to the church. Piddlehinton's sponsorship was in the top 3 in Dorchester Deanery and we have received a cheque for the church's share of £362.50. Many thanks to those who rode bicycles and a horse and of course to the generous people who sponsored them.

Gay Hanbury

Piddletrenthide

Remembering Piddletrenthide:

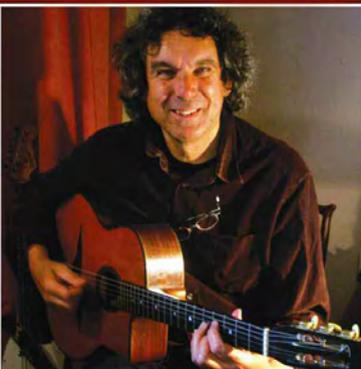
OUR DAILY BREAD: Farming & the village Churches

(see photographs on front cover and inside back cover)

Our fifth exhibition of village memories and photos turned out to be as exciting & interesting for us to stage, as apparently it was to our visitors to view. We had a record number of residents, both past & present, who were prepared to come forward to be interrogated... along with a splendid collection of photos dating back to the early 1900's but also plenty of more recent ones from the 1950's and 60's. Most valley families seem to have some connection with the land and we are still trying to order in our minds the many members of the Green family who have tilled the local fields...

The Church side of the exhibition was perhaps less well provided for, but nevertheless, interviewing the two Boyer sisters [whose childhood was spent in All Saints' vicarage], in the company of Derek and Heather Parry, will remain a highlight of this project that we shall always recall with great affection and delight.

SWEET CHORUS



**JOHN ETHERIDGE - CHRIS GARRICK
PETE K.TOWNSEND - ANDY CROWDY**

A tribute to Grappelli & Reinhardt

ST MARY'S MIDDLE SCHOOL, PUDDLETOWN

Sat 21 January, 7:30pm

£9, £7 (u18s), **£28** (fam 4 - max 2 adults) on door, if available, or in advance

from Sue Chamberlain: **01305 261984 / St Mary's School office**

LICENSED BAR FROM 7pm

Artsreach

Supported by Arts Council SW, West Dorset District & Dorset County Councils

Sweet Chorus was established in 1998 and is now three albums and several hundred shows young! Guitarist John Etheridge was Grappelli's accompanist for five years and in this concert he recalls many of the melodies and joie de vivre from this historic period. The part of the immortal Frenchman is played by Britain's leading exponent of jazz violin, Chris Garrick, and along with the propulsive backing of Andy Crowdy (rhythm guitar) and Pete Kubryk-Townsend (double bass) this will be an evening full of swing and dazzle.

PLEASE ORDER YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE, WE EXPECT A FULL HOUSE.

We hope to stage at least one more exhibition before we start the daunting task of collating all we have learned into some kind of printed format. So next time we hope that all of you who have, at one time or another, been a member of a club, organisation or sports team in Piddletrenthide will look out your photos, polish up that medal or cup you won and come forward to be interviewed.

With many thanks, once again, to Ian Condon for all the hard work he put into copying the photos for the exhibition. Also to Ann Hawker for organising the delicious refreshments and Terry Cowley for manning the retiring donations plate, which [together with the teas] raised over £100 towards the replacement roof for the Memorial Hall.

Dave & Bridget Bowen (tel: 01300348255)

** When we came to stage the exhibition, we discovered some of our screens had gone astray, since they were loaned out in the Summer. Please could you check your garages, attics, sheds etc to see whether they've hidden themselves away. **

The Churchfitters - an Artsreach concert

Anyone not in the Memorial Hall on the evening of Thursday, 10th November, could have heard the sound of lively music, very loud applause and / or laughter from at least a mile away!

The sounds were due to a wonderful performance by 'The CHURCHFITTERS', a four piece folk band, usually based in France but over here on a flying visit! And, as Rosie Short, the lead singer/songwriter and multi-talented musician exclaimed, "Has anyone taken a photo of what it says outside the hall, apparently it's 'SOLD OUT IN PIDDLTRENTHIDE!'"

From the start the musicianship was incredible, about twelve different instruments were played (see photo inside back cover) - including guitars, bing bong machine (you'll have to ask!), mandolin and musical saw. Plus, Rosie's singing voice surely spread over two octaves.

Most of the songs the group played were very jolly. Consequently, feet tapped, hands clapped or bodies tried unsuccessfully to keep still. To mention but a couple of songs, there was 'Porter' - words written by Dominic Behan about his beloved Guinness, and 'The Chicken Song' which was particularly enjoyed by the small lads in the front row left of the audience! But maybe - just maybe, the song of the evening was a slow, gentle, heart-warming one, 'Sing - for our time on earth', written by Rosie.

Further details about Rosie, her brother Chris Short, and the other two equally talented band members, Topher Loudon and Boris Lebret, can be found online at : en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Churchfitters ... and their music heard via YouTube as follows: <http://youtu.be/8XSUR5npNAg> .

Salie Johnson

The Piddle Valley Players

Proudly present
Sandy Wilson's

The Boyfriend



February 16th, 17th 18th 7pm
Sat 18th Matinee 2pm
Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall

An Absolutely Ripping Show!

Tickets : Piddletrenthide Post Office and Old Chapel Stores

Buckland Newton Adults £8 Under 16's £7

Includes glass of Pimms or lemonade and cucumber sandwiches!

AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH LIMITED.à

MEMORIAL HALL SECRETARY WANTED!

Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall was opened in 1923 as a memorial to servicemen who had lost their lives in the Great War. Since its opening the Hall has hosted many events, mainly of a social nature. In its early days and indeed up until fairly recently the Hall provided a comfortable and inexpensive venue for village dances or "hops". It also is the venue for local groups and clubs including the Over 60s Club, the Lunch Club, Parish Council Meetings, Coffee Mornings, Monthly Gardening Club, etc.

The Trustees manage the affairs of the Hall, to ensure bills are paid, repairs and maintenance is undertaken, and to raise funds to pay for the same bills and repairs! The latest project is the replacement of the roof tiles, which are over 80 years old! Much has been done to modernise and maintain the Hall and it has a fairly large well-equipped kitchen, a large hall with modern flooring, disabled access and toilets. Over the past few years the Hall has once again been taking bookings for children's parties and family celebrations of all kinds.

The Trustees meet approximately 6 times a year and our current Secretary is to step down at our AGM in March. Unfortunately the post is unpaid, but is not arduous and the meetings can be fun! The Memorial Hall is such a valuable village resource, with an interesting village history but it does not look after itself! If you would like to help by becoming a Trustee or would like to apply for the post of Secretary please contact either the Chairman John Waterman on 01300 345252 or any of the Trustees whose names and telephone numbers are on the Notice Board outside of the Hall.

Janet Keen

Plush

Jubilee Celebrations | Sunday 3 June 2012

After the success of our Royal Wedding party last year on Jock's Field several people asked 'When can we do this again?' With the Queen's Diamond Jubilee falling in 2012 - 60 years since her accession in 1952 - and with a programme of national events already planned, it seems a good idea to join in with The Big Lunch (info@thebiglunch.com) and celebrate all together on Sunday 3 June. To quote from the website, 'Quite simply we want to get as many people as possible to sit down and have lunch with their neighbours on the first Sunday in June'. So, come rain or shine, we'll dust off the bunting and flags, put up the gazebos, dream up a few more competitions and games, share some delicious food and rely on Kevin (our resident disc-jockey) to provide us with some suitably patriotic music. We'll be holding a planning meeting in the Spring so if any Plush residents would like to come along and share their ideas, please contact us so that we can let you know when and where it will be, the more the merrier.

Jane Preston (348 545), Dot Browning (348 280), Jenny Sherwood (348 037).

Localism and Neighbourhood Plans ~~~~~

The Localism Bill received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011, thereby becoming an Act to be implemented by April next year. This is part of a major change in the planning process which will reduce the current four-tier system to a two-tier system. The four tiers which currently determine planning decisions in West Dorset are

- 1 National Planning Policies
- 2 Regional Spatial Strategy
- 3 The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Plan
- 4 The West Dorset District Council Local Plan

The new structure will be

- 1 National Plan
- 2 West Dorset District Council Local Plan and, if prepared, a Neighbourhood Plan

Much has been written in relation to the reduction in current national policies from hundreds of pages to only fifty-two pages.

The new planning structure will provide the Piddle Valley with the opportunity to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and thereby offer the genuine prospect for the community to influence development in the Valley. If the Valley decides not to produce a Neighbourhood Plan then decisions will be based on the National Plan and the WDDC Local Plan. The development of the Plan must be instigated by the Parish Council but its preparation can be delegated to a steering group or other parish group. The preparation of the Piddle Valley Design Statement in 2004/2005 was delegated to a group of parishioners and resulted in the publication of an effective and widely praised document which could form the starting point for a Neighbourhood Plan.

In many cases the Parish will be the appropriate area for a Neighbourhood Plan but where several communities are covered by a Group Parish Council, as in the Piddle Valley, smaller areas may be the better solution.

A Neighbourhood Plan must respect National and WDDC Local Plan strategic policies but will allow the Valley to have a far greater say in what they believe to be in the best interests of the community than is currently the case. The Plan can embrace all aspects of community development – planning, affordable homes, village facilities, schools, medical facilities, transport, sports facilities, community halls, etc. When prepared the Plan must be approved by the Parish Council and subject to a referendum before it is adopted. Once a Neighbourhood Plan is adopted it will form part of the WDDC Local Plan.

Without a Neighbourhood Plan the opportunity to work together and become pro-active in the development of a dynamic community will be lost. Development will be determined by the National Plan and the WDDC Local Plan which will not be tailored to the needs of our community.

Sherborne and Cerne Abbas have been selected as the two trial locations in West Dorset for the development of Neighbourhood Plans. Cerne Abbas has worked with The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment on the initial stages of their Neighbourhood Plan. The Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of people's lives and for Cerne Abbas is based on two visions:-

Vision 1 – No growth - maintain status quo

Vision 2 – Development of the community by the production of a Neighbourhood Plan

The Cerne Abbas project has already reached the end of the first stage of developing its Plan. West Dorset District Council is currently developing its Local Plan which will be issued for consultation by the middle of next year.

The full details of future planning policy should be in place by next April and at that time the Piddle Valley needs to be in a position to make a start on the formal preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan if the community wishes to have it in place when the WDDC Local Plan is adopted later in 2012 or early 2013.

The Localism Bill represents by far the greatest change in planning policies since 1945. If the Valley wishes to take the opportunity to play a really effective role in its development the preliminary steps must be taken in the next 3 – 4 months (Parish Council approval, agreement on members of the working party, etc) so that arrangements will be in place for the formal Neighbourhood Plan process to start next April. There is no time to waste.

