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News and Views

Nov/Dec 2023



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

Piddle Valley Twinning talk – November 3rd: Dambuster To Dam Builder

River clearing – November 11th starting at 10 o'clock, meeting at the school bridge

Piddlehinton Village Hall breakfast – Nov 5th 9-11.30am. Piddlehinton Village Hall pre-Christmas bingo – Nov 17th. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7pm.

December and beyond

Millennium Green Christmas Fair – Saturday 2nd December from 10-12.

Thursday Club – Christmas lunch, Halsey Arms, Pulham on Thursday December 7th at 12.30

Piddlehinton Village Hall Christmas lunch – Dec 10th (numbers limited)

2024

Thursday Club – First meeting of 2024, Thursday February 1st at 2.30 in the Memorial Hall Piddletrenthide

Piddle Valley Players – 15th and 17th February 2024 at Buckland Newton Village Hall

Family Quiz Night – Saturday, 24th February, 2024 5.30 for 6.00pm at Piddle Valley First School. Philip and Beryl Duffus spent many years working abroad, mostly in Africa. Come along on a family quiz night to view some of their fascinating collection and see if you can guess their origins by linking the clues to the artefacts! Twenty clues, twenty artefacts, kids will love the challenge! Warm, child friendly food for all to share. Prizes for all!!

Cover photo taken by Kevin Quinn on Tullons Lane, Piddletrenthide.

THE BRIDGE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Educational grants

The Bridge Educational Trust is a Piddle Valley based charity that provides grants to individuals who wish to further their educational aspirations.

Do you need financial help to realise your educational development and future ambitions, whether young or old? Thanks to a generous endowment from the Bridge family with a local connection through an 18th Century goldsmith, the Trust is able to provide individual grants to those in the Valley in particular and rural Dorset more generally.

Examples of what we have given grants for include: university accommodation fees, vocational/practical courses and assistance with apprenticeships, but these are just the tip of the iceberg. In a good year we make grants totalling £80k.

For further ideas and to see if you meet our criteria please visit our website at: https://www.bridgeeducationaltrust.org.uk

Applications should be submitted through the website and Trustees meet in February, June and October to decide on grants. The deadline for applications is three weeks before these meetings and is displayed on the website so please check.

If you would like to discuss a possible application in advance of a submission please feel free to contact one of the local Trustees:

Nick Harland(01300 348272)
Hannah Murphy (01300 348564)
Richard Drewe	01305 594902)
Olivia Steven (01305 567095)
Nathan Ritson	07827 441490)

Piddle Valley Tennis Club

Welcoming new members for only – Family £39 per year

Single Adult £26 per year

Single Junior £12 per year

Visit - http://piddlevalleytennis.googlepages.com/, call 01300 348277

THE PIDDLE VALLEY NEWS & VIEWS

Sadly this is the last edition of the Piddle Valley News and Views magazine.

The good news is that we have developed a new website – http://www.piddlevalley.life – that will fill most of the gap left by the magazine closing, please see the later article with more details about the website. The old piddlevalley.info site will probably close early next year.

Many of us look forward to our free delivery of the Piddle Valley News and Views every two months. The local information and access to tried and tested local businesses published in every edition have become part of our daily lives. I am sure many of you, like me, reach for the magazine to look up a local business or trade we need, or, for example, to check where and when the church services are. The magazine has been with us in varying forms for 40 years. It has always been run by volunteers who put in a great deal of time and effort to organise and deliver each edition, with others in the background managing the advertising and finances.

We have tried over the last few months to recruit new volunteers to take over from those of us who have to step down from producing the magazine, but nobody has come forward. In any event, the costs of publishing the magazine have increased to £6,000 a year, which we struggle to meet from selling advertising space.

As ever, all good things must come to an end. Though, there is yet time for new volunteers to take over and to breathe new life into our magazine. But, in the absence of that we have had to make the decision to make this the last edition produced by the current team.

I would like to thank all of you who have helped in so many different ways to produce and deliver the magazine six times each year, your efforts have always been much appreciated by hundreds of people along the upper Piddle Valley.

Andrew Rennison, Kevin Quinn, June Dobbs



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Dave Abbott - Emergency Officer for Piddletrenthide

John Cox – Emergency Officer for Piddletrenthide, Clerks Terms and Conditions Working Group, Community Transport Group, Playing Field and School Committee, Transparency Code Working Group

Andy Howard – Playing Field and School Committee, Transparency Code Working Group

Lisa Murray - DAPTC representative

Jenny Sherwood – (Vice Chair) – Planning representative for Piddletrenthide, Emergency Officer for Plush, Defibrillator Working Group

David Latimer - Clerks Terms and Conditions Working Group

Paul Fox

Piddlehinton

Chris Ebdon (Chair)-Councillor Chris Ebdon, Piddlehinton Parish – Dorset Council ROI Member of the following:

Planning representative for Piddlehinton, Finance and Clerks Working Group, Defibrillator Working Group, Road Safety Working Group, Transparency and Policy Working Group.

Pam Lock

Emergency Officer for Piddlehinton, DAPTC Representative, Community Transport Group, Rights of Way Footpath Officer

Samantha Paulley

Parish Clerk

PIDDLE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings

The Piddle Valley Parish Council meets in Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall, normally on the last Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm. Meetings start with a "Democratic period", during which any local resident may personally raise direct to the Council any matter that 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.

Please also note that Minutes of meetings are published on their website, so if you do not wish your name to appear, please state this before beginning speaking.

The next scheduled PC meetings will be held in the Memorial Hall on – Tuesday 28th November: No December meeting.

Waste collection arrangements

Recycling & Food – Nov 14th, 28th (Plush 13th, 27th). Dec 12th, 28th. Jan 10th, 23rd (Plush 11th, 27th).

General Waste & Food – Nov 7th, 21st (Plush 6th, 20th). Dec 5th, 19th. Jan 4th, 16th, 30th (Plush 4th, 18th).

Postal collections

Collection times from all the post boxes in the Valley have changed.

