



PIMPERNE VILLAGE NEWS

Spring 2026



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Editor's Thoughts

Speaking and writing about the weather is generally a neutral topic, although this year with individuals being flooded it can become rather heated. The calmer weather of March has been most welcome, the ground is drying out and the water levels are dropping. The farmers are now ploughing and sowing, although later than usual. There are smiles on people's faces, especially when the sun shines. The days are not only getting longer but also gradually warmer, although that doesn't mean that we could still have a cold snap!

There is much happening over the coming months in Pimperne and our thanks go out to Jackie Vacher for all the activities she organises, the big events being Gardens Open and the Pimperne Village Fete, but don't forget the Pimperne Church fete as well and the other activities in the village., all details can be found in the Newsletter.

I would also ask that you nominate a parishioner as our community champion 2026, nomination form on the back cover and come along to the Annual Parish Meeting on 29th April.

Parish Council Notes

COUNCIL UPDATE

Further to my last report, the former school field has been named 'Pimperne Community Field.' Through the good offices of Debbie Streeter proposed design was produced which incorporated many of the suggestions received from the open consultation held last year with attendance by many parishioners and the Dorset Wildlife Trust. Cllr Martin Strange arranged for the supply of 420 saplings which were planted by our volunteers to the boundaries and copse areas in accordance with the design proposal. Admirable publicity for our planting initiative was gained by front page exposure in the 2nd January edition of the New Blackmore Vale Magazine. Cllr

Strange is expecting delivery of further saplings and our Clerk has obtained the offer of a grant from FIPL for further tree planting subject to confirmation from Dorset Council for the trees to be planted. Finance for the community orchard and wildflower areas is to be made available from Section 106 developer contributions relevant to the Home Field dwellings.

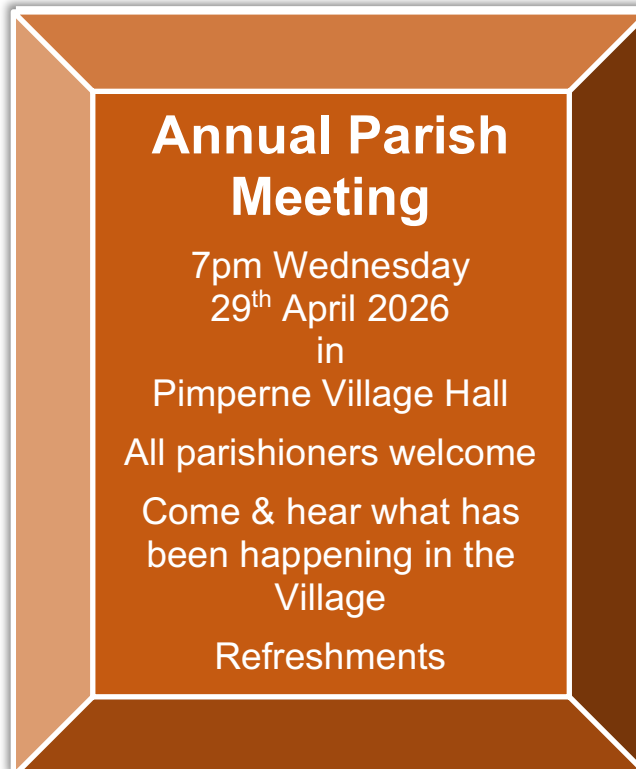
The remaining amounts from the Section106 contributions have been allocated to allow the

work required at the Junior Play Area and Multiplay Area to proceed. The work includes replacement fence, play equipment and play surfacing to the Junior Play Area and the completion of the basketball court and play surfacing to the Multiplay Area.

After a considerable wait Dorset Council installed new road signage and white gates to the A354 at Letton and both ends of the village. The new sign denotes that Letton is within the parish of Pimperne with the whole of the parish within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.

The recent flooding in the village and on the A354 caused a number of problems to residents. Serious concern was registered at the February Parish Council meeting with

the result that a public meeting has been convened for 6.30pm 19th March at Pimperne Village Hall. Our M.P., Simon Hoare, has kindly agreed to host the meeting with representatives of Dorset Council, Wessex Water and the Environmental Agency invited to attend the meeting to provide answers to the many questions asked by residents including the escape of sewage from manholes and the



Annual Parish Meeting
7pm Wednesday
29th April 2026
in
Pimperne Village Hall
All parishioners welcome
Come & hear what has
been happening in the
Village
Refreshments

inadequacy of the bridge over the A354 to accept the enhanced flow of water.

The culvert beneath the public footpath adjacent to Church Lodge in Church Road collapsed necessitating extensive repair by Dorset Council. The occurrence caused exceptional concern to the resident with barriers, cones and tape supplied from the Village Hall prior to the appearance of Dorset Council operatives to carry out the investigation and repair work.

Our Vice Chairman, Cllr John Tanner was especially active in dealing with flooding problems, contacting Wessex Water to attend to sewage emergence from manholes in Church Road. Cllr Tanner placed the flood warning signs on the A354 with Dorset Council positioning road closed notices. Unfortunately, road users took very little notice of the notices. Cllr Tanner welcomed the assistance given by Alan Lukins in transporting sand and sandbags and collecting sand from Blandford at short notice. The Parish Council warmly thanks Alan Lukins for his willing help to Cllr Tanner.