Peter Chance

General News + Notices ~~~~~

POLICE

The new police number for NON-URGENT enquiries is now **101**.

This replaces the 01202 / 01305 222 222 number.

More information is available online at www.dorset.police.uk

Always dial **999** in an emergency when life is in danger or a crime is in progress.

Barry Rogers Safer Neighbourhood volunteer

Local Crimes

There have been a number of confirmed burglaries and break-ins in the Piddle Valley. A burglary occurred in High Street, **Piddlehinton**, between 3.30pm and 4.20pm on Thursday 1st December. The offender gained entry by forcing a window in the house and then stole jewellery and cash. Two unknown men were seen in the vicinity during this period and police officers would like to trace the men to rule them out of their enquiries.

Two men were disturbed in **Plush** at about 3.10am on Wednesday 7th December as they were breaking into outbuildings. Both men ran off but, thanks to prompt and accurate information from the witness, one was arrested nearby and he has since been charged. The second man made good his escape and is still being sought.

Please contact Dorset Police on 101, or your Safer Neighbourhood Team, if you have any information that can help identify those responsible for these crimes, or can help recover any of the stolen property.

There have also been a series of oil thefts from central heating tanks at rural properties in the region. The Police urge residents to ensure that their homes and businesses are safe and secure, to secure domestic oil tanks as well as possible and keep an eye on levels. Please be vigilant of suspicious vehicles and persons who may take an interest in your oil tank.

Safer Neighbourhood Police Officers

A reminder that your Safer Neighbourhood Police Officers are Sgt Steve Yeoman, PC Jeremy Cuff and PCSO Vickie Hedges. Call them at Dorset Police on: 101 or on their team mobile: 07500 816291. Please only use the numbers above for non-emergency calls. If a crime is in progress or life is in danger, please dial 999.

Meet the Team

You can meet the team and members of your PACT (Police and Communities Together) Panel to raise local issues at Puddletown Library every Wednesday between 3 - 4pm. **PCSO Vickie Hedges** will be at the coffee mornings at Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall on Friday 27th January 2012 and Friday 24th February 2012 between 10.30am and 11.15am.

Crimestoppers

Crimestoppers UK (Trust) is a charity helping to prevent and solve crimes. The scheme allows you to give information anonymously about crimes that affect you and your local community. You can call Crimestoppers on:

0800 555 111

Dorset Driver Courses

Dorset Driver courses will be available from January 2012 at various locations across the county. The courses run for 2 hours and cost £5 (payable on the day). Group discussions will include observation, distractions, safety margins, dual carriageways and motorways and roundabout driving.

These courses provide an opportunity to update your driving skills and knowledge, helping you deal with ever changing road conditions, and can reduce your risk of becoming involved in a road collision. If you are interested or require further information please contact the Road Safety Team on 01305 224558, by email at roadsafety@dorsetcc.gov.uk or on line at www.dorsetforyou.com/dorsetdriver

Dates and venues available:

Friday 6th January at Weymouth commencing at 10am
Thursday 19th January at Wimborne commencing at 10am
Monday 6th February at Dorchester commencing at 2pm
Tuesday 21st February at Gillingham commencing at 2pm
Friday 9th March at Bridport commencing at 2pm
Thursday 22nd March at Poole commencing at 10am

Ringmaster Community Messaging Portal

Recycle to support the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)

The Recycling Factory supply A5 sized envelopes with 2nd class postage for your redundant inkjet cartridges, mobile phones, MP3 players, digital cameras and portable games consoles. On every item returned and successfully recycled, The Recycling Factory will donate to the RNLI (for example £4.50 for inkjet cartridge; up to £15 for every mobile phone). See www.therecyclingfactory.com

We have been supplied with 200 envelopes, so have a lot to spare ! If you need an envelope for your recycled item and would like to help the RNLI, please contact John Browning on 01300 348981 or john.browning@regenerationpartnership.co.uk *John Browning*

Dorchester Mobile Library

| | Mondays | January February | 9 + 23 6 + 20 |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alton Pancras | | Holcombe Mead | 11.25 – 11.45 |
| Piddlethrethide | | Poachers Inn | 11.55 – 12.10 |
| | | Wightmans Orchard | 1.20 – 1.50 |
| Piddlehinton | | Paynes Close | 2.00 – 2.40 |



HOW SAFE IS YOUR HOME?

Let me introduce myself - my name is Vanessa Harvey and I am your local Home Fire Safety Advisor working for Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. I help people in the Dorchester area reduce the risk of fire and stay as safe as possible in their own homes.

In 2010, Dorset Fire and Rescue Service (DFRS) attended 468 accidental fires in the home. These could have been avoided if people were more aware of basic fire safety in their homes. Knowing the dangers and taking preventative measures could help save the lives of you and your family. Your home is full of potential fire risks; if you are aware of them you can ensure that you reduce the chances of a fire starting in your home.

Fires strike when you least expect them, often during the night. They spread quickly but it is smoke that is the real killer. If you are asleep when a fire starts and you don't have a smoke alarm to wake you, your chances of surviving are zero. They can be purchased for around £5, a small price to pay to save you and your loved ones. Remember your smoke alarm must work to save your life. Dust it every six months, check the battery once a week, change the battery every twelve months (unless it's a ten year alarm) and change your alarm every ten years. There are also alarms with strobe lighting and vibrating pads for people who are hard of hearing or deaf.