	Monday-Friday	Saturday
Piddletrenthide Shop	09.00	07.00
White Lackington	09.00	07.00
Piddlehinton	09.00	07.00
Snowdrop Corner	09.00	07.00
Alton Pancras	09.00	07.00
Plush	09.00	07.00
Dorchester Sorting Office	18.00	18.00
Charlton Down PO	16.00	18.00
Puddletown PO	16.00	18.00
Cerne Abbas PO	16.00	18.00

Parish Council Website

The Piddle Valley Parish Council has its own dedicated website, following the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations. Their web address is now:

www.piddlevalley-pc.org.uk

Planning applications list

The new Planning Pages of https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/ are an easier and more accurate and up to date way of you keeping track of the status of any particular application.

Planning applications listed here are for general information only and cannot be guaranteed to be fully accurate, comprehensive or up-to date due to News & Views publishing timetable. The list was prepared on 13th October 2023.

Piddlehinton

Pending:

FUL/2023/00150 Carters Barn Farm, Piddlehinton. Construct revised parking area.

Granted:

HOU/2023/036992A Rectory Rd. – Erect 2 story extension CLE/2023/04058 Muston Manor Farm – erect Agricultural building.

Refused: None

Piddletrenthide

Pending:

FUL/2023/05594 Shoot Lodge Rock Pits Farm Plush Dorchester DT2 7RL – Extension to existing shoot lodge to provide 1no. unit of residential accommodation

HOU/2023/04959 Manor Gate Cottage Access Road To Harveys Farm Plush DT2 7RJ – Install ten roof mounted solar panels on detached garage/carport

FUL/2022/07394 Site barn adjacent to Lackington Mill White Lackington [AKA Hazel Barn] – Conversion of former agricultural barn to 1no. dwelling, replace existing attached outbuildings with single storey extensions & erection of detached double garage (amendments

to previously approved planning permission P/FUL/2021/01348

Granted:

LBC/2023/04331 The Granary, Kingrove Farm. Listed Building. Repoint building.

Refused: None

Alton Pancras

Pending: None Granted: None Refused: None

Andy Howard / 01300 348406

NEWS FROM THE MILLENNIUM GREEN

Hello all! The final touches have been made to our wonderful new dipping platform and it is now ready to use.

We just need to pack some soil around it which is one of the jobs on the list for our river clearance which we hold every autumn with our committee and an enthusiastic army of volunteers. The Green and our River belong to the whole village and it's lovely to have everyone turning out to help.

Our next event will be our Christmas Fair on Saturday 2nd December from 10-12.

We already have some amazing stalls booked, from beautiful art, scarves and jewellery through to home made stocking fillers and Christmas trees. Most of our stalls are local, incredibly talented artisans

and you could literally solve all your present

dilemmas in one morning!

We will hold our hugely popular annual Quiz and Puds in January/February alongside our AGM – details to follow.

Thank you for your support of this wonderful space and thanks to our volunteers.

Special thanks to Michael Strainge, Jaco Fouché and Dorchester Timber for their generosity, enabling us to improve the Green for our community.



The Piddle Valley Twinning presents:

DAMBUSTER TO DAMBUILDER

An illustrated talk by Jenny Elmes



Based on the letters and logbooks of the young pilot of 617 squadron whom Guy Gibson called "one of the most outstanding captains of No 5 group". John Hopgood's DFC medals were sold in 2015 by his family to raise money for a dam

in Uganda supplying fresh water to nearly 100,000 people.

The story of a brave man and his subsequent legacy, told by his niece.



November 3rd, 7 for 7:30pm Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall, DT2 7QF Tickets £8 from 01300 348670 or thornton742@btinternet.com

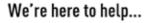
Based on Jenny's book, with a collection for Water Aid

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THE PIDDLE VALLEY TWINNING

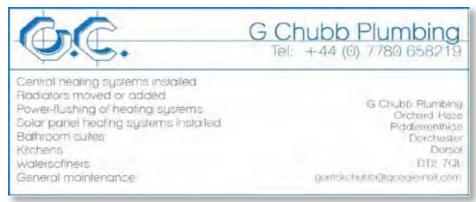
Our next event is a talk on November 3rd: DAMBUSTER TO DAM BUILDER – about a young WWII bomber pilot, who lost his life in the raid but whose legacy is improving the lives of thousands of people in Africa. It is in the Memorial Hall, Piddletrenthide, 7pm for 7.30. £8. All welcome, with a collection afterwards for Water Aid.

The illustrated talk is by Jenny Elmes, his niece. It promises to be both moving and informative. Please contact: thornton742@btinternet.com or 348670 for tickets.

A recent event was our Quiz, for members of Dorset's wide group of Twinning Associations and also local teams. We served a French Ploughman's and welcomed teams from Bridport, Sturminster Newton, Bradford Peverell, Shaftesbury, Dorchester and Buckland Newton as well as many Valley residents and Twinning members. Huge thanks to our team who worked so hard.

Warm thanks as well to Judith and Julian Wardlaw, who hosted our summer picnic this year in their garden and to Jane and John Preston, who invited us to walk with them and see some of the pretty lanes and cottages around their new home in Charminster. We followed this with a cream tea in their garden. The village, with its quiet paths, gently flowing river and historical gems nestles far from the main road and is well worth an afternoon's exploration.

We are in frequent touch with our friends in Longueville and look forward to welcoming them here again in September 2024. A small piece in the building of international friendship but as we have all found, very important. For more information, please contact Jo Thornton 348670





ANNUAL PIDDLE RIVER CLEARING

Every year a group of volunteers help to clear the river from Northover Close to the end of the football field. This helps alleviate any risk of flooding should we have intense rainfall. This year the clearance date is Saturday 11th November starting at 10 o'clock, meeting at the school bridge. If any riparian house owners south of the Piddle Inn have difficulty clearing their own stretch of river (as is their responsibility) please contact me, John Cox on 348454 and leave a message.

Help would be very much appreciated as many hands make light work! If you can join us please wear wellies and or waders and bring a garden rake.



