



minstead mail

a newsletter published by the Minstead Parish Council to inform
and consult volume 3 issue 7 January 2013

Welcome to the January 2013 edition of Minstead Mail. As in recent months it will be augmented by the weekly Parish Council Notices e-mail every Sunday evening which will contain up to date news and information which may be of interest. Please let us know by the preceding Friday evening if you wish to spread information round the Village, or at anytime to be added to the Parish Council's e-mail address list, by contacting the Parish Clerk, any Parish Councillor or by e-mailing minsteadpc@googlemail.com

COMING UP THIS YEAR - SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Lunch Club (Tues 19 Feb, 19 March, 16 April) in the Trusty at 12.30 pm. A choice of dishes is available at £6 in addition to the normal snack or main menu items.

If you want a lift or just go with someone please phone Tessa (8081 2415) or Polly (8081 2375).

Parish Annual Assembly Wed 20th March at 7.30 pm in the Hall. Come and hear about the work of the Parish Council, meet Councillors informally and get the latest news on recycling from a local expert from the NFDC.

Minstead History Exhibition Sat 13th - Sun 14th April. See main feature below.

Village Fete Sat 17th August. Proceeds in aid of the 5 4 50 campaign, details nearer the time.

Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show Sat 7th Sept. See main feature on page 2.

Carols at the Trusty Sat 21st December

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The last few months have seen some notable successes. Funding has been obtained from Big Lottery, HCC and NFPA to carry out clearance and drainage work on Bridleway 10. This will be completed as weather permits, before end of February. HCC has amended the one-way section of Running Hill to improve safety. Grit bins have been filled by HCC for use at junctions and hills by residents. Justifiable concerns over drainage problems resulting in flooding and standing water on roads have been noted and reported to HCC but resolution may take time due to the huge volume of work. However, we were able to put our new snow plough to use to clear the first fall of snow in 2013. Meanwhile the new Christmas tree lights, paid for by Cllr Mrs Andrews' Community Grant, were appreciated by many, as was the particularly fine tree (courtesy of Furzey Gardens) on which they were displayed! Additionally we give a huge welcome to Paul Glover who became our newest Councillor in early January to fill the vacancy left by Stewart Pritchard. Finally, all will be pleased to know that, although it is only a small proportion of your total Council Tax bill, the Parish Council precept has not been increased for the third year running. To learn more and meet Councillors informally all are welcome to the Annual Assembly on 20th March (see above).

DITCHES

In view of the high rainfall many ditches and other water courses in the Parish have been struggling to cope. Some are blocked or lack sufficient capacity and the Parish Council is doing its best to minimise resultant flooding by working with Hampshire County Council but in many instances the responsibility for maintaining ditches rests with the relevant landowner. This is known as riparian ownership. Generally, if a ditch borders your property in any way then you are responsible for maintaining it. If you have a fence between your garden and the ditch, the ditch is still your responsibility. If the ditch is between your property and a public area e.g. a park, then you have riparian ownership of the half of the ditch that borders your property. This responsibility lies 50:50 between you and the landowner on the other side of the ditch even if there is a fence between your property and the ditch, and it appears as though the ditch is within the park boundaries. Even if the ditch no longer appears to be wet, the responsibility to ensure it is kept clear of debris and other obstructions still applies. The Parish Council is grateful to those landowners who already maintain their ditches and urges others to do similarly. Further information can be obtained from the DEFRA website including a useful booklet 'Living on the Edge'.



MINSTEAD PAST AND PRESENT

*Exhibition at Minstead Hall Saturday 13 Apr, 12.00 – 17.00 and Sunday 14 Apr, 10.00 – 16.00, admission £1, refreshments available. This is the second exhibition by Minstead Local History Group entitled 'Minstead Past and Present', the first was in May 2011. We will be displaying both new topics and continuing research into the various aspects of the history of Minstead. Minstead appears in the Domesday Book as 'Mintestede' the church dating from the 12th C. If you have any information, photos, documents, family histories, or implements relating to Minstead in times past we would love to hear from you. Contacts: Steve Cattell on 023 8081 3574, steve_cattell@hotmail.com or Jill Holt on 023 8081 4003, jill.holt@virgin.net **Do put the dates in your diary-13th/14th April, 2013***



photo. by permission of the NF Centre lib.

CHARITY CREAM TEA CONCERT

Voices of the Forest will perform from 2.30pm to 4.30pm on Sat 16th March at the Lyndhurst Community Centre in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care. Tickets £8 from the Community Centre Office or on the door.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MINSTEAD

We meet every Sunday at either 9.30am or 10.30am. Please check the notices outside the shop or church or consult the Parish Council weekly notices or the Benefice website www.newforestparishes.com for details. With Easter Day this year on March 31st, Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) falls on Feb 12th and Lent starts the following day, Ash Wednesday. An informal Lent Course will run on Thursday evenings in church starting at 7.30pm. You will be very welcome to turn up even if you can't make all the dates.

