

THRUXTON Times

December 2009

(Editor : John McKenzie)

Dates for your Diary

Mon Dec 7 Flower Show ? (see V.A.para.)
Sat Dec 19 Carols by Candlelight **in Church at 6pm** (see para.)
Sat Dec 19 Festive songs etc. **in Hall from 7.30 pm** (see V.A.para.)
Thurs Dec 24 " The Midnight " service **in Church at 11.30 pm.**
Wed Jan 6 TWELFTH NIGHT revels in Hall (see Hall para.)
Sun Jan 17 Village Party in Hall (para.)

This Saturday (5th) Hall, 7.30pm, come & hear Roger Oliver, tell with words and beautiful pictures, of his battles with the elements, circumnavigating our rocky shores. Hear the perils and joys of SAILING. £5 at the door. Refreshments.

Carols by Candlelight at 6pm in the Church on Sat.19th Dec. has become a well-loved event....all congregational singing of the lovely carols , along with suitable readings for the season. All moneys given at this event will, once again, go to the **Andover Crisis and Support Centre**. Do come and be part of this.

AND the Village Association follow this, in the Hall, with an evening of festive songs and carols led by the De Fakto Singers . Doors will open at 6.45 for 7.30 start. Tickets £5 to include supper & a glass of mulled wine. Cash bar, and a raffle. Reserve tickets by ringing Richard on 771625 (which helps with the catering) or turn up on the night.

Another Village Association initiative is on **7th Dec.** They are sponsoring the revival of a **Village Flower Show** – and the first stage is to call a meeting of anyone interested in helping. There is a get-together at 7.30 pm on Mon.7th Dec. in the Hall. If you would like to help plan what it is hoped will become a regular Village fixture, please come along. They will particularly welcome anyone with experience of, or ideas about, how **flower, produce, and arts & crafts shows** should be run.

To add to the bountiful jollity of our Festive Season The Hall Trustees have again arranged a smashing **Twelfth Night Party**, which, by definition, is on Wed. 6th January. This has Louis de Bernières (author of Capt. Correlli's Mandolin) and IloneAntonious-Jones reading poems and playing an amazing variety

of instruments. A hot supper will be served in the interval, with wine for sale by the bottle. Tickets available at £12.50 from Chris Rome on 2755; Bob Hodges 3354; Ross Mallock3504 Doors open 7pm for 7.30. Advice is **book early.** Village quiz results will be announced.

Christmas Quiz (as aforesaid) The sheets are coming around soon. Please buy one ; just £!, for Hall funds. If you don't get, and would like one please call 772711. Prizes will be presented at the **Twelfth Night Party**.

Village Party. A community event for children with parents/ grandparents in Thruxton Parish. **Andycadabra Magic** ; tea party & disco-games. Sunday 17th Jan. in Hall 4pm-6pm. Please bring a small plate of simple party food per child. Additional refreshments & drinks will be provided. Age up to 14: under 10's with an adult. Children can bring a guest. **Important reserve places by 9th Jan.** Helene 771966 helene-smart@hotmail.com

W.I.Report We have had a successful year, with grants, not only from the Village Assocrn. but also 2 grants from the Hants. Community Foundation, one for new **song books** for the *Singing for Fun group*, and another for printing costs for a **cookery book** we aim to produce for our 90th anniversary next year. Membership has remained steady at 16. We would like to increase that next year. Do contact Julia 1625 to find out what we do. After our AGM we had a glass of wine and tasted some of the recipes we hope to publish. This month we will have a Christmas meal, and meet again on Jan. 20th. Thanks to all who supported our **jumble sale** last week . It raised approx. £100. The **singing group** is having a break, and will meet again on Thurs, 14th Jan. Usual time. New people are always very welcome. **Library teas** next on Wed.9th Dec. We hope to have January dates in our next issue.