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Gutter cleaning service

Why not get in touch for a free no obligation quote to have your gutters cleared we can empty up to 4 floors. We use a Gutter Vac from the safety of the ground, so no ladders are needed.

Other services we offer.

Soffit and fascia cleaning
Pressure washing for driveways/walls
Render cleaning
Grass cutting

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Also suitable as a venue for parties and events (or even for families to get together, share a meal and/or play games or indoor sports (for example table tennis).

The Hall may be hired by the hour (£7.50), with a reduced charge for $\frac{1}{2}$ day and full day hire. (Tables, chairs, tea urns, crockery and cutlery are included in Hall hire, and are also available for hire off-site).

To book Piddlehinton Village Hall, please call Pam on tel. 01300 348474, text 07919 199986 or email phyhcom@outlook.com

Upcoming events

Nov 5th Village hall breakfast 9-11.30am.

Nov 17th Pre-Christmas bingo - doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down

7pm.

Dec 10th Christmas lunch – numbers limited

Piddlehinton Village Hall breakfasts

Prices are very competitive! Come along. Enjoy a good breakfast and a sociable chat with friends! (Breakfasts are cooked to order. At busy times you may want to enjoy a coffee/tea whilst you wait!)

Note: There will be no PHVH Breakfast in December. In its place will be a Christmas Lunch

Piddlehinton Village Hall Christmas Lunch

(with all the trimmings)

Date: 10th DecemberPrice: £20 per head

• Reservations: Numbers are limited. Tickets will be allocated on a first come (pay), first served basis – however priority will be given to Piddlehinton residents. tel. 01305 848104 or email phyhcom@outlook.com

Piddlehinton Village Hall Table Tennis Club

Young or old, beginner or talented, serious or social tel. 01305 848104 or email phvhcom@outlook.com

PHVCH Macmillan coffee morning - report

Many thanks to all those of you who supported the Coffee Morning on Sept 16th. We hoped that you enjoyed the culinary delights. The event raised £173 on the day.

A big thank you to Piddlehinton fete – raising the roof! PHVHC would like to express their extreme gratitude to Piddlehinton Fete for the kind donation from the monies raised on Fete Day, and also for organising, manning and donating all monies raised at the recent Vintage Sale towards the upkeep of the Village Hall. The money raised will fund the replacement of the polycarbonate roof over the kitchen and storage areas.



PIDDLETRENTHIDE MEMORIAL HALL

Fit Moves Classes are designed to suit all ages and fitness levels with a mix of dance, cardio, conditioning and stretching. Come along on Tuesdays from 10.00-11.00am and have a go!
KFA Registered teacher/REps level 3 instructor.
Contact Sarah Mitchell 01258 817288

Gardens Club, Thursday Club and other events held at the Hall have more variable programme dates. For more information on these see under the relevant section in the newsletter.

To hire the hall, including well-equipped kitchen with large dishwasher, please contact the Bookings Officer: Ann Ridell Telephone 01300 348161 or email: ann.ridell@gmail.com

Kitchen hire for events You can hire the kitchen, with range cooker and generous worktop space, to prepare food for events elsewhere, like weddings and parties.

Tables, **chairs**, **tea urn and crockery** are also available to hire separately for outside events.

Piano hire

Toying with the idea of learning to play the piano ... but you don't own one? Or perhaps you'd like to give your child that chance?

Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall has a good quality piano available for practice. If you're interested, contact Ann Ridell:

Telephone 01300 348161 or email: ann.ridell@gmail.com

The piano has not been used for some time, so 6-8 weeks' notice would be needed to allow for two tunings and changing the castors' height, which is currently unsuitable for play.

New Secretary Needed Urgently

I am pleased to announce that we now have a new bookings clerk for the hall. Ann Ridell has volunteered to take on the job.

Any future bookings can be made through Ann. Telephone 01300 348161 or email ann.ridell@gmail.com

A big thank you to Wayne Butcher, our treasurer for being acting booking clerk for the past many months.

We are still looking for a secretary for the trustees so if you know anybody who might be interested please let me know. Thank you.

Ian Condon 01300 348250"

If you value the hall and what it provides and have bit of spare time and would like to know more please contact the Chairman Ian Condon on 01300 348250 / 07767 059761

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BENEFICE OF THE PIDDLE VALLEY, HILTON AND ANSTY, CHESELBOURNE AND MELCOMBE HORSEY

5th November	5th November – All Saints' Sunday			
9.30am	Holy Communion	Piddletrenthide		
11.00am	Family Service	Piddlehinton		
11.00am	Holy Communion	Hilton		
4.00pm	Evensong	Cheselbourne		
11th November	r	•		
7.00pm	Remembrance Service	Melcombe Horsey		
12th November	r – Remembrance Sunday			
9.30am	Remembrance Day Communion	Cheselbourne		
10.50am	Remembrance Day Service	Piddlehinton		
10.50am	Remembrance Day Service	Melcombe Bingham Village Green		
11.45am	Remembrance Day Service	Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall		
11.45am	Remembrance Day Service	Alton Pancras		
6.00pm	Remembrance Day Evensong	Hilton		
19th November – 2nd Sunday before Advent				
9.30am	Holy Communion	Alton Pancras		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Cheselbourne		
11.00am	Holy Communion	Piddlehinton		
11.00am	Mattins	Hilton		
26th November – Christ the King				
9.30am	Holy Communion	Melcombe Horsey		
11.00am	Holy Communion	Piddletrenthide		
11.30am	Lay-led Service	Hilton		
4.00pm	Evensong	Piddlehinton		

3rd December – 1st Sunday of Advent			
9.30am	Holy Communion	Alton Pancras	
11.00am	Holy Communion	Hilton	
11.00am	Toy Service	Piddlehinton	
11.00am	Mattins	Piddletrenthide	
4.00pm	Candlelit Advent Sunday Service	Cheselbourne	
10th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent			
9.30am	Holy Communion	Piddletrenthide	
11.00am	Holy Communion	Melcombe Horsey	
4.00pm	Evensong	Piddlehinton	
4.00pm	Evensong	Hilton	
17th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent			
9.30am	Holy Communion	Alton Pancras	
11.00am	Christmas Carol Service	Piddletrenthide	
6.00pm	Christmas Carol Service	Piddlehinton	
6.00pm	Christmas Carol Service	Milton Abbey	
21st December			
4.00pm	Christingle Service	Cheselbourne	
22nd December – Open-air Christmas Carol Service Alton Pancras			