March 1st - Womens' World Day of Prayer the local service this year is at All Saints' Minstead, we meet at 9.45 am for coffee and patisserie and the service starts at 10.30.

March 10th - Mothering Sunday is always celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent; it was originally a time when people returned to the church in which they were baptized or where they attended services when they were children. This meant that families were reunited as adults returned to the towns and villages where they grew up. Our Mothering Sunday Service will be at 10.30am. Look out for more details later.

March 24th - Palm Sunday Service at 10.30am you are invited to join us at church or beforehand on the village green.

March 31st, Easter Day - 9.30am Festival Communion. If you'd like to join the Easter choir, Minstead Singers will start meeting in church on Feb 20th at around 7pm. There will be many events in and around the benefice churches during Holy Week; details later on.

THE TWO PARKS LSTF PROJECT

The New Forest National Park Authority and The South Downs National Park Authority have jointly won project funding of £3.81m from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) run by the Department for Transport. LSTF aims to generate economic growth and reduce carbon emissions through sustainable transport. The project is principally aimed at visitors, whilst recognising that many of the measures will also be of benefit to residents. Some of the items currently under consideration for support are an additional New Forest Tour bus route and a travel awareness campaign aimed at achieving travel behaviour change. A small grant scheme will be launched in late January which local communities can access for suitable projects. This may provide some opportunities for Minstead. Further information on the Two Parks LSTF award can be found on the NFNPA website.

FRUIT, FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

The next show will be held on Saturday 7th September. Now is the time to start thinking about planting and growing your prize winning exhibits! The Committee is looking for an organised person who would be willing to take on the role of Cup Co-ordinator for the Minstead Flower Show. There are just over thirty cups that are presented at the Show each year and a volunteer is needed to take on the general overseeing which would entail checking the cups back from the previous winners which is generally no problem, bringing them to the Hall and sorting them into order ready for the next winners, checking who has won each cup and providing the Chairman with a list and then assisting to distribute them. They are then returned and then have to be collected together, taken to the engravers and then distributed to the new winners. The main commitment is on the day of the Show, 7th September this year. These cups are very much a part of the history of the Show and obviously important to the recipients so an important role but hopefully not too onerous. Please feel free to contact Janet Mitchell on 02380 813484 or jm4mfs@btinternet.com for any further information or if you are interested.



LYNDHURST NEIGHBOUR CARE

Serving Lyndhurst, Minstead, Emery Down, Bank and Brook, we are an organisation run entirely by volunteers to offer assistance with transport to medical appointments, including visits to dentists, opticians and podiatrists, taking people shopping locally and collecting shopping or prescriptions. If you need our help, ring our Voicemail and leave your name, address and telephone number and tell us what you need. If it is too complicated to leave a message, just ask us to call you back. Please give at least two working days' notice if possible. Volunteers needed – currently we are looking for help with publicity – can you use a computer and spare a few hours each month? Tel: 0845 0945 818

FREE COURSES FOR COMMONERS, FARMERS AND LANDOWNERS

Free courses are on offer for commoners, farmers, landowners and anyone with an interest in woodland management in the New Forest and Avon Valley. The New Forest Land Advice Service is providing three free training sessions in the New Year to anyone interested in coppicing and pollarding, wood fuel and equine nutrition and pasture management.

- *Practical coppicing and pollarding Wednesday 13 February, 1pm – 5pm* Foxhills Infant School, Ashurst .Local expert Dave Dibden will be explaining the environmental, cultural and economic benefits of these traditional woodland and tree management techniques. Places are limited. To book your place email georgianna.watson@nfl and advice.org.uk or call 01590 646698.
- *Harvesting Energy – wood fuel conference Friday 22 February, 9:30am-4pm*, Lyndhurst Community Centre.This one day conference looks at the feasibility and economics of wood fuel production and looks at creating links between woodland owners, managers, land agents and the end user. Places are limited. To book your place email georgianna.watson@nfl and advice.org.uk or call 01590 646698.
- *Equine nutrition and pasture management – how to get the most out of your paddock Wednesday 13 and Wednesday 27 February*, Lyndhurst Community Centre. A two-part course designed in partnership with New Forest Equine Forum. The course is an opportunity to find out more about nutrition and pasture management.Speakers include a vet, an equine nutritionist and experts on paddock management. Places are limited. To book both days email rachael.bowen@newforest.npa.gov.uk or call 01590 646632.

For more information about the Land Advice Service visit www.nflandadvice.org.uk

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