



PIMPERNE VILLAGE NEWS

Autumn 2026



Pimperne Community Field

© M Strange

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What a summer! Heat, heat and more heat. So hot in fact that when it came to surface dressing Salisbury Road into Pimperne from Collingwood Corner, it went horribly wrong, leaving the road rutted and in a very sorry state. The result was early September the stretch of affected road had to be completely resurfaced over four days with a full road closure during the day. It is a pity that the original work couldn't have been done overnight, also with a full closure, when the temperature is lower and causing the least inconvenience to the travelling public. We wait to see when the rest of the road through Pimperne up to Hilltop roundabout will be done. How much of our council tax has been wasted due to this fiasco and whose fault it was, we may never know.

It does highlight how little, if any, influence parish and town councils have on road work planning. An article on duties and powers of a parish council can be found on page 4.

Parish Council Notes

COUNCIL UPDATE

Recent excellent news to report is that the Parish Council has been successful in the application to Dorset Council in respect of releasing the developer contributions paid by Wyatt Homes on the Home Field site to Dorset Council in accordance with a Section 106 Agreement. The sums released to the Council will allow work to the Junior Play Area, the Multiplay Area and Pimperne Community Field.

Work to the Junior Play Area includes removal of the existing wire fencing and replacement with colour coated bow top metal fencing and gate, the provision of a roundabout to replace the (now removed) trampoline and the installation of bonded rubber mulch play surfacing to complete the main play area.

Work to the Multiplay Area includes the construction of the remaining basketball court area complete with goal to match the existing installation of bonded rubber mulch play surfacing to the swing area.

Work to the Pimperne Community Field includes the supply of a further 18 fruit trees for the community orchard, the purchase of picnic tables and benches (in recycled plastic to reduce maintenance requirements) and the provision of a wildflower area (under direction of Dorset Wildlife Trust). Planting is to be undertaken by the Community Field Volunteer Group which currently meets regularly to water the existing fruit trees and saplings in the planting areas and boundaries.

A well-attended open meeting to discuss winter flooding problems was held in the Village Hall back in March. Simon Hoare MP hosted the meeting with representatives from Wessex Water, the Environment Agency and Dorset Council at the meeting to present their points of view and answer questions from members of the public. The answers and promises provided by the representatives have never been confirmed in

writing. We have requested Mr Hoare to provide evidence of the promises given by each organisation. Our request has not been acknowledged with the result that assistance is currently being sought from our Dorset Councillor, Sherry Jespersen, to obtain the information from Mr Hoare.

Works currently being executed by Dorset Council include replacement of the culvert adjacent to Church Lodge, Church Road and resurfacing work to the A354. The section of resurfacing between Anvil bend and Collingwood Corner was executed on a day subject to unsuitable high temperature for surfacing work as specified. The result was an unacceptable surface requiring considerable further attention to obtain an acceptable standard.

We await a response from Dorset Council Highways concerning our request for a site meeting to discuss numerous outstanding items requiring attention.

Our request to Mr Nicholas Mulholland, owner of the former Primitive Methodist Chapel/Woodbury site in Chapel Lane to remediate the dilapidated chapel and clear the site failed to receive acknowledgement. The site is an eyesore with the chapel falling into further disrepair with each passing month and the Woodbury site infested with brambles, rubbish and buddleias. Neighbouring properties are all adversely affected. Dorset Council has consistently failed to issue a Section 214 Dilapidation Order in respect of the site and our Dorset Councillor, Sherry Jespersen, has confirmed Dorset Council's unwillingness for further involvement with the site.

The Council is especially pleased to note the continued success of Andy Jeffery and his team in their establishment of sports teams playing at Priory Field. In addition, the internal improvements achieved to the sports pavilion are an acknowledgement of the hard work and

commitment by all concerned. The Parish Council has been pleased to offer increased financial support to Pimperne Sports Society.

Our Annual Parish Meeting was very well attended this year and received reports from our local organisations. Pimperne's Community Champion was declared to be Mr Alan Lukins in respect of his long standing and valued support for our community.

Pimperne residents are most welcome to attend Parish Council meetings which are currently convened at 7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month in Pimperne Village Hall. There is always the opportunity for residents to raise matters of local concern during the democratic session of each meeting.

Cllr Peter Slocombe
Chairman

01258 453419 / 07979 592288
ps92220@yahoo.co.uk

FLOOD REPORT

The flood report in the Spring edition was fairly dramatic outlining the record levels of rain and subsequent flooding that afflicted the village. Since then, a total reversal of weather has occurred. Extremely low rainfall and exceptionally high temperatures have prevailed. The previous accumulation of moisture in the soil combined with the heat meant that the bed of the stream etc quickly became very overgrown. Despite the above, the ground water levels as measured by the Environment Agency's bore holes (17/08/2026) showed them all to be within the normal range and that is why I believe until the 18/08/2026 we have not had a hosepipe ban.