24th December – 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Alton Pancras
9.30am	Holy Communion	Cheselbourne
5.00pm	Christingle Service	Piddletrenthide
5.30pm	Christingle Service	Hilton
6.30pm	First Communion of Christmas	Piddlehinton
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Hilton
25th December – Christmas Day		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Piddletrenthide
9.30am	Holy Communion	Alton Pancras
1030am	Christmas Day Service	Melcombe Horsey
11.00am	Holy Communion	Cheselbourne
31st December – 1st Sunday of Christmas		
11.00am	Benefice Holy Communion	Piddlehinton

EVENING CLASS – CHRISTMAS THEMED POTTERY

Tolpuddle Village Hall – 9th November 2023 at 7.30pm

Using a handbuilding grogged clay you might like to make a Christmas tree shaped tealight, decorations or elf door.

£25 includes kiln firing. Pieces will be returned 2-3weeks later.

Pre-booking only.

Please email creativeclayforall@yahoo.co.uk to book your space.

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FROM HEDGEHOGS TO HEAT PUMPS- THE DORSET COP SEPTEMBER 2023

On the morning of Saturday 7th September, I was one of a team of volunteers welcoming participants to the Corn Exchange in Dorchester for the first ever community- led Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP) to be held in the UK.

Organised jointly by Dorset Climate Action Network, Sustainable Dorset and Zero Carbon Dorset, more than 100 different organisations were represented; the aim was to bring diverse groups together to forge connections and support collective action.

The opening speaker set the tone – while what we face in terms of climate change is real and daunting, the fact that 200 people were gathering on one of the hottest days of the year in a building with no air conditioning!) to learn and commit to action together was a huge source of optimism. Laura Baldwin, Olympic sailor and climate communicator, shared how she now uses the strategies she developed to motivate her while she was training as an athlete, to engage people in taking action to increase our resilience in the face of climate change. Speaker after speaker demonstrated that we do know how to solve the challenges we face and that taking action in whatever way we can, is the very best antidote to anxiety.

That theme of taking positive action; to do what we can, ran through the whole day. From seven year olds who, when told by the council to whom they had written asking for a cycle path, that it would not be possible for up to 5 years, wrote back saying that wasn't good enough and requested an urgent meeting, to the enthusiasm of those who advocate for a circular economy (did you know the biggest centre for recycling car parts in the UK is based in Holton Heath?) to the pride of the mother in supporting her son who had just served a jail sentence for climate activism, voice after voice said "Together we can do this".

When Tobias Ellwood MP stood up to speak he faced angry voices. He responded by sharing his own frustration at the fact that he was the only MP present and that his government has recently committed to more licences for drilling for oil in the North Sea and doesn't yet have a sensible policy for onshore wind turbines.

Other sessions looked at nature recovery including The Great Big Dorset Hedge and the Dorset Hedgehog Project, carbon literacy toolkits for parish councils, active transport, how to start your own green group, sustainable fashion, the list went on and on.

Across Dorset individuals and groups are doing what they can to mitigate climate change and support nature recovery and in doing so are finding better ways to live.

In truth the things that we need to do have the potential make all our lives better not worse.

Eating more vegetables will make us healthier, walking, cycling and scootering will make us fitter, reusing, recycling and repairing save resources and money. Doing things together strengthens our communities and builds resilience.

The conference ended with the Declaration and with personal pledges. The Declaration is a commitment to act, advocate and lobby for action on climate change and environment across the county.

The Declaration can be viewed at https://dorsetcop.info and videos of the sessions are on https://www.youtube.com/@DorsetCOP/featured.

The pledge I made was to share news of the COP in the Piddle Valley and, inspired by Green Martinstown (https://greenmartinstown. org.uk), to begin a conversation over a cup of coffee with anyone living in the valley interested in any of the issues raised.

If not me, who?
If not now, when?

Sue Belgrave suebelgrave@btinternet.com 07960126774



RUPERT'S STORY

As some people may know, my beautiful cat Rupert was attacked by a dog last month resulting in dislocations and fractures in both his back legs leaving him with no use of his back legs. After the x-rays we also discovered his thigh joint had come out of his hip and desperately needed to be popped back in.

I was given two options by my vet. Either euthanasia or attempt very expensive life saving surgery to pop his thigh joint back into his hip and attach metal rods into his legs with a long intense recovery thereafter.

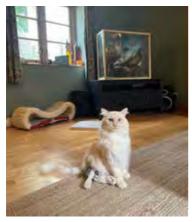
Anxious that the remaining of Rupert's insurance wouldn't cover this very expensive surgery, the village suggested I set up a GoFundMe to give Rupert another opportunity at life.

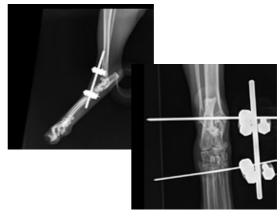
With everyone's very kind donations I managed to raise an incredible £885! I never expected to raise that much and it meant I could go ahead with his life saving surgery.

Rupert is recovering the best he possibly can. He's adapted incredibly well to the temporary cage around his leg which is holding the rods in place inside his leg. And he's walking like normal! I never thought I'd see him walk again. We have a long way to go yet until he can go outside again but I'm happy to wait as long as necessary (Rupert isn't so happy about it, haha)

I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone in the village who donated towards Rupert's surgery. Because of you all I still have my beautiful cat in my life. And I will be eternally grateful for that!