As part of our commitment to reduce deaths and injuries caused by accidental fires in the home, DFRS provides **free** and **confidential** Home Safety Checks. These involve a DFRS Home Safety Advisor, like myself, visiting homes and ensuring each premises has the correct number of working smoke alarms, fitting or replacing them free of charge if appropriate, carrying out a visual check of appliances for electrical safety, identifying any high risk activities, looking at the position of furniture and equipment, checking for overloaded electrical sockets, discussing practical and safe escape routes and what to do if the worst should happen (none of us are invincible!) simply pointing out any potential risks and offering advice as to how they can be minimised. Each home is different in content and layout so visits are tailored to the person and their own unique circumstances.

To request a Free Home Safety Check call 01305 252600 or use the new online form found at www.dorsetfire.gov.uk. Just fill out the form with your name and address details and click 'submit'. Our new PinPoint technology will analyse whether or not we can make your home safer and you will either receive a FREE Home Safety Check or Home Safety Information Pack, containing a leaflet on safety and a checklist for the home.

DFRS are working hard to prevent avoidable fires and you can help us do that – if you would like a free home safety check, contact us. Alternatively, if you know of someone who may be vulnerable and would benefit from a visit, please get their permission and then contact us on their behalf to arrange an appointment. Thank You.

Piddlehinton Village Hall

Thursdays POST OFFICE 2.00 – 4.00pm
To Hire Contact Vickey Steven / 01300 348294

Blood Donation

DORCHESTER sessions are held at the United Church Hall, South Street (near Goulds household store) and all are from 1.30 - 3.25 and 4.30 - 7.00pm. The next dates are: Thursday 5 January
Thursday 19 January
Thursday 9 February *Ros Charlton*

The Bridge Educational Trust (Registered Charity No 1068720)

The next meeting of Trustees to make grants in accordance with the objectives of the Trust will take place in FEBRUARY 2012.

The Bridge Trust is being reorganised. Up-to-date details of the Trust and its objects are given on its website:

www.bridgeeducationaltrust.org.uk

Those wishing to apply for grants should obtain an application form by writing to: The Administrator, Bridge Educational Trust, c/o Piddle Valley First School, Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7QL or by emailing admin@bridgeeducationaltrust.org.uk If you are thinking of applying for a grant for September 2012, the right time to send in your form is during April for consideration at the June 2012 meeting of the Trust. *Rex Goddard*

Clubs, Groups, Organisations ~~~~~

The Piddle Valley Tiddlers

For Bumps, Babies and Toddlers 0-3 years



This group is held every Tuesday morning 10.00 to 11.30 a.m. at The Piddle Valley First School during term times. There are 12 babies and toddlers currently registered and we are happy to welcome any new parents / carers with their babies / toddlers. The group is independent of the Pre-School and it provides a forum for up-to-the-minute sharing of best parenting and gives you and your little one opportunities and fun.

Parents and Carers are responsible for their babies and toddlers during each session which includes a variety of shared fun free-play, snack time and a sing-song! It is also an opportunity for parents to be part of the social networking of young families and make new friends. The atmosphere is relaxed but structured. All this for just a £1.00!

However the Tiddlers group can only function with voluntary helping hands. There is still a need for offers of help from ladies who do not have children in the group and who can spare a couple of hours on a Tuesday morning. The more help is offered the less regularly the need to be on the helpers' rota. The duties are to prepare the room, lay out toys, games, books etc., make refreshments and clear away afterwards. So if you have some free time on a Tuesday morning why not get in touch?

To find out more as a parent or to offer your help as a volunteer please contact the team leader Alicia Eysenck (CRB checked) on 01300 348932.

Alicia would like to thank the Rev. Tony Monds and the PCC, Tracy Jones, Head of the First School and all her staff, as well as the Piddlehinton Village Hall Committee for their support in the continuing growth of this community venture.
Alicia Eysenck

Home-Start West Dorset

Support and Friendship for Families

We are a local charity which gives friendship, advice and practical support to families who live in the West Dorset DC area. In small villages where there is limited public transport and a significant degree of rural isolation, Home-Start is a great way to support young children and their families.



Home-Start West Dorset

We have 48 volunteers and are supporting 43 families with 81 children under the age of 5. Our volunteers work with parents who have at least one child under 5, to increase the confidence and independence of the family. The next free preparation training course for home-visiting volunteers starts on 19th January 2012 and takes place in Dorchester.

If you are interested in helping us to support local families, even if you only have a couple of hours a week, please get in touch. Perhaps to become a home visiting volunteer or perhaps you have skills to offer as a trustee? Anything from parenting to IT, finance to marketing, governance to HR and much more!

Office: 01305 755608 or email: office@homestartwestdorset.co.uk

Nicola Stickland



IT'S TWINNING JUMBLE TIME AGAIN !

Jumble Sale -Saturday, February 11th
from 2pm - 4pm
Piddlehinton Village Hall

Better than ever this year ... with useful & smart clothes for all ages, pretty china and gifts, toys, household items, books,and homemade cakes ! All at low prices. 50p. entry.... including a cup of tea.



ALL DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED ...

Have a Spring clean ! Can collect - phone 348670.
No large furniture please.
Or drop off at the hall on the day from 10am.
See you there !