A consequence of these months of exceptional temperatures and lack of rain is that when it does return there will be increased runoff and therefore a danger of flash flooding especially along the A354. Therefore, a need to keep gullies and drains clear.

Dorset Council has commenced repair to the culvert at Five Ways where a collapse occurred, this is of course long overdue and was originally started a few years ago and then delayed.

I have not heard from Wessex Water of any further works due to commence in the village.

Let us hope we have a flood, sewerage and blocked toilet free winter!

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

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

What a summer that was!

Generally, footpaths in the Parish were clear of overgrowing vegetation, mainly due to the dry conditions which inhibited growth. Hard to believe

that we were complaining about muddy paths in the spring. However, it remains important that hedges adjacent to pavements are cut back. It would be helpful too if residents could clear weeds from outside their homes to make the village tidier. If we wait for Dorset Council to do it, it may be some time!

As regards roads, various actions have been underway resulting this month (August) in A354 closures for resurfacing work and traffic lights on Church Road.

Issues concerning the volume of traffic through the village remain and some drivers continue to speed, despite the actions of the Parish Council (20mph limit, Speedwatch etc). The powers of the Parish Council in respect of highway matters are very limited. Dorset Council is the responsible agency. Added to which some of the problems have no practical solution (e.g. the narrow parts of Arlecks Lane and Down Road). However, we will continue to try to make our highways safer for all users.

Any highways/footpath problems can be reported using the Dorset Highways website or by contacting me.

Cllr Antony Argles,
Highways Officer, Parish Council
01258-455513
aeargles@hotmail.co.uk

PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE – USE THE BUSES OR LOSE THEM!

It is pleasing to report that new bus stops have been installed on both sides of Salisbury Road opposite Chapel Lane, along with yellow bus boxes on the road. The stops have both a Damory bus timetable plus a more comprehensive timetable produced by the Parish Council based on the on-line timetable by Damory. Dorset Council have also agreed to provide a new timetable holder for the bus shelter opposite Church Road.

The Government has announced that the 'Price Cap' of £3 per single bus journey will be reduced to £2 per single journey from Jan 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
cllr.richley@pimperne.org.uk

TREE OFFICERS REPORT

420 saplings, provided free by the Woodland Trust, were planted in the Pimperne Community Field in March of this year and 18 fruit trees were planted in May. Little did any of us expect that rainfall would be at unprecedented low levels

requiring our volunteers to regularly water all the trees.



With the increased attention the field is receiving it's disappointing to still see the results of people not picking up after their dogs. Whilst it has been inevitable that some saplings have been lost to the drought it has been disheartening to the volunteers to learn that some saplings have been illegally removed. It has to be pointed out that any destruction of fencing and/or removal of saplings is an act of criminal damage and as such will be reported to the police.



The planting of hedgerows and trees now is not for our benefit but for the wildlife and future generations. You may notice a couple of large, mature trees in the village will be removed in the near future. Trees are like us humans, prone to disease and don't live forever!

In November we will again be planting over 400 new saplings, courtesy of the Woodland Trust, with fingers crossed for some rain. If you have any comments/observations on what you are seeing in the field or village don't moan to each other or whinge on social media but put it in writing to our Clerk or in person at a Parish Council meeting.

Huge thanks go to the small but dedicated group of volunteers who have watered the new plantings and kept them alive in quite often arduous conditions.

*Cllr Martin Strange
Tree Warden*

m.strange61@gmail.com

DUTIES AND POWERS OF A PARISH COUNCIL.

The duties and powers of a parish and town council are laid down by Parliament. Duties are those things a parish council must do, such as

appoint a chairman and a clerk, a responsible financial officer and hold an annual parish meeting as well as an annual general meeting.

Powers are activities that a parish council is allowed to carry out. They are **discretionary** and granted by Acts of Parliament to help improve the local community. More detail can be found here: <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/campaigns/becoming-a-councillor/what-parish-and-town-councils-and-councillors-do.html> or use the QR code.



Dependent on the size of a parish or town will depend on how many powers a council may carry out. All powers have to be paid for and that is normally through the 'precept'. The precept required is then collected by the collection authority as part of the council tax levied on local taxpayers in that town or parish. The delivery of some of these discretionary powers may be subject to various consents, from, for example, the owner of land or another public body such as the highways authority.