Eliza Beckett







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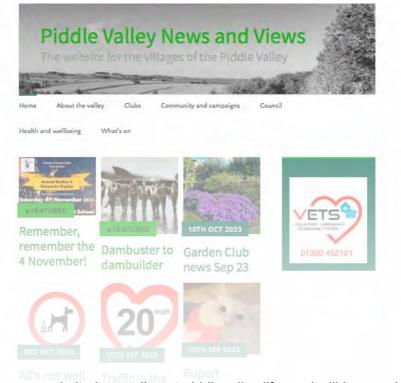






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The new website is now live at piddlevalley.life, and will be growing and developing over the next few months. Let's make this a living, breathing thing for all the valley to use.

Let us know:

- any events or amendments for the What's on page
 - reports and photos from your events
 - promotion for your upcoming events
 - about your interesting hobbies or pastimes
- your comments on any issues which affect us in the valley, such as traffic
 - your favourite recipes
 - anything else we need your support.

The legacy site at piddlevalley.info will remain for the time being, including the historical content: The Great War and The Story of Piddlehinton online book.

Send your content, pictures or short videos to editorpvnv@gmail.com Thanks, June Dobbs







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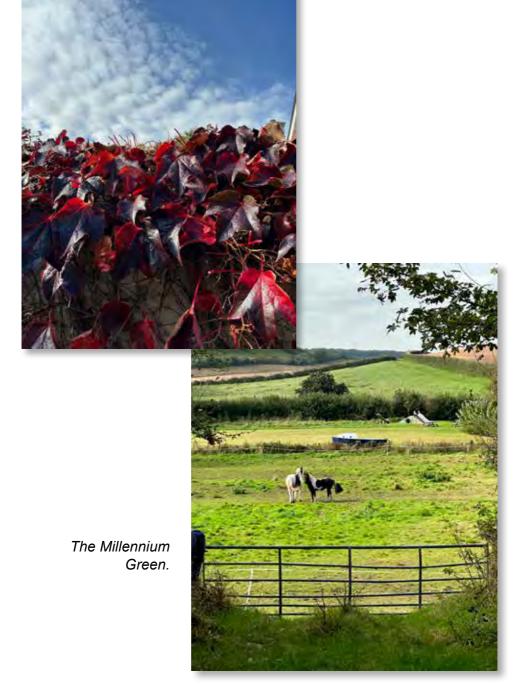
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PIDDLE VALLEY GARDENS CLUB

By Jasmine Pettals

Club meetings are held once a month, usually on the last Monday evening, in the Memorial Hall, Piddletrenthide.

Doors open for refreshments at 7.15pm and the talk begins at 7.30pm.

For further details please contact Sally Condon 01300 348250 or email riverpiddle2@btinternet.com or come along to a meeting.

New members and guests are most welcome

The Club is enjoying a busy Autumn schedule with members having a fun 'Evening with Apples' back in September, followed by a celebratory 'Harvest Supper' in early October and finishing the month at 'Tresco' with a delightful illustrated talk by Ian Condon, showcasing the wonderful gardens on the Isles of Scilly.

Forthcoming meetings:

27 November 2023 Talk by Gardens Group - My Seasonal

Shopping Basket

11 December 2023 Christmas social evening and buffet

29 January 2024 AGM with wine & cheese

A full programme of events for 2024 is being finalised and will be given to members very soon.

Summer Flower Show 2023

The Summer Flower Show was a great success, raising funds for the club and a providing a lovely social afternoon for the community. There were many new entrants to the annual competition, several of whom won individual classes. Tea and cakes proved very popular as well as the raffle. The show couldn't happen without members setting up and running the show, as well as clearing away afterwards. Many hands really did make light work, thank you to all.

There were 6 sections to the show, with multiple classes in each. The winners of each section with the best overall exhibit were:

Section 1	Vegetables, Salad Crops and Herbs Susan Chance
Section 2	Fruit Jenny Sherwood
Section 3	Flowers Susan Chance
Section 4	Photography lan Condon
Section 5	Home Produce Ann Jordan
Section 6	Handicrafts Jan Styles

In addition, the following awards were made:

Gay Hanbury Susan Chance Winner of The RHS Banksian Medal (see photo) Winner of The Sir Robert Williams Memorial

Trophy and Diploma (see photo)

In The Garden

The hours of daylight are reducing but activity in the garden is ramping up again with preparations for our spring gardens. Throughout the valley gardeners will be busy planting spring flowering bulbs, purchased through the club's bulk buying scheme. Some of these might make an appearance at the Spring Show 2024. Gardeners are always planning ahead.





Left: Receiving a prestigious award, Gay Hanbury with The RHS Banksian Medal. Right: Susan Chance, winner of The Sir Robert Williams Memorial Trophy and Diploma receiving her award from John Preston, President of the PV Gardens Club.

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THURSDAY CLUB

On a fine September day a group of Thursday Club members decamped to Dorset Falconry Park, nr Lewell where we were treated to an amazing flying display of birds of prey. Skilful handling encouraged these magnificent birds, some from far distant countries, to swoop and dive to squeals of delight from the audience of holiday makers and Dorset residents. The flying skills and characteristics of each species were vividly described and afterwards we visited the birds in their enclosures in the Park. Wonderful freshly-made sandwiches were served in the Autumn sunshine whilst we mulled over what we had just seen....a truly awe-inspiring day out and yet so close to home!

For our October meeting we retired to the comfort of the Memorial Hall where we were entertained by country craftsman, Coppice-worker John Sweeny, who has dedicated his life to working the hazel coppices of Ryewater Nursery (where we visited the butterflies in July) and Kites Hill near Bere Regis. He related how 'working the woods' gradually fell out of fashion after the First World War when many countrymen soldiers failed to return and gradually machinery took over the working of timber. John showed us the simple bill hook he uses to shape bean poles, clothes line posts and thatching spars, skilfully whittling them into shape. He described the way in which by working closely with the seasons, wildlife is able to live alongside the woodsman, citing shy dormice in particular who move into the stands of uncut hazel to breed. The life he described would not be unfamiliar to Thomas Hardy were he to visit those hazel woods today. He told us that an acre of Hazel coppice could support the life of a solitary woodsman. What a charmed life he is able to lead.

November 2nd we will meet again in the Hall to watch films of Old Dorset times, preceded by a short AGM.