Piddle Valley Country Dancing Group

The good news is that our numbers have held up well this term so no danger of having to close the group just yet - but, as usual, my plea is for just a few more dancers, men as well as ladies, to join us and give us more scope for trying new dances. We don't take ourselves too seriously and the odd (!) mistake only adds to the general hilarity. We always manage to fit in about eight varied dances each afternoon, which still leaves time for tea/coffee and biscuits. Only £1.50p per session, flat, well-fitting shoes recommended. If you're not sure country dancing is for you, why not come along to Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall for one free session to watch us or join in as you like. Spring term will run from Monday 9 January 2012 and every Monday thereafter until 26 March.

Jane Preston | 01300 348545

Piddletrenthide Lunch Club

We all enjoyed our Christmas Lunch at the beginning of December. Thank you to Rebecca Green and her colleagues for producing such a delicious meal and to all the volunteers who helped, especially to Ann Hawker who decorated the hall and the tables in the 'spirit of Christmas.'



We would also like to thank the children of Years 2 and 3 from the Piddle Valley First School for entertaining us with Christmas carols and songs.

Thank you to everyone who helps to keep the Lunch Club going.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

Left: Ann Hawker 'relaxing' in the Memorial Hall!

Dates for your Diaries

Friday 6th January Pork and Apple Casserole, Jacket Potatoes
Jelly and Ice Cream

Friday 3rd February Cottage Pie and Carrots
Apple Pie and Custard

Sue Jennings | 01300 348076

Piddle Valley Over 60s

We finished our year with a wonderful Christmas lunch at The Piddle Inn. I would like to thank Caroline and her staff once again for all their work to make it such a success.

On now to 2012. We have not got a meeting in January so our next meeting will be on February 2nd when we have an illustrated talk from the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. At this meeting we will be collecting subscriptions for 2012 which remain as last year at £10. We would very much like to get some new members and they are welcome to come to the first meeting free to learn more about the club and see if they like us and find out what we have to offer.

Hilary French | 01305 848501

Piddle Valley Gardens Club

Cooking Vegetables by Coralie Hill



In October members of the Piddle Valley Gardens Club and ten guests gathered in Piddlehinton Village Hall to learn a bit about vegetables; not how to grow them but how to cook them. Coralie gave us a demonstration of how to prepare and cook delicious spinach and mushroom roulade and tomato and basil soup.

The proof of the pudding was in the eating and everyone was able to taste both dishes accompanied by some courgette, potato and cheddar bread which Coralie had prepared earlier. As usual where there is food available turnout was excellent!

Ian Condon

The Unheated Greenhouse

An audience of about 40 people listened intently to a talk given by James from Castle Gardens about locating and managing an unheated greenhouse. We were taken through a step-by-step account on types of seed trays, pots and composts to choose from. We were also shown a selection of labels from plastic to luxury slate to use to help identify seedlings.

James showed an irrigation system that could be set to water your green house while on holiday and various weather monitoring systems which could alert you to changes in temperature and rain fall, even at 2 o'clock in

the morning. He talked about pest control using chemicals, sticky plastic butterflies to trap white fly and natural control by purchasing beetles and worms to target specific pests.

A heated propagator could kick-start early sowings of vegetables but some plants still need protection in the greenhouse and a small heater, bubble wrap or fleece bags can help with this.

The finale was a top of the range designer dibber for planting out seedlings. It was a lovely piece of wood and metal but an expensive tool to get covered in soil.

Next meeting AGM Monday January 30th 7.30pm Piddletrenthide Village Hall
Ann Jordan, Secretary

The Twinning Association Twinned with Longueville, Normandy



We are now planning the 2012 visit from our friends in Longueville, Normandy. There will be a large group of French people of all ages in the Valley from May 17 – 20. Although twinning has a serious aim – greater understanding between nations – it is also a lot of fun for everyone! It has been amazing to see the friendship growing between our two villages over the last 20 years. Many of our French friends had never been to England before, or even considered it, and before the Twinning firmly believed the stereotype of the rather unemotional Brit and our stiff upper lips! We can honestly say that lack of a common language has never been a problem in all these years and we like to think we've done a huge amount for the Entente Cordiale in one or two small areas of France, if not further afield.

We've had a busy Autumn with two fundraising events ... skittles in October and our quiz in November. Many thanks to all who supported us, especially to Paul, Hilary and John for our quiz and also the Thimble and Halsey Arms.

Look out for our **JUMBLE SALE on Saturday, February 11th ! 2 - 4 pm in Piddlehinton Village Hall.** Better than ever this year.... please have a look and bring along all those clothes and unwanted gifts that you no longer have use for and come along on the day for some excellent bargains! We'll be there for deliveries from 10am.

We'd love more young families to become involved and also anyone who would like to host a French family this May and join in our weekend as a 'one-off'. You may not have time to be a full-time member... but we shall need accommodation and help with very pleasant day trips. Please contact Jo Thornton on 348670..... Bonne Année, 2012!

Jo Thornton 01300 348 670

Weymouth Radio Control Club

The club meets for races on Friday nights at Piddlehinton Gym, on the Bourne Business Park. Doors open just after 6pm, when carpet is laid out and the track is set up ready for open practice. Booking in for races closes at 7.30pm and racing starts promptly after that. We are usually finished by around 10pm.

We can also run a race a novice class for those just starting out, and have a couple of club cars that may be used for a 'try before you buy'.

For more information see our website, www.weymouthrc.co.uk or contact info@weymouthrc.co.uk.