Summary of the powers that Pimperne parish council carry out:

- Community facilities – such as the provision of a village hall.
- Parks and recreation – such as the provision of the play areas and Pimperne Community Field.
- Highways and transport – such as the provision of the bus shelter and contributing to the white gates on Salisbury Road.
- Environment – maintaining the village green outside the church, planting trees, and providing litter bins.
- Planning and local representation – receiving notification of planning applications and commenting on proposals affecting the parish.
- Land and property – manage land for community purposes, such as Pimperne Community field and the play areas.
- Public services – provide newsletters and information for residents.
- Under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137, the council has the power to incur expenditure not otherwise authorised on anything which in the council's opinion is in the interests of the area or part of it or all or some of the inhabitants. This is a power that Pimperne has used in the past and may well use in the future.

Most of the things that affect the local community are managed by Dorset Council, such as road maintenance, waste disposal and planning decisions. The council gets as frustrated as everyone else when we are not listened to and no reason is given.

PIMPERNE'S DEFIBRILLATOR or AEDs

The Village has two Defibrillators, AEDs, one in the refurbished telephone box opposite the Farquharson Arms 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.

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 shock.

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).



Community News

PIMPERNE SOCIAL CLUB

The Pimperne Social Club (formerly known as the Pimperne Coffee Morning) happens at the village hall every third Saturday of the month between 10-12. There are a variety of stalls for example bric-a-brac, raffle, handmade cards, Avon and cakes and savouries. Entrance is only £1 and includes tea/coffee and biscuits; slices of cake are only £1 a slice.

Each month money is raised for a different charity, in August funds were raised for Guide Dogs £141.90 on the morning, £150.00 given by the Friday Coffee Club and £122.10 from their sales and collecting tin.

In the coming months we are raising funds, in September the MND Association, October the Local Hedgehogs and in December Marie Curie.

For additional information such as booking a table email John & Joyce Tanner on jjtanners@hotmail.com

jjtanners@hotmail.com

ST PETERS CHURCH

Whilst we are still without an incumbent we have been pleased to welcome newcomers to our three services each month. These are a 9:15 am service of hymns on the first Sunday, a 10:30 am communion service on the second Sunday and 9:15 am communion service on the fourth Sunday of each month. All are welcome – we are a very friendly church – and meet after each service for coffee, tea and homemade cakes!



The PCC are currently working through all the recommendations in our Quinquennial Report. We are very grateful to the team who power washed, repaired and stained the Lychgate and the vestry door. Church gutters have been cleaned and a downpipe attached to the Ryland room has been unblocked. We are currently waiting for the water board to sort out the stopcock to the church so we can repair the tap in the choir vestry for our wonderful flower ladies.

In June all our Fire Extinguishers and blankets were serviced, and our Lightning Conductor was also inspected and serviced. We had our boiler serviced in August ready for the winter and all our electrics will be tested. Whilst all these seem small jobs they are all very necessary to keep our church in good order.

At the end of the summer term, all pupils from Pimperne School attended the church for a thanksgiving service as we said goodbye to Year 6 as they move on to 'big' school. We are thankful for the strong links between the Church and the School.

We are also grateful to all who help to keep our church running – our Verger, flower ladies, gardeners, cleaners, those on the tea rota, sidespersons, our chalice assistants and sacristan, and those who open and close the church on a daily basis - without whom we could not function. Thank you.

The church remains open for services, worship and prayer.

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 will rotate around the Benefice.

So please keep an eye on the Benefice website and Pews News for updates: <http://www.psdbenefice.org.uk>

Festival Services

- **Harvest Festival**
4th October @ 9:15am
- **Remembrance Service** with an Act of Remembrance – 8th November @ 10:30am
- **Carols around the Tree** – 20th December @ 4:30pm
- **Crib Service** – 24th December @ 4pm **TBC**
- **Christmas Day Service** – at 9am **TBC**

Private Prayer

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

Concerts

There will be concerts later in the year, but the plans have still to be firmed up. Please look at Pews News for future events

Pews News

Pews News is still being published weekly and contains the list of services across the Benefice. It can be viewed on or downloaded from the Benefice Website:



<http://www.psdbenefice.org.uk> or from the 'A Church Near You' website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9367/>

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

ST PETER'S CHURCH 100 CLUB

Just £15:00 a year gives you the chance to win a monthly prize. Prize money over the year will amount to not less than one half of the total amount of the members' subscription; the other half going to help maintain our village church. This year the club was able to donate £400 to the church repair funds. The rest of the money is given out at the coffee mornings held in the Village Hall on the third Saturday of each month. All winners are notified as soon as possible after each draw.

If you want to join the **100 Club**, there is a tear off form on page 16 of this Newsletter. Complete the form and with your remittance return it to either Anne or Mary, by the 25th October to be in

with a chance to win the November draw. Return addresses are on the other side of the form.