December we will enjoy our Christmas lunch together, this year at the Halsey Arms, Pulham on Thursday Dec 7th @ 12.30. Members are requested to bring cash or cheque (made out to The Thursday Club) for £23.00 to cover the two- course lunch to the November meeting. Please bring this in an envelope with your name & menu* choices written on the front & give to Hilary.

* menu will be circulated to members shortly.

Thanks to everyone who has supported us this year and for anyone who's thinking about joining us: you'll receive a warm welcome at our

first meeting of 2024 on Thursday Feb 1st at 2.30 in the Memorial Hall Piddletrenthide. This will be followed by the usual Bring & Share Tea. Bridget Bowen (Entertainments Officer) (tel 075 86 37 76 75)

NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME AT IVY HOUSE GARDEN

The latest collection made from the sale of plants 'OFF MY JOLLY TROLLEY' parked in our driveway for July-Sept produced £328.00. Many thanks to all who bought our plants and helped send this donation on its way in support of a range of wonderful charities! Keep buying!

Bridget Bowen



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"COME FOLLOW A BAND"

The Piddle Valley players are a friendly, local amateur dramatic theatre troupe. We have been putting on musicals regularly since 2015. We hope to engage the services of an excellent drummer and bass player to complement our wonderful cast and piano-playing Musical Director. The costs involved are likely to be in the region of £900 to cover two musicians over four shows, band call and dress rehearsals.

We are now in need of a Band Patron / Patrons to ensure that our performances of "Me and My Girl" are represented as well as possible. Your financial support will ensure that the production is worthy of all the cast and crews efforts, and that future productions will be welcomed and supported.

This is a novel approach that mitigates the Players' financial exposure while ensuring that the sound is as full as can be within the confines of the venue.

The production is scheduled to take place between the 15th and 17th February 2024 at Buckland Newton Village Hall.

Please contact the group via their website email address tickets@ piddlevalleyplayers.co.uk if you feel you can support this call for help.

BIN ROY LEGACY TO PIDDLETRENTHIDE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has received a very generous legacy from Bin Roy, specifically for Piddletrenthide Parish. Bin had been a resident of Piddletrenthide for many years before his untimely death in 2021, and for those that didn't know him an orbituary to Bin was published in the July/August 2021 issue of PVN&V. The Parish Council would like to use this for something that would have been of particular relevance to Bin in his memory. If anyone has any ideas for a fitting project on which to spend some of this money the Parish Council would be grateful for any suggestions. Please contact any Parish Councillor or San Paulley the Parish Clerk (email piddlevalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk).

Chris Ebdon
Chair Piddle Valley Parish Council

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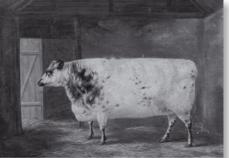




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TRAFFIC IN THE PIDDLE VALLEY Community Speedwatch Update

From October 2022 until August this year the Community Speedwatch Group had not been operating, largely due to a lack of volunteers. After some active recruiting, however, we now have seven new volunteers registered and trained, and have been out conducting Speedwatch sessions since August.

Throughout August and September the Piddle Valley Team have conducted 9 sessions, monitored over 1,800 vehicle movements and reported 42 vehicles for speeds of 35mph and above. This represents 2.3% of vehicles. Whilst it is encouraging that the number reported is down on 2022, where 3.4% of vehicles were reported at a higher threshold of 36mph, we know that the statistics can change quick quickly. Since Speedwatch was started in the Piddle Valley in 2014 an average of 3.4% of vehicles using our roads exceed the threshold set by Dorset Police for reporting.

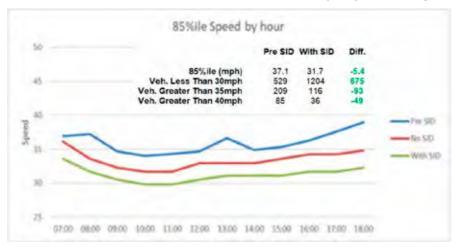
Across Dorset to the end of August Community Speedwatch Teams have monitored >54,000 vehicles and reported >1,500 incidents. Teams are occasionally supported by a member of the Dorset Roadsafe Team who issue offenders with a fixed penalty notice. In August alone this resulted in >200 fixed penalty notices.

Our other road safety aid is our Speed Indicator Device (SID) that is periodically deployed near the entry points to the villages on Rectory Road and Church Hill in Piddlehinton, on the northern entry to Piddletrenthide from Alton Pancras, and south of the school. This acts as a reminder to drivers exceeding the speed limit to slow down, and the majority do, which is supported by data from the Community SID Team on Dorset Council. The graph below shows the latest evaluation of SID effectiveness carried out in South Street, Fontmell Magna (July 2023). The graph shows the speeds before a SID programme, after the SID programme was established, with and without the SID in place.

If you witness any incidents, such as dangerous driving, road rage, speeding, careless or inconsiderate driving, you can report them through the Dorset Road Safe website.

https://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk/enforcement-operations/reporting-traffic-concerns/

Chris Ebdon CSW Co-ordinator



Responses to 20mph Policy in the Piddle Valley

The Parish Council received a very poor response to the article in the May/June edition of N&V asking residents for their opinion on the possibility of introducing a 20mph limit in the Piddle Valley, and from the sign-up sheets at the Alton Pancras and Piddlehinton fetes. Whilst the majority who responded were passionately in favour of a reduced speed limit, they represent <4% of the >500 households in the Parish Council area.

The greatest support was from Piddlehinton, but still only 5.9% of households in the village. Residents on Rectory Road showed the strongest support with responses from 28% of households in favour of a 20mph speed limit. However, Rectory Road would not fit the criteria as the minimum requirement for Dorset Council is 600m & 20 or more houses; Rectory road is ~290m.

After review of the responses at our August Meeting it was concluded that there is insufficient community support for the Parish Council to pursue the 20mph policy further and a motion was passed accordingly.