Our Communities Officer, Cllr Carole Beckford has continued with her duties including cleaning the bus shelter on the A354 and regular inspections of both play areas. We are indebted to Mr R King for carrying out the Council's maintenance work as and when required.

Our Highways and Rights of Way Officer, Cllr Antony Argles regularly reports road defects such as potholes and was recently successful in activating the Dorset Rangers to repair the stile to the footpath adjacent to 4 Bridge View Cottages.

Cllr Steve O'Connell attends to all matters relating to our membership of the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils. Steve updates the Council on the current planning agenda including changes in national policy.

The Parish Council is very pleased to view the success of Pimperne Sports Society in operating the numerous sports teams on the Priory Field. Assistance in maintaining the Sports Pavilion will be provided by agreement with the Parish Council.

We are indebted to the hard work devoted by Cllr Martin Richley in the collation, presentation and production of Pimperne Village News. In addition, Martin's role as Transport Officer is carried out with accuracy and enthusiasm.

Our Parish Clerk, Mrs Jan O'Connell maintained high administrative standards for the Parish Council with praise due for her

commitment in parish duties especially long-term involvements that require endless patience.

Nominations for Pimperne's Community Champion for 2026 are welcomed. The nomination form is on the back page of this edition of Pimperne Village News, replies to our Parish Clerk by 14th April please.

Parish Council meetings are normally held at 7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month in Pimperne Village Hall. Opportunity is provided through the democratic session for residents to voice matters of local interest.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 29th April 2026 at Pimperne Village Hall. There will be reports and updates from the Parish Council and our Dorset Councillor, Cllr Sherry Jespersen. Parishioners are invited to attend; there will be questions from the floor and refreshments provided on conclusion of the meeting.

Cllr Peter Slocombe
Chairman
01258 453419 / 07979 592288
ps92220@yahoo.co.uk



FLOOD REPORT

Brief resume of recent events.

Sewerage – At approx. 8am on the first morning of the emergence of sewerage from the manholes Wessex Water was contacted and as is their obligation arrived within 2 hours. As we have a history of reporting such events a file was consulted and the company knew exactly both the situation and the truth of the situation. (Wessex Water have had many calls that were not substantial i.e. needing operatives to visit} Testing has taken place every day to determine the level of pollution and retesting to the Environment Agency has taken place, the levels of pollution were extremely low due to the degree of ground water, rain water and infiltration into private pipes before entering the communal system.



I was told if the ingress of water did not take place there would be no outflow of sewerage because the amount of effluent does not vary from Summer to Winter, no emergence of sewerage takes place in Summer. If the

sewerage network was not transporting flood water away from the village, flooding may well be increased - so logic would indicate.

Flooding – This has been the third bad flood since the year 2000. Church Road became a river as did for a while the A354.

Water reached the top of the arch of the bridge over the A354 and emerged from the stream to convert the nearby path into another stream and hence across the A354.

I placed my flood warning sign in the appropriate place to warn motorists and called Dorset Council to alert them of the situation. Dorset Council placed road closed signs but very few motorists and lorry drivers took any notice. A fellow villager and I called the police and we were both informed this was none of their business and to contact Dorset Council. An accident occurred on the A354 when a manhole cover became dislodged due to pressure of water causing a van to have an accident. A one lane system was in place for several days.

Sandbags were supplied to three households in the village; a bag of sand and sandbags was deposited at the end of Church Road and an alert given as to location, and direction to call me should more sandbags be required. The village owes Mr Allan Lukins much grateful thanks for his wonderful assistance transporting sand and sandbags including driving into Blandford to collect an additional bag of sand at very short notice.

Many houses I believe suffered from toilets that would not flush, other drainage difficulties and gardens flooded. One house at least suffered from ground water emerging through the floorboards.

Residents might consider the installation of pumps: mine were working 24/7 for several days and I consider probably prevented water ingress.

From my discussions with both Wessex Water staff etc. and locals there needs to be an holistic approach to solving our situation, otherwise action on one aspect will worsen another.

Cllr John Tanner
Flood Warden, Parish Council
07544 195407
jjtanners@hotmail.com

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

As you are all aware, Pimperne suffered major flooding earlier this year causing considerable inconvenience. It also led to some damage to the road surface and potholes. Dorset Highways will no doubt complete repairs eventually but there is a considerable backlog across the county. On the positive side, white gates have been positioned at either end of the village. They won't solve all speeding problems but are another weapon in our armoury.

The village footpaths became quite muddy, a sign that they are much used and enjoyed. One or two stiles have been repaired. Hopefully we will now have a good spring/summer. Please continue to clean up after your dog.

Any highway or footpath problems can be reported using the Dorset Highways website or by contacting me

Cllr Antony Argles,
Highways Officer & Rights of Way Officer
01258-455513
aeargles@hotmail.co.uk

PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

While agreement on the position of the replacement bus stops has been reached, we are still awaiting Dorset Council to install the posts and the road yellow bus box. This was promised by July 2025 and we are still waiting despite reminding them frequently.

The 'Price Cap' of £3 for most routes is now until at least March 2027. It reduces costs for all current bus passengers and is a fantastic opportunity to explore the bus network of Dorset.....and elsewhere.

If you have any queries about local public transport services, please contact:

Cllr Martin Richley,
Transport Officer, Parish Council
07540 777707
m.richley@me.com

TREE OFFICERS REPORT

On 30th November 2025 a team of volunteers planted 420 saplings, provided for free from The Woodland Trust, in the Community Field. Some of the team even found themselves on the front page of The Blackmore Vale Magazine!



