

THE VILLAGE BELL

December 2007

Vol 1 No 4

Diary Dates – next 2 months **Red = NEW!!**

End Nov Xmas Quiz £1.00 from Joan 860510

14th Dec Grown up's Social 8.00 bring your own drink + plate of food to share. Raffle for VH funds.

15th Dec Children's Christmas Party

19th Dec w/ The Oaks Puddington Christmas Party **Note change of date**

22nd Dec Carol Service 6.00 church.

Meet for Christmassy nibbles in Village Hall afterwards (bring some along to share)

26th Dec Boxing Day Walk meet 11.00 VH just round Henceford Littleborough triangle

31st Dec New Years Social, Xmas quiz results!

Skittles tournament. Bring your own drink + plate of food to share. 8.30 onwards!

8th Jan Parish Council Meeting 8.00

3rd Feb Circus Besercus

Details are believed to be correct, but see posters around the village for further details and to confirm dates!

Ongoing

Library Coffee Morning 10.00 onwards alternate Fridays. Come and join the library, change your books and have a chat. Debbie will order books for you, let you take out a generous number and no fines to pay!!
50p for coffee or tea and biscuits. Profits to Village Hall.

Computer Forum alternate Thursdays 1.30pm

Join the "Silver Surfers" and let Gerry help you with your problems.

Interesting and informative. £2.00 inc coffee and biscuits.

Updates

Village Hall – handles being fixed in the toilets for easier access, ramp has been constructed for disabled access and new door for kitchen.

The Magician's Daughter was great fun – not just for children - everybody was spellbound! Thanks to Victoria for organizing it and helpers who provided excellent refreshments £79.60 for the Village Hall funds!

Learn how to Prune Apple Trees

Adam who was involved with the Cider with Roadies project is going to give a 'hands on' demonstration of pruning (my orchard) afternoon of Sat 19th January followed by a 'wassail' in the evening. Cost will be about £10.00 for the demo. Places are limited.
Phone Chrissie 860505 if interested

For Sale

ladies bicycle new Christmas 2006. Too high for 5ft female! A real bargain at £50. 01884 860042
Drawing board. £50. 01884 860042 (Wilkins)

Puddington Jubilee Mugs still available £4.50
(bone china) John B 860980

Offers invited for the slate slabs that came out of the Village Hall contact Andy 860698

Christmas shopping with Bob take the bus to Exeter Wednesday or Friday and see above the hedges!! **No petrol - no car parking**
Departs Puddington Cross 9.25am
Leaves Exeter Bus Station 1.35pm
Fare £3.20 return - Free to pass holders

Neighbourhood Watch John B has some ultra violet pens to mark valuables. Contact him 860980 if you want to have/borrow one.

Remember to be vigilant and make a note of anything you're unhappy about. This is **our** village and we want it to be safe and crime free!

Our Neighbourhood Watch is based at Crediton Lisa has no longer our contact, but her replacement can still be contacted on 01363 772223 or 08452 7774449 (24 hours)

Over to you!!

Church Key

Owing to the number of burglaries it has been felt necessary to lock the Church overnight. If you would be prepared to 'take a turn' with the key, unlocking in the morning and locking again in the evening could you let Rose know 860532

Oil Deliveries

Oil prices have gone through the roof recently. We know that some companies are willing to make a reduction on the price if a 'multiple drop' is organized. Is anybody willing to take this on perhaps once a quarter?

Plastic milk bottle tops

Diana (The Oaks) is saving them for charity and would be happy to have them (washed please)!

This month's recipe

RICH TURKEY GRAVY

From Mike and Sandy at Rose Cottage

Ingredients:

Turkey Giblets
2-3 Tbsp olive oil
1 Large carrot peeled and chopped
4 Stems of celery chopped
1 Leek cleaned and chopped
1 Onion unpeeled and quartered
2 Bay leaves
1 Sprig of fresh Thyme (preferably) or rosemary
Salt and black peppercorn
2 Tbsp plain flour
Balsamic vinegar or oloroso sherry

In a saucepan, heat the oil and fry the chopped giblets and the vegetables until they colour.

This will take about 20 minutes and you will need to keep stirring to make sure nothing sticks.

When everything is a good dark colour, add 1 litre of cold water and bring to the boil.

Skimming off any scum, then add the herbs and 10 black peppercorns.

Simmer for 1 hour

Adding water as necessary

Then strain and boil to reduce to 1/2 litre.

Jim's Top Tips

Hello again,

Last month I told you about the old fashioned cure for mumps and thought you may like to know of a similar old cure for whooping cough. For this one the stricken child should be taken into a sheep-fold where the sheep be allowed to breathe on its face. As if this wasn't enough the poor child should then be laid on the spot of ground from which a sheep has just arisen, this has to be done daily for a week. Ah the good old days!

Well the festive season is upon us and may I wish you all a Happy Christmas and here are two seasonal tips.

If your alcoholic drink is too strong, especially when mixing the Christmas punch and

there's no room for any more mixer, then float long slivers of cucumber on it which will mellow it and take away the harsh taste.

My second tip is for those of you that like to feed the wild birds. To load those tubular feeders, cut the bottom off a plastic milk bottle and fill it with seed then you can unscrew the cap when you are ready to fill the feeder.

Jim.

† St Thomas a Beckett †

1st Sunday in month. Morning Worship

2nd " " Eucharist

3rd " " Morning service led by Worship Group.

All at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to all of these.

I have received the following message, but it was too late to go in the November Bell:-

Hillary, Keith and family would like to express their sincere thanks to each and everyone in the village for all their beautiful floral tributes and sentiments for dear Gretta.

Thank you so much for your kindness, thoughtfulness and friendship.

Gretta loved you all.

A Village Hall/Old Parsonage Production

E-mail chrisie@puddington-village.net

01884 860505

Merry Christmas
everybody!!