Chris Ebdon Chair Piddle Valley Parish Council

PIDDLEHINTON GYM

Piddlehinton Gym Transformation takes facilities to next level

Following the amazing community effort that raised ~£107.000 since Oct 2022, Jade Aden completed reroofing of Piddlehinton Gym in July 2023, removing the dilapidated, leaky asbestos roof. The extensive refurbishment (which was the first one since it was built in 1941). also delivered new sports lighting, redecorated main hall, new front door with electronic lock, further safety improvements and now highspeed internet with CCTV. Almost 600 hours of volunteer time made this project happen, a thanks to all involved!

An event was held on Monday 28th August 2023 with the Gym formally reopened by Jill Haynes from Dorset Council. The morning session focused on outlining the improvements and interacting with the sponsors. Thanks to Dorset Council, Piddle Valley Parish council. Downing Renewables & Infrastructure Trust and Wessex Internet for their attendance (and sponsorship). The afternoon was a multi-sports demonstration/have-ago, covering badminton, table-tennis, tennis, archery and remote control car racing.

Since the reopening, Gym bookings are up with club membership also expanded. A booking has just been made for







From the top: Jill Haynes
Formal Reopening
Paul Hayes Project
Presentation
Deep conversations on
sponsorship and renewables

Arbour House School, the first education organisation to use the Gym. In addition, Prototype Electronics (another major sponsor) have booked lunchtime exercise and social sessions to improve the wellbeing of their staff. A cross trainer, weights and rowing machine are being purchased to add to the existing spin bike, multi-trainer and electronic treadmill facilities already in place. We look forwards to welcoming even more clubs to use the facilities (at present Wednesday evenings and most daytimes are available).

The next stage of transformation is to progress the proposal from Dorset Council to transfer ownership of the property to the Piddlehinton Gym Charity so further grant funding opportunities open up (Net zero is in our sights). This along with the increased usage provides long term sustainability for our unique community-run rural (still just 10 min from Dorchester) sports facilities.

Contact piddlehintongym@gmail. com and follow us on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ PiddlehintonGym for more information







From the top: Archery demo/ have-a-go Junior Tennis demo/have-a-go Badminton demo/have-a-go

WHAT ON EARTH'S GOING ON AT PIDDLEHINTON GYM? More and more activities are taking place at Piddlehinton Gym following the £100k+ refurbishment in 2023. If you'd like to be more active and join one of the locally run associations, please get in touch

Monday Evenings 7:30pm-9:30pm Adam White on 07990 921084
Tuesday afternoons from 4pm-5:30pm & Caroline Gossage on 07887 856462
Tuesday Evenings 7:30pm-9.30pm Alan Simmonds on 07522939590
Wednesday afternoons from 1:30pm-2:30pm elaine.hurley@potens-education.co.uk
Wednesday afternoons from 4pm-6pm Caroline on 07887 856462
Thursday lunchtimes from 12pm-1:30pm Duane on 01300 348058
Thursday afternoon from 5:30pm-6:30pm john@prototypeelectronics.co.uk
Thursday evenings from 7pm-9pm j.marshall.aber@googlemail.com
Friday afternoon 1pm-3pm (fortnightly) badminton@dorchesteru3a.org.uk
Friday afternoons from 4pm-6pm Caroline Gossage on 07887 856462
Friday Eve 6pm to 10pm info@weymouthrc.co.uk
Saturday Morning 11:30am to 12:30am piddlehintongym@gmail.com
Sunday mornings from 10am to 1pm kennduffield@btinternet.com
Sunday afternoons from 2pm-4pm Mike Healy on 07748 440000
Storage Rob Sansom on 07703 584029
Prototype Electronics Parking Duane on 01300 348058

Looking for a venue to run a club or hold an event? Piddlehinton Gym could be the place for you; Main hall (~34m x

12m) with 2 Badminton courts on Sprung wooden floor (suitable for Netball, Zumba, 5-a-side soccer, Dancing, Training etc). Kitchen, Gym equipment, Meeting area, Table Tennis, Storage. Heating, Disabled changing rooms and toilets. Parking for ~40 cars. Charges from £8/hr email piddlehintongym@gmail.com Follow us at https://www.facebook.com/PiddlehintonGym/.









THE ALTON PANCRAS TRUST

The Alton Pancras Trust has been operational in its current format since 1989. It is registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 800977.

Trust Objectives

To promote such charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Alton Pancras in the county of Dorset and the immediate vicinity as the Trustees shall from time to time think fit.

The official wording of the Trust Deed (above) has been interpreted by the Trustees to cover grants for the following:

- · Small projects for the general benefit of the village of Alton Pancras.
- Personal grants or loans for educational or social purposes.
- · Alleviation of hardship following illness or injury.

Examples of recent grants provided include:

- Substantial contribution to the cost of the Millennium Bench at Burnt House Bottom, and to its subsequent maintenance.
- Matching village contributions towards the cost of railings along the river through the village.
- Supporting the Village Map and The Village History projects.
- Funding the establishment and ongoing costs of the Wildlife Area in the water meadow.
- Purchasing marquees and tents for use of the village, particularly for the annual village fete.
- Funding a permanent store for village assets including marquees and tents, fete equipment, and Church equipment.

The Trustees also agreed to buy each child living in the village, aged under 18 years old on 2 June 2022, a memento of the Platinum Jubilee.

Applications

Any resident of Alton Pancras may propose a use for Trust funds which are in keeping with the Alton Pancras Trust's defined objectives.

Any such proposals, and any applications for assistance from individuals, which may be made in confidence, can be made to any of

the Trustees, and all proposals and applications will be considered by the Board of Trustees at its next full meeting.