Another 105 saplings have now arrived and are due to be planted on Sunday 15th March.

We will also be planting trees donated by villagers and we are indebted to The Big Yellow Bus Garden Project for their donation of trees.

The saplings will be used to restore hedging where it has been degraded and to make new hedging for the benefit of both humans and wildlife.

Cllr Martin Strange
Tree Warden, Parish Council
m.strange61@gmail.com

PIMPERNE'S DEFIBRILLATOR or AEDs

The Village has two Defibrillators, AEDs, one in the refurbished telephone box in Church Road and the other at the Village Hall. When the Ambulance Service is contacted, if they suspect a heart attack then they will only give the location of the defibrillator if the caller is within 200 metres of its location. In the event of a suspected cardiac arrest, you should do the following:



Dial 999 or 112 and ask for the ambulance service. Give them the location of the casualty including postcode, they will also accept *what3words* (W3W) if you have the app. They will direct you to the nearest defibrillator and give you the instructions for opening the storage cabinet.



shock.

If you can get the defibrillator and take it to the casualty do so.

When the defibrillator is switched on, verbal instructions will be given. You cannot hurt anybody by using a defibrillator. The unit cannot deliver a shock unless the casualty needs a

After the incident, regardless of whether the unit was used or not, PLEASE replace the unit and use one of the phone numbers in/by/near the Defibrillator and tell us, so that we can check and ready the unit to enable it to be used again and the ambulance service can be informed that it is ready, or not, for further use.

Included in each cabinet within a clear plastic bag inside the defibrillator case, there are:

- Scissors (for cutting away the patient's clothing),
- a mini towel (for removing sweat from the patient so the pads stick),
- a disposable razor (for shaving excess chest hair so the pads stick)
- and a protective face shield (for safer rescue breaths)

If you live in Pimperne and are interested in receiving free training, please contact the Parish Council at: pimperne@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

NEW COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESSES

The Parish Council is having new email addresses these will finish with @pimperne.org.uk and will be available shortly.



Community News

PIMPERNE SOCIAL CLUB – formerly the Pimperne Village Hall Coffee Club.

We have changed our name from Coffee Morning to Pimperne Social Club. In January £115-75 plus £100-00 from the Friday Coffee Club was raised for our local youth information organisation that for decades has been helping young people. In February, Margaret Green the well-known animal rescue charity received £141-11 plus & £100-00 from the Friday Coffee Club. These events will be running between 10-12 in Pimperne Village Hall on every third Saturday of the month except in March when it will be the fourth Saturday. Remember entrance is only £1-00 and includes tea/coffee and biscuits!

For further details including booking a selling table email John and Joyce (Tanner) on

jjtanners@hotmail.com

THE VILLAGE TOMMY

Following the request for suggestions for the location of the village Tommy, it has been sited on the green outside the church. Further work is planned to the immediate area surrounding the Tommy.



PIMPERNE POSTAL SERVICES

The Outreach Postal Service to the Village Hall, has unfortunately ceased. Our Dorset Councillor and Parish Council are trying to find another post office to provide an outreach service. In the meantime, the nearest Post Office Counter Service is at the Tabernacle, Blandford Forum. There are other post offices at Child Okeford and Iwerne Minister

ST PETERS CHURCH

Despite St Peter's Church still being without an incumbent for nearly two years, the size of the congregation has been maintained and has in fact increased slightly by welcoming newcomers to our Village. This is undoubtedly due to certain members of our Church family working very hard to ensure that we maintain three services each month, and that other benefits, such as baptisms, weddings and funerals are still carried out in a manner that is expected.

Links with our village school remain strong, with, amongst other things, children attending a Remembrance service and a Lantern Parade, and the introduction of the reception class to our Church. We are grateful to our two Church School governors and the Head Teacher for maintaining these strong connections.

Once again, Carols Round the Tree was blighted by the weather, although this did not quell the enthusiastic crowd that came into the Church. All enjoyed the music provided by the Stour Valley Band and the mulled wine and mince pies served halfway through the proceedings. Our annual Crib Service held on Christmas Eve was a great success and well attended. Our thanks go to all those involved in its organization and to all who took part.

Services

The regular service times at St Peter's are:

Sunday	Time	Service
1 st	9:15	Morning Service
2 nd	10:30	Holy communion
3 rd	–	No service
4 th	9:15	Holy Communion
5 th	10:00	Benefice Service*

*The Benefice Service rotates around the Benefice, so please keep an eye on the Benefice website and Pews News for updates.

Festival Service

- **Easter Day** – 5th April 2025
Easter Communion @ 9:15am

Private Prayer

The Church is open for private prayer daily between 9 am and 4 pm.

Concerts

A number of concerts have been planned all start at 7:15pm as follows:

- 22 March, Jurassic Brass at Durweston
- 19 April, Dorset Guitar Society at Durweston
- 17 May, Vox Serenata (Vocal Quartet) at Stourpaine



- 14 Jun, Lesley Dinham – Mezzo Soprano at Pimperne

Pews News

Pews News is published weekly and contains the list of services across the Benefice. It can be viewed on 'A Church Near You' Website or downloaded from the Benefice Website: <http://www.psdbenefice.org.uk>

Pimperne Church Fete Sat 25th July 2-5pm in the Churchyard

Including....

Splat the Rat!