Thank you to everyone who takes part.

Mary Newnham

PIMPERNE SPORTS SOCIETY

The new football season is in full swing, and the children's enthusiasm to get back into training and matches after the summer holidays is infectious, a reminder of how much joy football brings to our village.



Pimperne Youth Football Club is based at the Sports Pavilion and began in 2023 with just one team of nine players and two coaches. Today, thanks to the incredible support of families and volunteers, we have grown to over 50 boys and girls across two U9 teams, an U12 team, a newly formed U12 girls' team, and a thriving Men's team heading into their second season.

Our mission is simple: to help children reduce screen time and embrace outdoor activity through football. Our ethos, TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More, guides everything we do. We aim to build teamwork, discipline and camaraderie in a fun and supportive environment.

The children are looking forward to a busy season with matches both at home and across the Dorset Youth Football League. Several players have shown fantastic progress over the past year, with some moving up age groups and others being recognised by coaches from visiting clubs for their attitude and sportsmanship. It's wonderful to see their confidence grow.

Off the pitch, the community's generosity has enabled us to refurbish the kitchen and repaint the social area in the clubhouse, for which we are incredibly grateful. We continue to fundraise so we can complete the refurbishment of the Pavilion. Next on our list is to replace the partial artificial grass flooring that we inherited from the previous occupants, and to repaint and refurbish the toilets. These improvements will benefit not only our club, but also local teams and families who use the facilities year round. In time, we hope the Pavilion can serve as a community space for meetings and social events.

We have an army of wonderful sponsors who we couldn't be without. A special thank you to the following businesses for providing training and match kits for our football family: The Anvil Inn, Amberley Labels, Savills, Braithwaites Board and Box, DCM Tyres & Autocentres, Greendayz Garden & Grounds Maintenance, SF Automotive and Matrod Frampton.

Thank you also to Pimperne Parish Council for their generous support, we are very grateful for everything they do for us.

And finally, a huge thank you to Jackie Vacher, who continues to fundraise for us. We

are so grateful for everything Jackie does for the club.

Would you like to get involved?

We couldn't run the club without our volunteers, parents, guardians and families who give their time so generously. As we grow, we are looking for a little more help:

- Nutmegs Tuck Shop Volunteers, a couple of volunteers to join our rota. We serve drinks and snacks on Saturday and Sunday mornings, 9–11am. Training provided.

- Maintenance Volunteer, someone with a few hours a month to help with Pavilion and pitch upkeep, either hands-on or working with our contractors.

If you'd like to join our volunteer team, simply scan the QR code below to join our WhatsApp group and say hello.



Date for your diary: Jackie Vacher is organising a Bingo Night for us on Saturday 19 September in the Village Hall. Please do come along, we'd love to see you there. Expect delicious cakes, a raffle with fantastic prizes, and a great evening of fun. We are raising funds for new goalposts and match balls. Doors open at 6:30pm and eyes down at 7:30pm.

Players needed: We are also looking for new players for our U12 girls' team (Year 6/7). If you know a young person who would like to join us, please get in touch.

Feel free to pop into Nutmegs for a coffee and watch one of our matches. You can follow us on Instagram @pimperneyouthfc for youth fixtures or @pimperneunitedfc for men's fixtures or email me for kick-off times.

Lastly, a thank you from us to you. We love being part of the Pimperne community and are so grateful for all the support we receive. If you'd like to chat, please drop me an email or stop by the club next time you are passing.

Andy Jeffery

Pimperne Youth FC

Co-founder & Club Chairman

pimperneyouthfc@gmail.com

PIMPERNE VILLAGE HALL

The village hall remains a popular and favoured venue for many users. Bookings are at a constant level with regular users well appreciated by our Committee.

The village fete, organised by Jackie Vacher and her volunteers, on 23rd August was well attended and a great success. Each Friday morning the Coffee Club, organised by volunteers, is popular and well attended even though, very sadly, the outreach post office no longer operates.

Our regular bookings include Blandford & District u3a, Zumba, Tai Chi, Parents and Toddlers, Blandford Art Society, Blandford Breast Cancer Support Group, Pimperne Garden & Social Club, Knit & Natter, the Western Front Association, the Recorder Group, Happy Bowlers and Clare Shepherd art. Regular quiz nights and bingo are organised by Jackie Vacher in addition to the harvest supper, food fair, Christmas tea and New Year's Eve party.

Pimperne Social Club organised by John and Joyce Tanner and volunteers is held on the third Saturday morning each month. Monies raised are distributed to local and national charities.