Al Mailer, Chairman Weymouth RC

Children's Activities

RAINBOWS (for girls aged 5 – 7 years)
Wednesdays Piddlehinton Village Hall 4.15 – 5.15pm
Contact *Sarah Goddard | 01300 345 413*

BROWNIES (for girls aged 7 – 9 years)
Wednesdays Piddlehinton Village Hall 5.45 – 7.15pm
Contact *Kerry Moore | 01300 345117*
Claire Hudson | 01300 348284

Parish + District Council ~~~~~

Piddle Valley Parish Council

Meetings

The Piddle Valley Parish Council holds monthly meetings in Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall, normally on the last Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7.30pm. Each meeting starts with a "Democratic half-hour", during which any local resident may personally raise direct to the Council any matter that they feel affects the Valley community. So, if you have something important to say, please either contact your local Parish Councillor or raise it during the start of the next meeting.

The next meetings are scheduled for: January 31st, February 28th, March 27th, April 24th.

Website www.piddlevalley.info

The Parish Council section of the www.piddlevalley.info website is now fully live and contains details of your Parish Councillors, past and future meetings, planning applications and any other relevant news and information. There will continue to be these reports in News & Views. It is worth checking the website regularly as any news which is too late for publication or cannot be fitted in to News & Views, will be placed there.

Gypsy & Traveller Site Consultation document

Dorset is reviewing the provision of suitable sites in the County. Piddlehinton Camp is one of the locations under consideration. Full information, plus a summary and response document, is available from Council Offices, Libraries, on-line (www.dorsetforyou.com/travellerpitches) and at the exhibition at The Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 9th January 2012 12.00-3.00pm. Consultations close 10th February 2012.

B3143 – The white lines

The Highway Authority have not replaced the central white line on the resurfaced road between Piddlehinton Cross and Cerne Hill, Piddletrenthide, under the guidelines of the "Rural Roads Protocol". The reasoning behind this is that it is claimed to make the road more difficult to use and hence could reduce traffic speeds. The Parish Council would be interested in Residents' views on the removal of the lines. If you have a reasoned view, please either let your Parish Councillor know, or come along to the Democratic half-hour at the next meeting.

Clearing snow and ice yourself – the 'snow code'

According to the Government website

www.direct.gov.uk/en/NI1/Newsroom/DG_174618

"There's no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your home or from public spaces. It's unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries on the path if you have cleared it carefully. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have responsibility to be careful themselves. Provided you clear snow from public areas in front of your property in a proper manner, you should not be liable if someone subsequently slips.

Clear the snow and ice early in the day

It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So if possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

Use salt or sand - not water

Don't make the pathways more dangerous by causing them to refreeze. If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice. Black ice increases the risk of injuries as it is invisible and very slippery.

You can melt snow or prevent black ice by spreading some salt on the area you have cleared. You can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt - a tablespoon for each square metre you clear should work. Don't use the salt found in salting bins - this will be needed to keep the roads clear. If you don't have enough salt, you can also use sand or ash. These won't stop the path icing over as effectively as salt, but will provide good grip underfoot.

Pay extra attention to clearing snow and ice from steps and steep pathways - you might need to use more salt on these areas."

Help with home heating costs

If you are over 60, disabled, or on a low income, you may be able to get financial help with heating your home. For example, you may be entitled to a Cold Weather Payment, a Winter Fuel Payment or an energy grant.

Further details are available on the same website page

www.direct.gov.uk/en/N11/Newsroom/DG_174618.

Andy Howard

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Approved

1/D/11/001377

Bank Farm, Church Lane, Piddletrenthide.
Erect Barn Agricultural Notification.

1/D/11/001033

Barcombe Farm, Alton Pancras. Erect Loose Box.

Refused

None

Pending

1/D/11/001212

Land Adj Church Lane, Piddletrenthide.
Erect barn/stable/tack room.

1/D/11/001280

24 High St, Piddletrenthide. Change of use to create two dwellings – Unilateral Agreement received.

1/D/11/001284 & 001317

Higher Tything Cottage, Piddletrenthide.
Convert garage to two storey extension, build new garage. Amended Plans.

1/D/11/001366 (DCC Application) Gypsy Camp, Piddlehinton. Erect Acoustic wall.

1/D/11/001464

Barn Ash, Plush. Erect Conservatory and Garage.

- 1/D/11/001507 13 High St, Piddlehinton. Erect 2 story extension to front elevation.
- 1/D/11/001777 Heaves Farm, Piddlehinton. Ground mounted solar photovoltaic micro generation system.
- 1/D/11/001779 Piddle Valley First School. Erect an array of PV Panels on south facing roof slope of the existing school.

District Councillor

Our District Councillor for the Piddle Valley Ward is Jacqui Cuff.
 New Hayes Farm, Duntish, Dorchester DT2 7DU
 01300 345405 Mobile 07870 686854 Email Cllr.J.Cuff@westdorsetdc.gov.uk

Piddle Valley First School~~~~~

School Report

As always this is a very busy and exciting time of the school year as we are in full Christmas mode at the moment!

We have just enjoyed a fabulous Christmas performance which told the story of a group of alien's crash landing into a schools Nativity and gaining an understanding of the true meaning of Christmas. The staff and children worked extremely hard and I think it was one of our best. So well done to everybody.

We also all enjoyed a Christmas lunch and the PTA very kindly provided a children's entertainer for the afternoon. Other Christmas events include our Christmas craft day, singing at Piddletrenthide Lunch Club and of course our traditional carol service at the church on the last day of term.