Knitted Toys

Tin Can Alley

Pin Tail on Donkey

Tombola

Craft Stalls

Raffle!

Veterans for Dogs

Cream Teas

Bar

Ice Cream

BBQ

Face Painting

WW2 Jeeps
on Display
Similar to these...!

Church Flowers

..and more!

All proceeds towards repairs
to St Peter's Church



More details?
Lt Col Simon Copley-Smith REME
07768 728667

Church Fete 2007 Rev C gpx

Maintenance and upkeep

In late November 2025, a new Quinquennial report was carried out and although this has yet to be received, verbal indications from the surveyor suggest that the roof does not need the extensive repairs as previously thought. This was reinforced by the fact that during the long periods of inclement weather in both January and February, no leaks were found inside the Church. However, the Church roof is still in need of some repair and monies already raised will go towards funding this. The PCC has therefore decided to await the actual report before proceeding further.

The PCC is looking into replacing the paths in the churchyard and to this effect estimates are being obtained, so that the work can be carried out as soon as feasible.

Carole Beckford 07979 524284
John Beckford 01258 721318

ST PETER'S CHURCH FLOWER GROUP

Calling all flower lovers & arrangers!

Pimperne Flower Group is a very small group of ladies who arrange flowers every week to keep Pimperne church looking welcoming and cared for and for the congregation to enjoy. We have an excellent arrangement with the 'Big Yellow Bus' at Shillingstone, a Community Project. We purchase all our beautiful flowers each week, plus for weddings and funerals etc. If you would like to help in any way, please contact us



Janet Parker
01258 455187

janetmparker@btinternet.com
or
Jane Stockdale
janestockdale950@btinternet.com

HIRE OF THE RYLAND ROOM, ST. PETER'S

This warm and welcoming room is available to hire on an ad hoc basis or as block bookings which attract a discount. Ideal for rehearsals, meetings or smaller gatherings, it can hold up to 25 maximum for a sit-down meal. The room has its own kitchen and toilet facilities. Please contact me for additional information.

Mary Newnham on 455331

PIMPERNE SPORTS SOCIETY

The football season is in full swing and even though the weather hasn't been on our side, the rain certainly hasn't dampened the children's spirits.

I'm Andy, the Club Chair and Co-Founder of Pimperne Football Club. We are based at the Sports Pavilion in Pimperne and are a family-run club that began in 2023. We now have over 30 boys and girls who regularly train and play across two U11 teams and an U8s team.

Our mission is simple: to encourage children to reduce screen time and embrace outdoor activities through football. Our club ethos, *TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More*, is at the heart of everything we do. We aim to build teamwork, discipline and camaraderie in a fun and supportive environment.

The children are having a great season with a few victories under their belts. More importantly, we focus on teaching



values they can use both in victory and in defeat. We encourage our players to challenge themselves and be the best they can be, not only for themselves, but also for their teammates.

This season marks the launch of our new men's football team. The players are showing fantastic commitment, and we're excited to see the team develop. This is a great pathway for our younger players to progress into senior football.

Off the pitch, our fundraising efforts continue as we work towards refurbishing the Pavilion, improving the pitch and purchasing new equipment. These upgrades will help create a better environment for the Club, as well as for local teams and families who use the facilities year-round. In the future, we hope the Pavilion will serve as a community space available for meetings and social events.

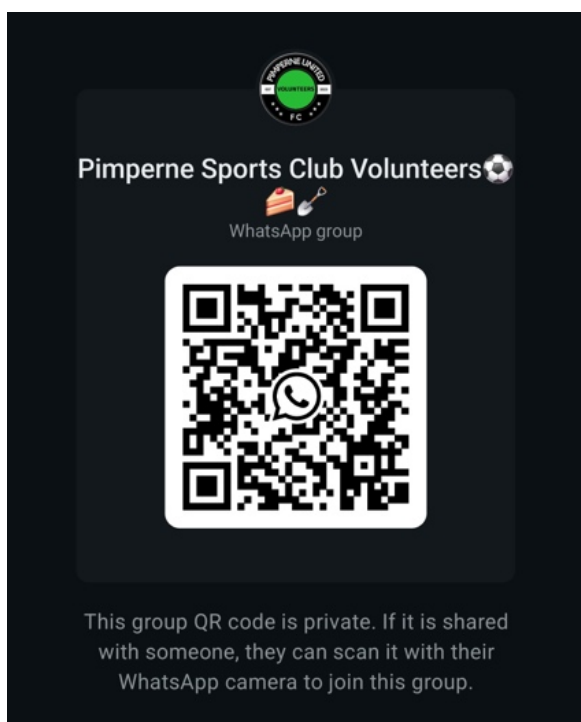
We are very lucky to have so many wonderful sponsors, and we would like to thank them all for their support. Huge thanks to BW Construction & Groundworks Ltd, The Anvil Inn, Amberley Labels, Savills, and Peter Braithwaite Screeding – together they have provided us with kits, goals and training equipment. Thank you also to Pimperne Parish Council and Blandford Rotary Club for all their support.

We would also like to thank Jackie Vacher for her ongoing support of the Club. Last year, Jackie organised a bingo night at the village hall which raised over £800, and she was also instrumental in setting up the local Dorset & West Pastfinders dig weekend, donating an incredible £2,685 to the club. Every penny raised goes directly back into the Club to buy essential equipment and contribute to our refurbishment fund.