Problems concerning the 'Hallmaster' system for bookings and invoices have proved difficult to resolve. However, our volunteers hope to commence employment of the system in the near future.

Day to day maintenance problems and operation of the hall are managed by the writer with able assistance from our hardworking Secretary, Mrs Debby Mackenzie and Treasurer, Mr John Beckford. We are all volunteers with the best interests of the village hall in mind when future decisions are required.

Gratitude is expressed to Tamsin Holloway and Becki Thomas for their continued volunteering work for the hall, especially to the external areas. We are grateful to Mr R King for his early response to maintenance problems which can require urgent and immediate attention.

Bookings for both the Main Hall and Committee Room are currently managed by the writer, details below.

Peter Slcombe
Pimperne Village Hall Committee
01258 453419/07979 592298

PIMPERNE VC VE PRIMARY SCHOOL



We are so pleased to welcome our children and families back to school. The Autumn term has begun well. There is so much planned through the year that the diary is bursting. If you have any time to volunteer, please see our website and the 'Our school' tab for further information. We are in need of someone to pop into our lovely library once or twice a week to keep our returned books going back on the shelves. We love being part of our Pimperne community and therefore please keep your eyes open for our fantastic firework night on 5th November. We hope that you can join us.



'As each one does their part, we grow in love'
Ephesians 4.16



PIMPERNE GYM - R LUKINS FITNESS

We've had a fantastic year so far, beginning with Vagabond Pilates joining us and introducing both Reformer and Mat Pilates classes.



Following the success of our recent HYROX Simulation events, we're already looking forward to the next one! These events welcome competitors from across Dorset, bringing people together, creating new friendships and helping

our fitness community continue to grow.

As we move into the new season, we've also refreshed our class timetable. With exciting new additions and more sessions of your existing favourites, there are now even more opportunities for everyone to find a class that suits them.



For more information about our upcoming events and classes: www.rlukinsfitness.co.uk or email: info@rlukinsfitness.co.uk

You can also follow us on social media:

Instagram: @r_lukins_fitness
Facebook: @rlukinsfitness

HOMEWATCH AND SPEEDWATCH

I have been your Homewatch and latterly Speedwatch coordinator for the past 21 years so I thought I would look back at what I reported in August 2005. Top of the list was unsurprisingly protection during the Steam Fair – that one's gone – the other offences noted at the time were thefts from outbuildings and thefts from cars – nothing different there then.

However, reading the Dorset police reports of crimes in our local area today, they reflect the nature of the way society has changed over those past 21 years. Top of the list is violence and sexual offences, followed closely by antisocial behaviour. Next is criminal damage and arson with other thefts well down the list.

Police and Crime Commissioners will be phased out in 2028 so our current PCC is making very sure he gets in all those actions he can before he goes and, at the top of his list he is focussing very much on violence against women and ASB. He is also keen to hear from members of the public their views on the current Government proposals to rearrange police forces with the implication that it will result in a reduction

of forces. If you are interested in reading about his initiatives on all these topics and wish to have an input to the reorganisation, you can do so via his website (www.dorset.pcc.police.uk).

You will have seen a dearth in speedwatch activity recently. A shortage of volunteers during the holiday period, coupled with a recommendation from the police that we do not operate during the heatwave, followed by the road works on the main road and Church Road meant that we were not able to get out. Maybe we should copy the village in Wales that mounted a scarecrow with high viz jacket and a hair dryer. Rest assured that we will be back out but we do need more people to help. If you would like to help us please give me a call and I will put the necessary measures in place to get you on the team.

Derek Andrews
Homewatch Co-ordinator
07702 267072

CRANBORNE CHASE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE



**Cranborne
Chase**
National
Landscape

Cranborne Chase National Landscape (CCNL) recently funded new road signs for the village, highlighting that Pimperne lies within the CCNL boundary.

During the period 16 – 27 September they are holding a 'ChaseEscape Walking Festival. here are still some places available on some of the 14 walks and activities at this year's ChaseEscape Walking Festival – **and they're all FREE!**

They are pleased to again be working in partnership with Dorset Visual Arts on a range of free 'walking workshops'. Each session invites different approaches and the chance to try a variety of materials to explore the unique landscape of Cranborne Chase.

This project is made possible thanks to funding from The Grocer's Charity.