Gardening Club. We finished our year with a quiz which went down well with all who attended - the **mulled wine** helped. Thank you Chris for providing the prizes,and thank you Jeremy for washing up ! Sorry folks, no winners on our Lottery bid. A **thought:** *the flowers I grew from seed weren't nearly as good as those shown on the packet. It turned out that they had been posed by professionals !!*

Parish Council 2.12.09 John Davis in the Chair ; Councillors Phillipson, Pennells, Bradbury and Foynes in attendance. Our County Cllr., Mrs. Pat West also present. It was noted that the new **grit bins** had been supplied in yellow, whereas **green** was ordered. Ron Pennells was concerned about the ease with which the lids seemed to flap open. Steve Payne and Dean Willetts, on behalf of the **Sports Trust** discussed with the Council plans for the Field. The planning application, to be submitted by the Council, would cost £680, and it was agreed that the Trust would pay £500 of this. Debi Foynes was fully supportive of the plans but wished there also to be provided **a fence round the play area.** All were agreed that this be incorporated.

No progress yet on **The Stream** work, but Mrs. West made the point that extreme weather had diverted resources to deal with it

Even if the stream started running (Jan.?) it would be quite possible to make a dam, and go ahead with the work.

The Clerk pointed out that TVBC have to be formally advised of our intention to buy the **phone box.** The Chairman raised the question *what do we do with it; what do we use it for.* This may be put to the Village in the new year. On PLANNING, there was no problem with a proposed conservatory in Halcyon Drive, but the latest **megashed** developments created debate. Cllrs. Pennells and Foynes were sympathetic to the latest (Co-op) scheme, as a job creator; but Ray Bradbury, and the other Cllrs. were worried about noise, and the general effect on quality of life in these villages. A

renewed application for a **showman site** at Thruxton Down had just come in. For the residents in that area Mr. Alan Leslie recalled that the Council had opposed the previous one, and hoped that they would do so again. John Davis said that, subject to the full details being studied, it looked as if **an extraordinary meeting** would need to be called, and he asked for Mrs. West's support in seeking sufficient time for this. She agreed to give this help.

Ron Pennells urged attention to the risk to **post office** services with the alterations due at Weyhill Nurseries. Liaison with Amport Council was suggested and agreed.

After a final consideration of the Council's Budget for 2010 /11 it was agreed to raise **the Precept** by 3% , to £9530.

A glass of wine was taken to round off the meeting. Next **regular** one will be on Feb 3rd.

The Art Group. Next meeting is on 8th Dec. and then the 2nd Thursday in January. Numbers are low, so if you paint, come along and join us. 7-9pm in the Hall. Gill 772896.

Line-Dancing at the Hall. Come and have a go !! Tues. evenings 7.15-8.45. Lots of fun and exercise. Start date 12th Jan 2010.. Enquiries to Pam at 324369.

The **progressive dinner party** was held on Sat. November 14th It was a convivial evening in which 15 couples took part. It is proposed to hold the next one on Sat. 24th April 2010, so why not put that in the (new) diary now.

Bonus Ball Series Four started on Nov.28 & runs to 20th Feb. This has proved to be a great success in the Village and the organisers are most grateful for the support. Given that half of the takings go to the Hall, it is a very worthwhile venture in contributing to the upkeep of this very important facility. A Happy Christmas to all our "Punters"

The **Remembrance Service** was well attended and the generosity resulted in total donation of £360 going to Combat Stress and the Legion. This amount substantially exceeded all similar collections. Well done all .

Our resident **Weather Man** (a.k.a. John Davis) reports that rainfall here, for the month of November, was 183.1 mm (7.2"), and this compares with Nov 2008 92mm : and Nov, 2007 32 mm. .The Times says that the average for England for Nov.2009 was 197.6mm. **We were drier than average !!**

Don't forget the wonderful "Midnight " Service at 11.30 on Christmas Eve.

Just a little space left to say **HAPPY CHRISTMAS** to you all from The Parish Council and from your editor. Great thanks to our deliverers : Jackie Salmon, Sandra Coward, Ron Pennells, Marion Hoskins, Janet Hopkins Ken & Pam May, Doreen & Donald Anderson Pam Alderson, Sue King, and Joan Savage. Without whom our efforts would be largely wasted.

We hope to publish again early in **January** with news from the Festive Season

psst. tune in to BBC 1 on Monday evening at 7.30 and you might see someone you know !