We couldn't run the Club on our own. We have a dedicated team of volunteers made up of parents, guardians and families, and we are incredibly grateful to them. As the Club grows, we are looking for a little more help:

- **Nutmegs Tuck Shop Volunteers** – We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help serve hot and cold drinks and snacks to our players, families and spectators. This would be for just a few hours on a Saturday and/or Sunday from 9 – 11am. Training will be provided.
- **Maintenance Volunteer** – Do you have a few hours a month to help with the upkeep of the Pavilion and the pitch? We are looking for a volunteer to become a member of our committee either to be hands on or work with our existing contractors.

If you are interested in helping us out as a volunteer, please do get in touch. We have a WhatsApp group set up for our volunteers to chat about projects coming up. To join, simply scan the QR code below and say hello and we can add you to the group.



We are also looking for new players for our U11 teams. If your child is aged 10/11 (year 6) and is interested in joining us, please get in contact.

Feel free to pop to Nutmegs for a coffee and to watch one of our matches. If you're on Instagram, follow us @pimperneyouthfc for all the latest games fixtures otherwise we play on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Feel free to email me for kick off times.

Lastly, thank you. We love being part of the Pimperne community and are so appreciative of all the help and support you have shown us. If you would like to chat to me, please feel free to drop me an email on the email address below or pop to the club next time you are passing..

Andy Jeffery
Pimperne Youth FC
Club Chairman/Head Coach
pimperneyouthfc@gmail.com

PIMPERNE VILLAGE HALL

The hall is now 34 years old and the Committee ensures that maintenance and renewal work is carried out. Updating work to the Committee Room has recently been carried out by two new Committee members, Tamsin Holloway and Becki Thomas. All certificates have been re-framed and fixed to one wall, with Pimperne pictures to other walls. The notice board has been re-covered with cork tiles to assist in fixing posters etc. Jackie Vacher assisted with the complete re-organisation of the store cupboard and other work.

New seating and bookcases have been purchased and fixed. The Committee is indebted

to Tamsin, Becki and Jackie for their commitment to the wellbeing of the hall.

The Committee thanks Mr & Mrs John Box for the gift of a high bookcase to the hall.

Thanks are due to Tamsin and Becki for clearing the overgrown shrubs at the front of the hall.

Thanks to Tamsin, the new Pimperne Village Hall website is "up and running."

The Committee hope to introduce the "Hallmaster" system for booking and invoices in the near future.

We are very disappointed the new owners of Child Okeford Post Office will not operate the Friday Outreach Post Office at Pimperne Village Hall. The last visit of the Post Office is scheduled for Friday 13th March 2026. Approaches to alternative post offices to operate a Pimperne outreach (such as Iwerne Minster, Fontmell Magna, Cerne Abbas) will be attempted.

The volunteers have decided that the Friday Coffee Club will carry on without the Post Office as it is a very popular regular happening at the Village Hall.

The many events organised by Jackie Vacher including bingo, quiz nights, talent show, craft fair etc are extremely popular and well attended as is our monthly Saturday Social Club Coffee morning organised by John & Joyce Tanner with assistance by Mary, Julia, Lennie, Jill, Elinor, Helen, Carol and many other supporters.

The Committee thanks our Secretary, Mrs Debby Mackenzie and our Treasurer, Mr John Beckford for their continued hard work and commitment.

All persons involved with the administration of the hall are unpaid volunteers whose long-term enthusiasm is to be congratulated.

Bookings for the hall may be made by contacting the writer – details as below.

Peter Slocombe
Pimperne Village Hall Committee
01258 453419/07979 592298
Email – ps92220@yahoo.co.uk

PIMPERNE GYM - R LUKINS FITNESS

R Lukins Fitness is somewhere local you can feel strong, supported, and welcome.



More than just a gym, it's a friendly training space, with expert coaching, small-group sessions, and a focus on building real, practical strength.

With over 35 classes on offer a week including 'HIIT, Pilates, Yoga, Strength and Conditioning and Les Mills classes' there is something for everyone.

We have an onsite Chiropractor and Physiotherapist - please pop in to find out more information, otherwise visit our website at: www.rlukinfitness.co.uk



Our Strength & Conditioning facility FORGE is hosting a Charity Backyard Ultra for CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably) on June 6th, which will require participants in teams of 3 to complete a 5km run on the hour every hour for 24 hours!

Please get in touch if this is something you would be interested in, or would like to support'.

or email: www.rlukinsfitness.co.uk
info@rlukinsfitness.co.uk

You can also follow us on social media:

Instagram: @r_lukins_fitness
 Facebook: @rlukinsfitness

HOMEWATCH AND SPEEDWATCH

The rules regarding the undertaking of Speedwatch sessions are quite rigorous. Whereas the police speed monitoring vans are allowed to operate in all weathers and light conditions (beware: they do have night sights!), we are not allowed to operate if it is raining or if the road surface is wet. I hope you can therefore understand from those rules why you have not seen us about so far this year. Hopefully, once we pick up some better weather, we can resume our sessions.

It is that time of year when we start to relax after the winter and have the house open a bit more. But burglars are still about and I therefore offer this formal advice from the authorities:

- Many insurance companies are now recommending that houses should be fitted with doorbell cameras or even more sophisticated CCTV systems. This might be a significant financial outgoing but might save money in the long term.
- Similarly, the authorities suggest that houses should have burglar alarms fitted, not only to alert them but even the presence of a basic system can deter thieves.
- Do not hide your house away behind high walls or hedges. It provides easy cover for a thief. But have high fencing or hedging at the sides to make access more difficult.
- Improve your outside lighting as better visibility will deter a thief.
- Use internal timer switches as this will make burglars less confident that a property is vacant when you are out.
- Mark valuables with a UV pen.