The work on our outside area continues and it is beginning to really take shape. Once again a big thanks to Vicky Stevens and the team of volunteers. As always we are looking for more volunteers to help us in school so if you think you could offer any help we would be extremely grateful. If you would like to help in any way (reading for example) please contact Claire at the office.

Our Bonfire Night and Firework display was a huge success raising over £1000 so thanks to all who came to support the school and enjoy an amazing display.

All that remains is to thank you for your continued support and to wish you a very Happy New Year

Cath Rothman | Assistant Headteacher

Artsreach Event in Piddletrenthide in February 2012

Artsreach

PICKLED IMAGE - 'Travels with Grandad'

Meet Grandad - eccentric traveller and storyteller extraordinaire. Enter his battered Beduin tent to hear magical tales of adventure in real and imaginary worlds....

Evocative sound, light and exquisite puppetry create a classic performance, enthralling and delighting the whole family.

Suitable for families (3+)



PICKLED IMAGE is an internationally renowned company specialising in puppetry for live performance and theatre.

Where: The Piddle Valley First School

When: Sunday 12 February at 3.00pm

Cost: Adult £7, child £5, family(2 adults 2 children) £21

Tickets: (01300) 345252 or from the Post Office

Light Refreshments will be available

PIDDLETRENTHIDE MEMORIAL HALL

Commissioning of our new Headteacher and blessing of our pirate ship 'The Valley Venturer'

(see photo inside front cover)

"Father Tony (Monds) led the Commissioning Service and it was all about welcoming Mrs Jones to our school. It was also about Mrs Jones taking on the big responsibility of being a Headteacher. The service was great! It was nice that some of the pupils got to say parts of it, and that the governors and parents were there. It was nice that the children got to see the lovely gifts Mrs Jones was given. They were a Bible and the keys to the school. The bible was beautiful with a dark red cover and gold lettering. I liked it when we all squeezed onto the pirate ship to have it officially blessed as the 'Valley Venturer', that was funny!"

Alys, aged 9

After a number of years of fundraising, The Piddle Valley First School PTA finally reached their target and purchased the fantastic pirate ship that is now proudly docked inside the school grounds. The ship, which is enjoyed by all the children in the school, is set to sail the high seas in numerous swashbuckling adventures for many years to come. The name 'The Valley Venturer' came from the creative imagination of Ben Collins, 7, the winner of a competition launched throughout the School to decide on what the ship should be called. The name plate was made for us by no less than one of the Royal coachmakers.

Katie Hensman

Road Safety Week Walk to School

On the 22nd November, about 30 pupils (plus adults) from Piddle Valley First School decided to walk to school to mark National Road Safety Week and to remind drivers that people live in the Valley, and wish to be able to use the road safely. We were joined by our lovely PCSO Vickie Hedges, who has been really helpful.

We all had a fantastic time as I think you can see *(photo inside front cover)* and the children absolutely loved it, as they are so rarely able to walk to school given the lack of pavements and the precarious nature of the road. We all really want to do this a couple of times a month in future, so if anyone sees us out and about, give us a friendly toot as you go past, or do feel free to join in the walk!

Claire Hudson | 348 284

OPERA *Artists*



presents

A Night at the Opera

Cheap Street Church, Sherborne
March 3rd 2012 7.30 pm

John Hudson Virginia King Arwel Treharne Morgan

In support of Dorset Wildlife Trust

Tickets from Sherborne Tourist Information Centre Tel 01935 815341
virginia.king@vkartists.co.uk



Please help the Piddle Valley First School to recycle your textiles

We are participating in a school recycling programme which converts the weight of your unwanted clothing, shoes, handbags, curtains, duvets and cushions – in any condition – into valuable cash funds for the Piddle Valley First School.

The next collection will be made from the School on **Friday 24th February 2012.**

If you are able to donate any of the above items, we would be delighted to receive them. Black bags, labelled 'Textile Recycling' can be left under the school porch at any time, or alternatively please telephone **Katie Hensman on 01963 210537** who will organise collection from you. If you miss this deadline, please do still donate your unwanted textiles to us and we will store them for the next collection, likely to be in early June 2012.

We have taken part in this initiative for some time now and, as well as contributing generously to the school PTA fund, it helps the children to learn the importance of recycling, particularly in these times.

Thank you for your support



Puddletown Surgery

Tel 01305 848333

Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, DT2 8FY

News from Puddletown Surgery

December issue 2012

Once again I am writing to keep you up to date with events at Puddletown Surgery and impart important health messages. If there are any other matters you would like us to address, please let us know by ringing to speak to Carol Taylor, Practice Manager, on 01305 848333 or e-mailing carol.taylor@gp-j81616.nhs.uk.

New Year

At New Year the Surgery will be closed on Monday 2nd January and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. If you are unwell while the surgery is closed always ring 848333. Our recorded message transfers you directly to the Dorset Urgent Care Service who will take details of your condition and pass these on to a doctor. In cases of accident or extreme emergency you may be advised to ring 999 and request an ambulance. For general medical information, advice or reassurance, ring NHS Direct on 0845 46 47.

Winter is here!

As we are entering into the festive season, I predict the weather will again be unpredictable!! Snow last year made life difficult for many people. At Puddletown Surgery we do our best to be prepared for all eventualities, and we would like to encourage you to do the same, for yourself and those around you. Please make sure you have requested any prescription medicines you need, and it is ok to request your repeat prescription early if snow is coming. Also make sure you have enough to last you over the Christmas period.