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"Wet wood contains moisture which creates smoke and harmful particulates when burnt. As well as being harmful to your health and the environment, this can damage your stove and chimney and is an inefficient way to heat your home"

Firewood and the law

- . Businesses selling firewood are now required by legislation to ensure that their product has been legally and sustainably sourced. This means that the timber has come from woodland that has a minimum of a felling licence agreed by the Forestry Commission.
- · Firewood, in both small retail bags and bulk loads, must have moisture content of less than 20% when sold. This must be accompanied by Woodsure's Ready to Burn logo, giving you the confidence that your wood fuel has 20% moisture content or less.
- . Please note that your logs will reabsorb moisture if not stored correctly.



rampishamtimberservices.com 01935 83060

Product	Price
Partially Seasoned Full Load	£370
Kiln Dried Quarter Load	£130
Kiln Dried Half Load	£225
Klin Oried Full Load	£420
Kindling	£6

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November 30th 6 days £749

This is the tour to put you in the mood for Christmas. We will be staying in the historical Old Town of Rüdeshein, visiting Koblenz and Wiesbaden Christmas markets and take the spectacular train journey along the River Rhein. For a fabulous finish to the tour, we will be visiting a Lindt Chocolate Factory Shop on our way back to Calais. Why not take this opportunity to get your unique Christmas presents to surprise the family or treat yourself to something extra special this festive period.

HAPPY NEW YEAR IN WALES

December 28th 6 days £795

There is no better way to see in the New Year than joining us fro a fabulous tour to South Wales. We have included full board throughout, a 4-course gala dinner and sherry reception on New Years Eve, festive entertainment throughout and even a visit to a pantomime. We will visit bristol, Cardiff, Maesteg, Mumbles and even a drive along the beautiful Glamorgan Heritage Coast. We will be staying by the lovely Seabank hotel in Porthcawl, right on the seafront.

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Puddletown Surgery

Tel 01305 848333 Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, DT2 8FY

NEWS FROM PUDDLETOWN SURGERY

I am writing to keep you up to date with events at Puddletown Surgery and share important health messages and updates. If there are any other matters you would like us to address, please let us know by ringing to speak to Clare Stickland, Practice Manager, on 01305 848333 or clare.stickland@dorsetgp.nhs.uk

Surgery and Dispensary Opening Times

Open morning surgery is available Monday to Friday 9.00 - 10.30. Please arrive before 10.30am. Please be aware that if one doctor is very busy you may be seen by a different doctor.

The surgery is open Monday to Friday 8.30 – 18.30

On the day telephone consultations with the doctors.
Open Surgery: where access to the doctors will be in order of arrival unless a clinical need dictates otherwise (arrive before 10.30am).
On the day telephone consultations with the doctors.
pre-bookable telephone and face to face appointments with the doctors.

Saturday 8.30-11.00

8.30-9.00 On the day telephone consultations with the doctors (Please note there is no open morning

surgery on a Saturday)

Better care for carers scheme

We have been working hard over the last year to identify and support

our carers. We made a submission to the Better Care for Carers Scheme, and I am delighted to report that we have been awarded the Gold award!

The panel summarised that they felt this was an exceptional submission way beyond what we were expecting in the first year of the scheme. 'You have evidenced an organisational culture where all staff are encouraged to 'think carer', and supporting the health of both the carer and the cared for is clearly a priority'. The panel were blown away by the sheer enthusiasm and passion for carer support that shone through the submission. The panel concluded that Puddletown Surgery have demonstrated evidence which confidently achieves the criteria set out in Gold. There are specific areas of development, most of which have already been identified by yourselves, in which if these are addressed, would mean you would be awarded Platinum level next year.

I attended the presentation evening with Kate our carers lead and Dr Burnham. We all felt incredibly proud of the team, and it was humbling to listen to the impact the care from the surgery has had on the carers who shared their stories. We are committed to continuing the carers work and the scheme because you see its value for our patients.



Books

We are once again accepting donations of good quality books to sell at the surgery. All monies raised are given to NeighbourCar and other local charities. We sell books for £1 each. There are some great titles on the shelf so come and have a look!

Foodbank

We continue to support the Puddletown Foodbank. Please drop any donations of suitable foods in the box just inside the main surgery doors. I know how much your donations are appreciated by local people.

Facebook page

Please like our Facebook page. We use this page for sharing information about health promotions, emergencies at the surgery such as power cuts or snow and sharing general information from the Primary Care Network.

Please do not use it to book appointments, request medication

or ask questions relating to your treatment. Ring 01305 84833 or use the eConsult facility on our website www. puddletownsurgery.co.uk for these enquiries.

We hope that you find the page useful, and we will endeavour to keep you informed using all the usual channels as well. To find our page search for Puddletown Surgery, look for our logo (below) and follow us.







CERNE ABBAS SURGERY November

Flu Vaccinations

Whilst our large vaccination clinics have now been completed, if you are eligible and not yet received yours, please contact the reception team to inquire about booking an appointment.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who assisted at these clinics.

Local Car Schemes

Do you struggle to get a lift to bring you to the surgery for appointments? There are local village car schemes available to help you at a heavily discounted rate.

CerneCar Nordcat: 01258 473154 (Lines open Monday-Friday 09:00-16:00)

Hazelbury Bryan Hillside Car Scheme: 07501 344084 or email hillsidecarscheme@gmail.com

Please give as much notice as possible and at least two working days.

Unwell Children - Advice

It can be extremely stressful when your child or grandchild is unwell.

The resources on the Healthier Together website have been developed in partnership between parents and healthcare professionals from across Dorset, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight.

You'll find clear information on common illnesses, including advice on what serious 'red-flag' signs to look out for, where to seek help if required, what you should do to keep your child comfortable and how long symptoms are likely to last.

Please visit www.what0-18.nhs.uk

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WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR IN THE NIGHT SKY: NOV/DEC

The chart below shows the whole night sky as it'll appear at 10pm on December 1st (south at the bottom, north at the top, directly overhead in the middle). Saturn, although still visible, will set in the east early in the evening, whilst Jupiter will remain easily the brightest object in the night sky (apart from the Moon, obviously).

The night of the 17/18th of November sees the peak of the Leonid meteor shower, with 10-15 meteors per hour. Then the Geminids, with a possible hourly rate of 150 meteors per hour, are one of the best meteor shower displays you can see all year – peaks on 14-15 December.



If you're interested in learning more about stargazing, why not check out my books (available from Amazon): A decade in stargazing, Demystifying Visual Astronomy and The WOW! list. (Kevin Quinn)

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