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

THE WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

The branch resumed its meeting programme after the summer break with a splendid talk by Luke Moulard of Kith & Kin research titled 'Hospital Blues'. This talk focused on the work of the VAD's in WW1 with a focus on Dorset hospitals as case studies. Our programme continues 3rd October with a talk by John Rawlinson on the Royal Marines in WW1, a massive topic covered by an expert in the subject. Renowned historian Peter Hart makes a welcome return to the branch on the 7th November,



although the topic is yet to be decided you are assured of a very entertaining and informative talk by this ebullient presenter. We finish the year with a very welcome return to the branch by Dr Vivien Newman who will be giving her latest talk 'Cogs in the Machinery of War' discussing the role of women in both world wars. Our 2027 season begins on the 9th January with a talk by branch member Tony Otton on the 'Zeppelin Raids of 1915-1918'. Keeping an aerial theme Tony's talk is followed on the 6th February with Richard Cooper-Knight giving his latest talk 'The Chatham Gotha Raid 1917. Back to land on the 6th March with a talk on the 'Ulster Division on 1st July 1916 by Callum Murray. Further details of our 2027 programme will be published online and on the PVH notice board. Wessex WFA continues to prosper with very well attended meetings and Judy our branch secretary continues to seek out new quality speakers and a wide range of topics to interest and attract an appreciative audience. Wessex Branch WFA meetings are open to all and we ask for a modest donation of £5 to defray the cost of hiring Pimperne Village Hall our excellent venue and speaker fees. The donation also includes a £1 entry into our book raffle, proceeds going to support branch education projects. We look forward to seeing you at our remaining meetings for 2026 and in 2027. Bring a friend all are welcome. Meetings are normally on the first Saturday of the month except where bank holiday dates for example may clash with the diary and there are no meetings in July and August when our dedicated volunteers take a well-earned summer break. 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



What a summer it's been at LO's!, it's been lovely to see so many familiar faces, as well as lots of new ones, coming through our doors.

A huge thank you to everyone in Pimperne and the surrounding villages for continuing to support us. Whether it's your morning coffee, breakfast, cake, smoothie or just a catch-up with friends, we love being part of the local community.

We've had a brilliant summer of events. We were proud to be part of Dorset's first Sober Rise & Rave, which was a fantastic morning and we also welcomed the Stone Circle Ride as they stopped during their 150-mile cycle. It was a huge

success and fantastic to see so many cyclists stopping for a well-earned coffee, food and refuel.

We also spent part of the summer at Littleton Sunflower Field with the Coffee Pod, which was another great experience and gave us the chance to meet even more people from the local area.

We're really pleased to support Roxy's Baby Steps, a class held at R. Lukins for new mums and their babies. After their workout, the mums can pop over to LO's for a well-deserved coffee and a catch-up. We love being able to support R. Lukins and the fantastic things they're doing for the local community.

It's also been a special time for the LO's team, with a few milestone birthdays to



celebrate! We won't mention everyone's age... but there have definitely been a few celebrations, plenty of cake.

We've welcomed new members to the LO's team, while also saying goodbye to some of our younger staff as they head off to university — something we're incredibly proud of.

As we head into autumn, there's plenty more to come. Keep an eye on our socials for upcoming events, offers and everything happening at LO's.

Thank you, as always, for supporting LO's and helping make it such a lovely part of the Pimperne community.

For enquires please pop in or [email: loscoffeeshop@hotmail.com](mailto:loscoffeeshop@hotmail.com)
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

a n v i l

SUNDAY ROASTS

Served All day 12-7:30
Locally sourced meat & Homemade Vegetetation options

QUIZ NIGHTS

Fortnightly Wednesdays 7:30pm £2.50 entry
Hosted by @quizpicable me

LUNCH & DINNER

Lunches from 12pm Dinner from 6pm
7 Days a week, Seasonal options

PIZZAS

Wood Fired Pizzas & Garlic flatbreads from the Forge
Locally sourced ingredients & toppings

BUFFETS

Available for any occasions, Birthdays to family gatherings

Info@anvilpimperne.co.uk 01258451999

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:

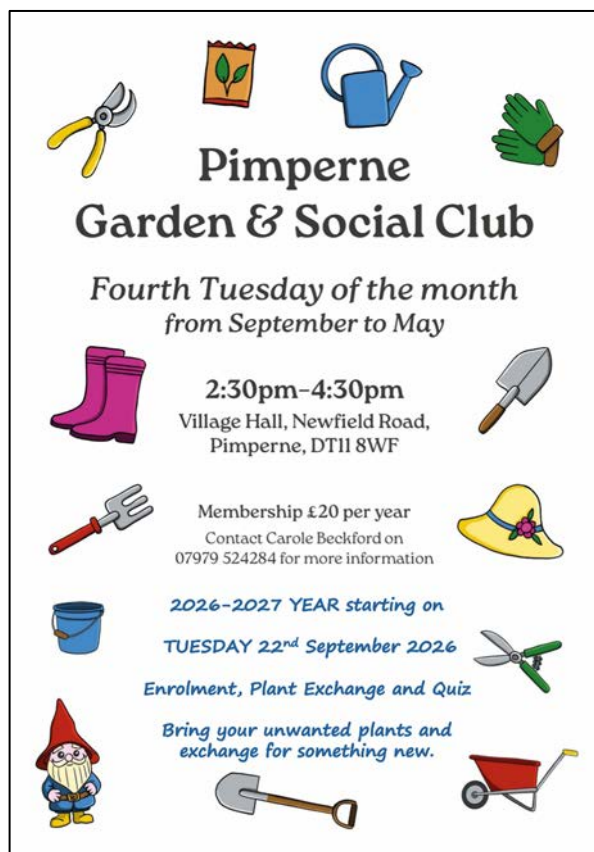
Barbara Thompson 454191 or
barbara@barbaraandwoody.plus.com