- Keep outdoor spaces secure – garages and sheds especially - and do not leave out tools that burglars could use to aid access.
- Let your neighbours know if you are going to be away so that they can keep an eye open for you.

I had thought about boring you all with a report on police reorganisation, but it is far too early in the process to say anything useful. Suffice to say, if the current proposals go through, Dorset is likely to be amalgamated with other forces – my guess would be to join with Somerset and Devon and Cornwall – but I have no formal information and am simply speculating on the basis of the way that support to Reserve Forces of the Army, Navy and RAF was reorganised (with which I was closely involved) which went from 45 county associations to 13 regional bodies. If that were to be the case, then Wiltshire and Gloucestershire would be added into the mix. But much water has to pass under the bridge before then!

Derek Andrews
 Homewatch Co-ordinator
 07702 267072

CRANBORNE CHASE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE



Cranborne Chase National Landscape

Most of Pimperne lies within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape (CCNL) area forming part of its southern boundary and they funded the new signs at the entry to the village. CCNL are a statutory consultee for all planning applications in the National Landscape area and bordering it. When commenting on applications their aim is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape and as an International Dark Sky Reserve maintain compliance with DarkSky International's requirements to reduce the upward emission of light to retain this prestigious status

For more information please visit their website: www.cranbornechase.org.uk.

THE WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION



Meetings always the first Saturday of the month at 2:30pm in the village hall, except for July and August when our dedicated volunteers take a well-earned summer break. Future Meetings are:

- 4th April – 'Insider GHQ' The Gallipoli Diary of Orlo Wilians
- 2nd May – 'Death & Service' The CWGC War Graves of Dorset
- 6 June.– Stanley Hollos VC
- 5th September 'Hospital Blues'

- 3rd October – Royal Marines in WW1

Any queries can be sent to cambrai.rtr@gmail.com where either our secretary or I will reply. We hope to see you at one our meetings soon.

*Martin Willoughby
Chairman
Wessex Branch WFA
Your local WW1 historical society
Branch registered charity no. 1124787*

LO'S COFFEE SHOP

LO's Coffee Shop will be turning 3 this May and we are so grateful for your support. With the warmer months ahead, we've added more home baking, Laura's back in her apron and some new menu items to enjoy.



The gym is busier than ever and we're keeping up with plenty of fresh activities. Don't miss the Stone Circle bike ride—cyclists will pass through the village as part of their 210-mile sponsored ride, and we're the official stop at mile 150. Please come by and show your support this June ; we can't wait to see you.

Also, our new coffee pod trailer will be opening early in the mornings and through the lighter evenings during spring and summer, perfect for early gym goers and late dog walkers.



A little fact... Since opening nearly 3 years ago, we've created over 20 jobs for local people. We've watched many of our young recruits flourish going on to travel,

follow their dreams, and continue their education. We're incredibly proud to have been part of their journey. 🌱

Keep an eye out for our socials for special events and menus.

www.loscoffeeshop.co.uk



VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Pimperne Social Club 10am on the third Saturday of each month in the Village Hall. £1 entrance includes refreshments – children welcome! The morning also includes tabletop sales and crafts. To book a table to sell from please phone *Joyce and John* 07544 195407 to book beforehand. Offers of cakes, raffle prizes etc. welcome. Please support our efforts to raise much needed funds for charity.

Advertising If you put posters up around the village, please do not forget to take them down again once the event has past. Also, we request that posters are not removed before the event takes place, as they provide much needed information regarding coffee mornings, bingos and quizzes etc.



Circle Dancing This friendly group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:30 pm. We do a

variety of traditional folk dances from around the world as well as modern dances to many different types of music. All the dances are called so you don't need to remember them, and you don't need a partner. No previous knowledge is required, and beginners are always welcome. It's a lovely way to keep fit and have fun so why not give it a go? Cost £5 per session including refreshments. Please ring *Sal* 452657 for more details or just come along. mailto: st.just@btinternet.com

Pimperne Social Snappers. The Pimperne Social Snappers meet once a month to go out in the local area with their cameras, take a few photographs and enjoy a sociable chat over a drink in a local pub. There are no subscriptions, and no need for vast experience or expensive camera gear (a camera phone will do nicely!). All you need is an interest in photography and a sociable outlook! All standards of photography are welcome - why not come along and give it a try.

Debbie Davies 01258 453527 or 07875 284210
Roly & Sally Barth 480785 or 07855 049119

Blandford Breast Cancer Support Group meet at 2.30 p.m. in the Committee Room at Pimperne Village Hall on the first Tuesday in every month except December, January, July and August with frequent guest speakers and outings arranged. New members very welcome, contact:

Barbara Thompson 454191 or
bat1924nck@gmail.com

Pimperne Gardening and Social Club meet every fourth Tuesday of the month from September to May: 2:30pm – 4:30pm in the Village Hall Membership £20 per year

Carole Beckford
 07979 524284

**Pimperne
Garden & Social Club**

*Fourth Tuesday of the month
from September to May*

2:30pm-4:30pm
 Village Hall, Newfield Road,
 Pimperne, DT11 8WF

Membership £20 per year
 Contact Carole Beckford on
 07979 524284 for more information

24th March: My Desert Island Plants –
 Dr Francis Burroughs
 28th April: Super Sniffers – Medical
 Detection Dogs – Ian Grey
 26th May – Blandford Museum's
 Victorian garden – Dr Sylvia Hixson
 Andrews
 Enrolment for 2026/027 is on
 Tuesday 22nd September 2026

Blandford Art Society

Blandford Art Society meets on the third Thursday of the month with afternoon meetings at Pimperne Village Hall. Remember the hall opens at 1pm for refreshments and the opportunity to get to know fellow members, exchange ideas, and pick up any information about what's going on in the society and elsewhere. Fees to attend meeting: members £5; and non-members £10.

- 16th April – Come and paint
- 21st May – Kate Measham: Still Life workshop
- 18th June – Katy Hill talk
- 16th July – Margaret Hasted: acrylics workshop



- 17th September – Duncan Park: city scape watercolour workshop.
- New short course! Five Week Watercolour Painting with Alison Board Fridays, 10 April - 8 May 2026, 18.30 - 21.30 Pimperne Village Hall

See the website for more details of BAS -
<https://blandfordartsociety.weebly.com/>

ZUMBA! Tuesdays 9.30am Village Hall and Thursdays 7.30pm at Pimperne School

Caroline Barr on 452936 for info or
www.carolinebarr.zumba.com

Knit and natter

Every third Wednesday of the month
 2pm - 4pm in the Village Hall Committee Room
 £2 entry includes tea/coffee and cake

Carole Beckford
 07979 524284

Hair by Sarah Reliable professional stylist, over 20 years' experience, cutting and colour specialist offers daytime or evening appointments in the comfort of your own home. 01258 451386

Pimperne Baby & Toddler Group The group meets every Wednesday during Term time at the Village Hall from 9:30 to 11:30. Cost is £2 per family which includes child snacks and unlimited adult drinks. Children birth to school age are welcome. Lots of toys for all ages, activity tables, song time and special occasion parties through the year. Nice Relaxed friendly atmosphere. Find us on Facebook. More information from:

Tamsin 07867 568941
pimpernetoddlergroup@hotmail.com

Pimperne Website www.pimperne.org.uk. For events, news, contact details for Councillors, links for information such as bus timetables, winter road gritting, verge cutting, reporting of road defects and potholes, Flood Plan, Neighbourhood Plan and much more.

Gather and Glow. We offer a variety of offerings in service to women including 1:1 birth preparation and birth healing sessions, groups holistic antenatal courses, pre and postnatal yoga, ceremonies, blessings and rituals as you navigate this time from Maiden to mother. Aimee is a qualified Yoga teacher with the British Wheel of Yoga, specialising in pregnancy and postnatal yoga and accredited with Yoga Alliance Professionals. She is a trauma informed healer, ceremonial priestess, and birthkeeper offering sanctuary at her home studio on the edge of Bryanston Forest. She also runs free wellness walks on Thursday mornings gathering at Pimperne Village Hall Car Park. More details from: *Aimee Strongman*, 07742 982983 or <http://www.gatherandglow.co.uk/>

Evolve Neuro Rehab offers neurorehabilitation after a stroke or brain injury in your home.
www.evolveurorehab.co.uk or
 07763735251

U3A Badminton every Friday morning. More details from Drystan England 07831 687805

Blandford & District u3a
 Are you retired and looking for things to do and ways to meet people? Then why not have a look at Blandford and District u3a? For £12 a year you can join as many of our groups as you wish. Full details of all our various groups are available on our web site www.blandford.u3asite.uk, and they include Badminton & Paddleboard (held in Pimperne village hall) on Mondays and Fridays); Bridge; Scrabble; Rummikub; Languages; Painting; Art Appreciation; Music Appreciation; Walking; Cycling; Skittles; and, our latest, Egyptian Hieroglyphs; with many more beside. Our motto is 'Live, laugh, learn' and the object of the various groups is to have fun – we don't take ourselves too seriously. Anyone who is not in full-time employment is welcome to join us and there is no minimum, or come to that maximum, age. So if you want to learn more please go to our web-site.



DOG WALKERS



**REMEMBER, BAG IT AND BIN IT,
 OFFENDING OWNERS CAN BE PROSECUTED
 IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT
 WHERE A FINE OF UP
 TO £1000 CAN BE IMPOSED.**

PICTURE QUIZ

Last Issue's 'A Question'



Who was the world-famous sportsman associated with the area now occupied by The Willows Church Road?

Answer: **Nigel Mansell** the Formula One Driver who owned a garage there. He put on a party for staff every time he won a race.



Where is this and what function did this building fulfil?

FORGE
BACKYARD
ULTRA JUNE 6TH

.RUN 5K. EVERY HOUR. ON THE HOUR.