It's important to do simple things like making sure your heating is working and that you have enough fuel – oil or coal or logs for the fire, as well as checking your car is in good running order. Remember to check your tyre pressures and antifreeze.

We would like to encourage you to embrace the Christmas spirit and get to know those people in the community around you, if you don't already. If you have a 4-wheel drive vehicle, might you be able to help others with shopping, collecting medication, or even getting to the surgery if needed? People at home who have carers might be especially at risk if the carers are unable to get there due to snow/icy road conditions. If you know someone who relies on the support of carers, might you be able to help? Or could you contact someone (surgery/social services) on their behalf if you knew they were in difficulty? Having said all that, we might be in for a heatwave, so get your shorts ready, just in case.

Carol Taylor

Surgery and Dispensary Opening Times

Monday to Friday 8.30 – 6.30 and Saturday 8.30 – 11.00

Cerne Abbas Surgery Newsletter

December 2011

01300 341666

NOTICES

CONGRATULATIONS PENE!

All your friends and colleagues at the Surgery just want to say a big well done to you!



Dr Jenny Bubb is expecting a baby in January and will be taking Maternity Leave from the end of November until the beginning of June 2012. We welcome to the team Dr Marie Goddard who will be joining us while Dr Bubb is away to provide a GP Locum service to Dr Bubb's patients. Dr Goddard is a fully trained doctor who completed her GP training earlier this year and since then has been working as a Locum GP in practices throughout West Dorset.

We all wish Dr Bubb well and look forward to meeting her new baby in the New Year.

PLEASE NOTE When the Surgery is closed If someone is seriously ill or has had a serious accident dial 999 and ask for an ambulance. For urgent medical help or advice contact the Out Of Hours Service on 0845 600 10 13 If you require general health information or advice please contact NHS Direct (a 24-hour advice line) on 0845 46 47

Surgery Opening Hours Christmas and New Year

Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th, Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th - closed

Out of hours service - 0845 600 10 13

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Wednesday 28th December 2011 |] | normal opening times |
| Thursday 29th December 2011 |] | 8.30 am - 1.00 pm |
| Friday 30th December 2011 |] | 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm |

The Dispensary requires 2 working days notice for prescription orders but would appreciate as much notice as possible during this busy time. Please remember the Dispensary will open after Christmas at 9am on Tuesday 27th December.

A reminder from the Village Shops if you have refrigerated items delivered to the shop please could you collect promptly as space in the shop fridges is limited

Please be aware that ALL Wednesday deliveries will now take place after 3.30pm, the same as all Friday deliveries. This is because other members of staff will be taking them to help with the Doctors workload.

Annual Patient Survey

We are planning our next annual survey. To ensure we ask the right questions, we would like to know what you think should be our key priorities when it comes to looking at services we provide to you and others in the practice.

*Clinical Care

*Getting an appointment

*Approachability & helpfulness of staff

*Getting your medication

*Anything else you can think of?

If you have any ideas or suggestions, please send these by email to Cerneabbas.Reception@gp-j81053.nhs.uk or telephone Lynne Dolder on 01300 341666. Many thanks.

Patient Participation

In order to promote the proactive engagement of patients, the government has introduced a programme to encourage the setting up of effective Patient Reference Groups. This new government programme requires us to be more proactive in seeking views from a representative group of practice patients through the use of a local patient survey.

At present we are in the process of agreeing our areas of priority to focus on and identifying a survey group that is representative of our patient list. We will need to identify about 150 patients to ask if they as part of this reference group would be willing to complete a questionnaire online. If you are interested please send an email to: Cerneabbas.Reception@gp-j81053.nhs.uk

Nurses Station

Our Top 5 Tips for keeping warm and well this Winter!

- 1.** Heat your home well by setting your heating to the right temperature (18-21°C or 64-70°F), you can keep your home warm and your bills as low as possible.
- 2.** Get financial support - there are grants, benefits and sources of advice available to make your home more energy efficient, improve your heating or help with bills. It's worthwhile claiming all the benefits you are entitled to.
- 3.** Eat well - food is a vital source of energy helping to keep your bodywarm. Try to make sure that you have hot meals and drinks regularly through the day.
- 4.** Get a flu jab - ring the Surgery on 01300 341666 if you have missed our open clinics.
- 5.** Look after yourself and others - on cold days try to avoid going outside; however if you do need to then wrap up warm. If you have an older neighbour or relative, look out for them, during winter to make sure they are safe and well.

Sport ~~~~~

Short Mat Bowls

Short Mat Bowls will start again on 12th January at Piddlehinton Village Hall at the usual time of 7.30pm, when we will meet every Thursday evening up to April.

New members would be very welcome as our numbers are dwindling. It is a social event more than a competitive one. The weekly cost is £1 which includes use of equipment, coffee & biscuits, all you are asked to bring with you is a flat soled pair of shoes or slippers. Give it a try !

Sheila Hornyak | 01300 348 264

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| BADMINTON | Tuesdays Contact | Piddlehinton Gym 2 pm – 4 pm Hilary French / 01305 848501 |
| CRICKET CLUB | Contact | Graeme Stephens / 07899 663773 |
| SHORT MAT BOWLS | Thursdays Contact | Piddlehinton Village Hall 7.30 – 9.30pm Sheila Hornyak / 01300 348264 |
| TABLE TENNIS | Tuesdays Contact | Piddlehinton Village Hall 7.00 – 9.00pm Beryl Ellis / 01305 267394 |

Editorial ~~~~~

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|--------------------|---|----------------|------------------------------|
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