Pimperne Garden 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

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

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



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

2026–2027 YEAR starting on
TUESDAY 22nd September 2026

Enrolment, Plant Exchange and Quiz

Bring your unwanted plants and
exchange for something new.

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.

- 17th September – **Ducan Park:** cityscape watercolour workshop
- 15th October – **Paul Newman:** Drawing birds
- 19th November – **Magaret Hasted:** Acrylics Workshop: paintings into collage workshop
- 21st January – **Alison Board:** workshop



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



Knit and Natter

Every third Wednesday of the month
Pimperne Village Hall Committee Room

2-4pm

Bring a project or
just come for a
natter!

Next date: 16 September, 21 October, 18
November, 16 December

£2 entry
includes tea/coffee and cake

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 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.

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



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

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



Every Wednesday morning

(in term time)

Pimperne Village Hall

9:30-11:30

£2 for first child

£1 for each additional child

No booking needed.

Payment by cash or card.

Children birth to school age welcome.

Lots of toys & role play for all ages including a baby area & regular craft table.

Nice friendly relaxed atmosphere for parents and carers.

Price includes hot drinks for the adults & snack time for the children.

Follow our Facebook page for regular updates including our party & summer holiday session dates.

We also have baby/toddler scales available for anyone to pop in and weigh their little one free of charge.

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/>

Western Front Association (Wessex Branch)

Meet monthly on the first Saturday of the month at 2:30pm at the Village Hall, unless there is a field trip. List of topics are on the notice board in the Village Hall. More details from: Martin Willoughby at martin@eastcote.go-plus.net or on the [WFAWessex website](http://WFAWessex.com)

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 and Pickleball (held in Pimperne village hall); 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.

u3a

Blandford & District

DOG WALKERS

**Please clean up
after your dog**



**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 Photo



The answer is of course that it is attached to a now private dwelling opposite the Parish Church. An early example of provision for lifelong learning in our village.

This Issue's Photo



Why was this now house once important to Pimperne?

DORSET BOX

Dorset box is a small local business based on Salisbury Road, creating gift boxes that celebrate the very best of Dorset. Founded by local mum Claire Brodie, Dorset Box was born from a love of Dorset and a desire to showcase the brilliant independent makers and producers we have right here on our doorstep.

Each gift box brings together a selection of Dorset-made products, from chocolates, biscuits, fudge and preserves to locally made candles, soaps and other treats. Customers can choose from a range of ready-made gift boxes or build their own, making them ideal for birthdays, thank-yous, new homes, celebrations or simply sending a little bit of Dorset to someone special.

Dorset Box also works with local businesses to create bespoke corporate gifts, from individual thank-you boxes to larger gifting orders. It's been an exciting year for the business, with Dorset Box recently being voted favourite business at the Blandford business awards 2026.

There are lots of new things planned over the coming months too, including a brand-new website launching very soon.

www.dorsetbox.uk



CHRISTMAS
AFTERNOON TEA
& VARIETY SHOW
SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER
PIMPERNE VILLAGE HALL
2:30 - 5:30PM
COME AND ENJOY A CREAM TEA,
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT & RAFFLE
£5 PER PERSON
PLEASE CONTACT JACKIE BEFORE
2ND DEC TO BOOK, 07879003567
IN AID OF  Weldmar Hospicecare
Caring for Dorset



Please join us for
our annual
Harvest Supper
Saturday 17th October
6 pm
Pimperne Village Hall
Tickets £10 per person
Raffle
Bring your own drinks
In Aid Of 
Money and names to Jackie
& Berkeley Rise Pimperne
By Mon 12th Oct