R LUKINS FITNESS
STUD FARM, DOWN ROAD
PIMPERNE
DT11 8XA

Registration open
soon via the
rlukinsfitness

PIMPERNE
Summer Fete

METAL DETECTING
FACE PAINTING
CRAFT STALLS
CARBOOT
CHARITY STALLS

ICE CREAM VAN
REFRESHMENTS
CLASSIC CARS
RAFFLE
DOG SHOW

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST
1PM - 5PM
PIMPERNE VILLAGE HALL

AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

IN AID OF
POLICE MEDICAL MOTORCYCLE CLUB
1991 Road Miles 020
VOLUNTEERS SINCE 1976

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT JACKIE VACHER
ON 07879003567

SPONSORED BY
Rotary
Club of Blandford & Stour

Join us for

Pimperne Village
Gardens Open Weekend
JUNE 20TH & 21ST
12 - 5PM

Celebrating the beauty of local gardens.
Explore a variety of stunning displays around the village, enjoying refreshments and participating in our raffle. Bring your family and friends to support a great cause and witness the hard work of the villagers.
We look forward to seeing you there!

TICKETS £5 FROM THE VILLAGE HALL ON THE DAY | **REFRESHMENTS & RAFFLE AVAILABLE**

Money raised will be split between Pimperne Village Hall & Blandford Community Hospital

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

Art with Clare	Clare Shepherd clare.shep@btinternet.com		Pimperne Social Club	John & Joyce Tanner 07544 195407
Bingo	Marion Haynes	451484	Pimperne Social Snappers	Debbie Davis 453527
Blandford Art Society.	Wendy Gregory wh_gregory@hotmail.com	474646	Pimperne Village Newsletter	Martin Richley m.richley@me.com 07540 777707
Cancer Care	Barbara Thompson	454191	Rector	Vacant
Churchwardens	Carole Beckford 07979 524284 John Beckford 01258 721318		Ryland Room Hire	Mary Newnham 455331
Church Administrator	Vacant		School	Mrs F Waller, Head Teacher 452025
Church Pews News	Judy Jakes office@psdbenefice.org.uk		Speedwatch	Derek Andrews 452005
Circle Dancing	Sally Lester Shaw	452657	Sports Society	Andy Jeffery pimperneyouthfc@gmail.com
Cricket Club	Kevin Langdown	456446	St Peters Flower Group	Janet Parker 455187 Anne Allan 456553 Jane Stockdale janestockdale950@btinternet.com
Dorset Councillor	Cllr Sherry Jespersen cllrsherry.jespersen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk	860482	Step by Step Children's Dance	Claire Mcherson 07889 572569
Garden & Social Club	Carole Beckford 07979 524284		Tai Chi	Scott Fellowes 07732 305511
Homewatch	Derek Andrews	452005	U3A	Drystan England 07831 687805 drystanengland@gmail.com
Knit and Natter	Carole Beckford 07979 524284		Village Hall Bookings	Peter Slocombe 07979 592288
Parents & Toddler Group	Tamsin	07867 568941	Western Front Association	Martin Willoughby martin@eastcote.go-plus.net
Parish Council	Peter Slocombe (Chairman) 07979 592288		Zumba	Caroline Barr 45293
Parish Council Clerk	Jan O'Connell pimperneclerk@outlook.com	480046		
Pimperne Baby and Toddler Group	Tamsin	07867 568941		

The next edition of the Newsletter will be Autumn 2026, updates etc to The Editor, by 4th September 2026 - contact details above.

If there is something incorrect or missing or you wish to have an item added to the next issue of the Pimperne Newsletter, then please contact The Editor, contact details above.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All events are at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

March 2026

Sunday	22 nd	10:30 - 2:30	Easter Fayre
Wednesday	25 th	7:30 pm	Easter Bingo for Blind Veterans
Saturday	28 th	10am – noon	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	29 th	7 pm	Quiz

April 2026

Friday	3 rd	to	Easter Fairy Tale Trail
Monday	6 th		Lo's Coffee Shop (£5 / Child)
Sunday	26 th	7pm	Jackie's Quiz for Kidney Unit

May 2026

Sunday	31 st	7pm	Jackie's Quiz for Pimperne Church Flowers
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June 2026

Saturday	6 th	all day	Forge Backyard Ultra – Lukins Fitness
Wednesday	17 th	7:30pm	Bingo for Heart Foundation
Saturday and	20 th	Noon – 5pm	Gardens Open Pimperne
Sunday	21 st	Noon – 5pm	see separate advert
Sunday	28 th	7pm	Jackie's Quiz for Scout Jamboree

Jackie Vacher needs your support, especially in the way of prizes and helping out on the day/night. Please contact her on 07879-003567 or 01258-455658

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Please return nomination to:

Mrs Jan Fairman,
Parish Clerk to Pimperne Parish Council
43 Portman Road, Pimperne

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All events are at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

July 2026

Wednesday	15 th	7:30pm	Bingo for Camp International supporting local children and animals
Saturday	25 th	2-5pm	Pimperne Church Fete – St Peter's Church
Sunday	26 th	7pm	Jackie's Quiz for Macmillan

August 2026

Sunday	23 rd	1pm	Pimperne Village Fete for the Blood Bikes
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September 2026

Saturday	19 th	7:30pm	Bingo for Pimperne Sports Society
Sunday	27 th	7pm	Jackie's Quiz

October 2026

Saturday	17 th	7pm (tbc)	Harvest Supper
Sunday	25 th	7pm	Jackie's Quiz for Camp International supporting local children and animals

Jackie Vacher needs your support, especially in the way of prizes and helping out on the day/night. Please contact her on 07879-003567 or 01258-455658

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Pimperne Community Champion 2026

Name of nominee: _____

Reason for Nomination _____

Name of nominator _____

Signature of nominator _____ Date: _____

Please return your nomination by **6th April 2026** to **Parish Clerk**, address over leaf