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

Art with Clare Clare Shepherd
clare.shep@btinternet.com

Bingo Marion Haynes 451484

Blandford Art Society. Wendy Gregory 474646
wh_gregory@hotmail.com

Cancer Care Barbara Thompson 454191

Churchwardens Carole Beckford 07979 524284
 John Beckford 01258 721318

Church Administrator Vacant

Church Pews News Judy Jakes office@psdbenefice.org.uk

Circle Dancing Sally Lester Shaw 452657

Cricket Club Kevin Langdown 456446

Dorset Councillor Cllr Sherry Jespersen 860482
cllrsherry.jespersen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Garden & Social Club Carole Beckford 07979 524284

Homewatch Derek Andrews 452005

Knit and Natter Carole Beckford 07979 524284

Parents & Toddler Group Tamsin 07867 568941

Parish Council Peter Slocombe (Chairman) 07979 592288

Parish Council Clerk Jan O'Connell 480046
clerk@pimperne.org.uk

Pimperne Baby and Toddler Group Tamsin 07867 568941

Pimperne Social Club John & Joyce Tanner 07544 195407

Pimperne Village Newsletter Martin Richley
editor.news@pimperne.org.uk

Rector Vacant

Ryland Room Hire Mary Newnham 455331

School Mrs F Waller, Head Teacher 452025

Speedwatch Derek Andrews 452005

Sports Society Andy Jeffery
pimperneyouthfc@gmail.com

St Peters Flower Group Janet Parker 455187
 Anne Allan 456553
janestockdale950@btinternet.com

Step by Step Children's Dance Claire Mcpherson 07889 572569

Tai Chi Scott Fellowes 07732 305511

U3A Drystan England 07831 687805
dyrstanengland@gmail.com

Village Hall Bookings Peter Slocombe 07979 592288

Western Front Association Martin Willoughby
martin@eastcote.go-plus.net

Zumba Caroline Barr 45293



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All events are at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

September

Saturday	19 th	10am	Pimperne Social Club
Saturday	19 th	7:30pm	Bingo for Pimperne Sports Society
Saturday	26 th	11 – 4	Pimperne Indoor Boot Sale
Sunday	27 th	7 pm	Quiz for Weldmar

October

Friday	3 rd	7:30pm	Bingo for Pimperne Toddler Group
Saturday	17 th	10am	Pimperne Social Club
Saturday	17 th	6pm	Harvest Supper - Tickets £10, bring your own drinks. Names and Money to Jackie'
Sunday	25 th	7pm	Quiz for Borneo trip for Boy to help build school
Wednesday	28 th	7:30 pm	Bingo in aid of Pimperne Village Hall

November

Wednesday	4 th	7:30pm	Bingo in aid of Yellow Bus Project
Sunday	15 th	10:30 - 2:30	Christmas Fayre
Saturday	21 st	10am	Pimperne Social Club
Wednesday	25 th	7:30pm	Bingo in aid of Alzhemers
Sunday	29 ^h	7pm	Quiz Night for Autism Society

December

Sunday	6 th	2:30pm	Christmas Variety Show in aid of Weldmar
Sunday	13 th	10am – 3pm	Christmas Market
Wednesday	16 th	7:30 pm	Christmas Bingo for the Blandford Lions Club
Saturday	19 th	10am	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	20 st	4:30 pm	Carols around the Tree- outside the Church
Thursday	31 st	8pm	New year Eve Party for Marie Curie; Live Music Bring your own food and drinks; Tickets £5 – See Jackie

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 Completed Application Form and Remittance by 25th October to either:

Anne Allan, 1 Manor Farm Close, DT11 8XL

Or

Mary Newnham, 19 Portman Road, DT 11 8UJ

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY- Continued

All events are at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

January 2027

Saturday	16 th	10 am	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	31 st	7 pm	Quiz for Guide Dogs

February 2027

Wednesday	10 th	7:30 pm	Valentine Bingo for Autism
Saturday	20 th	10 am	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	28 th	7 pm	Quiz for Treads

March 2027

Wednesday	17 th	7:30 pm	Easter Bingo for Children with impaired sight
Saturday	20 th	10 am	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	28 th	7 pm	Quiz

April 2027

Sunday	11 th	10:30 - 3:30	Spring Fayre in aid of NOURISH
Saturday	17 th	10am	Pimperne Social Club
Sunday	25 th	7pm	Quiz

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

The next edition of the Newsletter will be Spring 2027, updates etc to The Editor, by 1st March 2027 - 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.

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St Peter's Church, Pimperne '100 Club' 2025/6

I apply to become a member/ renew my membership if **St Peter's Church 100 Club**. I enclose my fee of £15.00 being the subscription for the year commencing 1st November 2026.
(Cheques payable to 'St Peter's Church 100 Club')

Full Name:

Address:

Tel No Date

Signature: