

***West Grinstead  
Partridge Green  
and Dial Post***

# ***Newsletter***



***Dial Post Village Hall***

***Spring 2010***

## EDITORIAL NOTE

Welcome to the Spring newsletter. We have included two new sections in this edition, a contents page for advertisers and "A Cup of Tea With" a local figure in the area, Father William being our first entry. We hope it will be a popular page in the future!

***To contribute to the next issue please contact any one of the following:***

Dorothy Banks      01403 711839 [dobanks@aol.com]  
 Betty Brown        01403 710764  
 Rosemary McIntosh 01273 492371 [rosemary@mezzo-sop.freemove.co.uk]  
 Julie Sharrock     01403 710262 [tony.julie@mac.com]

To put something on the website contact Graham Jenner on  
**graham.g.jenner@btinternet.com**

**Please note:** Deadline for the Summer newsletter is no later than 11th May 2010. Remember to include times, location and contacts for activities.

**Advertising:** Please call a member of the Editorial Team if you would like to place an advert in the next issue of the newsletter.

**Regular Meetings:** Announce your activities early, avoid a conflict with another's & check the VILLAGE DIARIES FIRST which are held by Betty Brown 710764 (Partridge Green) & Peter Whale 01403-710670 or Pauline Saunders 01403-710908 (Dial Post)

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**The Editorial team reserve the right to edit articles. Neither the publisher nor the editorial team accepts responsibility for advertisements or contributed matter appearing in this publication.**

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### Christmas Quiz



We hope you enjoyed hating the quiz, and congratulations to those who managed to return it through the snow.

This year there were two who got it all right: Barbara and Paul Duggleby and Alan and Alison Newman; the Dugglebys won that draw. Frank Bold won the all-comers draw. Against some strong competition John McGowan won the prize for the most amusing answer.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tue	Mar 16	David Briffett: the history of Horsham Hospital, 7.30pm PGVH
Wed	Mar 17	Parish Council, PG Village Hall, 7.30pm
Wed	Mar 24	Annual Parish Meeting, PG Village Hall, 7.30pm
Thu	Mar 25	PART quiz, the Partridge, 7.30pm
Fri	Mar 26	Village Quiz, Jolesfield School, 7.30pm
Fri	Apr 16	Cage Bird Soc, talk on Foreign Birds, PG Village Hall 7.30pm
Sat/Sun	Apr 24/25	St George's Parish Weekend: A Festival of Transport
Wed	Apr 21	Parish Council, PG Village Hall, 7.30pm
Sat	May 8	'Elgar Evening' St.George's Choir & Organ Recital, St. George's, 7pm
Thu	May 13	WI Flower Demonstration PG Village Hall 7.30pm
Tue	May 18	History of Education in West Grinstead, 7.30pm PG Village Hall
Wed	May 19	Parish Council, PG Village Hall, 7.30pm
Fri	May 21	Cage Bird Soc, talk on Owls or Fancy Chickens PG Village hall 7.30pm
Wed	Jun 16	Parish Council, PG Village Hall ,7.30pm

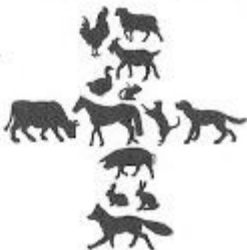

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## REGULAR MEETINGS

<b>Ballet:</b>	Sat 9.30am—2pm PG Village Hall Weds 3.30pm Methodist Church Hall
<b>Beavers:</b>	Thurs 4.30pm, St Michael's Church Room (term time)
<b>Bingo:</b>	Alternate Fri 7.30pm, DP Village Hall
<b>Bridge:</b>	Weds 2-4pm & Fri 2-5pm PG Village Hall
<b>Brownies:</b>	Mon 5.50– 7.15 pm St Michael's Church Rm, PG
<b>Cage Bird Soc:</b>	3rd Fri of month 8pm PG Village Hall
<b>Choir:</b>	Fri 8pm ,St Georges Church
<b>Choir:</b>	Fri juniors 6.30pm, seniors 7pm(term time) St Michael's Church
<b>Colvin W.I:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs in month, PG Village Hall 7.30pm
<b>Cricknet Club:</b>	Sat and Sun afternoons, the park, PG
<b>Cubs:</b>	Thurs 6.15pm St Michael's Church Room (term time)
<b>Fitness:</b>	Mon 6pm (Ladies) 7.30pm (Men) DP Village Hall
<b>Guides:</b>	Wed 7-8.30pm St Michael's Church Room, PG
<b>History Group (WG):</b>	3rd Tues of alternate months,7.30pm, PG Village Hall
<b>Horticultural Society:</b>	Six events a year. For details phone Libby on 01413 711132.
<b>Karate/Kick Boxing:</b>	Weds,5.30-6.30pm, Jolesfield School
<b>Karate:</b>	Tues 6.30pm St Michael's Church Room
<b>Ladies Netball:</b>	Sun 5-6pm, Henfield Leisure Centre
<b>Line Dancing:</b>	Wed 7.30pm PG Village Hall
<b>Open Door:</b>	Alternate Tues 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall
<b>Parent &amp; Toddler:</b>	Mon & Thurs 10-11.30(term-time only)Methodist Church Hall, PG
<b>Pea Green Art Group:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues in every month 10am-12 Methodist Church Hall
<b>Pilates:</b>	Fri 11.30am & 1pm St Michael's Church Room
<b>Pre-School:</b>	Mon-Fri 9.05am-12.05pm, PG Village Hall (term-time only)
<b>Rainbows:</b>	Mon, St Michael's Church Rm, PG 4.15-5.30pm
<b>Short Mat Bowls:</b>	Thurs, 7.30pm DP Village Hall
<b>Stool Ball Club:</b>	Tues,Thurs,6.30pm the park PG from May
<b>Table Tennis:</b>	Wed 6.30pm, DP Village Hall
<b>Tennis Club:</b>	4 days in the week, phone Carole Eyre 710812
<b>Tumble Tots:</b>	Tues 8.30am—5.30pm, DP Village Hall
<b>Thursday Lunch Club:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs of month 12.45pm St Michael's Ch, PG (not Lent)
<b>Youth Club:</b>	Mons 6-9.30pm, PG Village Hall



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## **OBITUARY**

### **Ken Edmonds 29.7.27 — 13.12.09**

Ken was born on a farm, and lived and worked on a farm all his life until they moved just a few years ago to Cowfold. Ken was a tractor driver and good at most jobs around the farm, including the dying art of hedge making. I and most of the lads from Partridge Green will remember spud picking and beating, when we all met at Jim Atkins's and spent hours sitting on a fence tapping our sticks to keep the pheasants in the woods before joining the beaters. I will always remember the weekends we spent lopping the branches off trees around the edges of the fields, making logs and burning the remainder on a bonfire – what a lovely smell – and having a fry up with a flagon of cider. Ken was also a practical and good gardener, and seeing him plough up the back garden was amazing.

He was also a loving husband, Dad and Granddad, and spent many hours inventing games he could play with the kids, and always practised like mad, so they wouldn't beat him. Then there was the garden bowls, when he challenged all. Pam said don't forget his DIY. Very inventive – if he was putting a shelf up in one room, you could go next door and hang your hat and coat on the end of the nail he'd used to secure the shelf on the other side of the wall.

Away from the farm he was an excellent sportsman. Cricket was his main claim to fame. He took over a hundred wickets a season for many years in his prime, of which he was extremely proud; he constantly reminded us of September 1953 when he took all ten wickets against Southwick. He was also good with the bat and his one regret was he never scored a ton. He nearly did but he ran himself out going for a bye on 98 while batting with David Lidbetter – Ishy.

He also played football and after retirement ran the line for PGFC for 30 years. He also played darts for the Tabby Cat and The Bull, and enjoyed a game at the Hare and Hounds on Saturday evenings. He was a grand party host and we will never forget his Christmas games, most of which went wrong, and Pinlands, where he and Pam lived, was called Hector's House when Tracey, his niece, came to visit.

Ken was very diplomatic. I asked him how he had put up with Pam for over 50 years. He said if we have a disagreement, we sit down and talk about it, then do what Pam wants.

We will all have our memories of Ken, or as he was known at PGCC – Sir Ken. If I was asked to assess Ken as a person, friend, brother-in-law and sportsman, I would have to use the Strictly Come Dancing Scoring system and say, as he so often loved to remind us, Ken Edmonds took all 10s. Thank you Ken. May you rest in peace.

***Bob Mason***



**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH WEST GRINSTEAD**  
**ST MICHAEL'S & ALL ANGELS PARTRIDGE GREEN**  
LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2010

**Ash Wednesday** – 17<sup>th</sup> Feb Holy Communion 10.30am St. Michael's  
7.30pm St. George's  
*Both services will include the imposition of Ashes for those who wish to receive it.*

**Wednesdays in Lent – Study and Discussion Meetings** 7.30pm St. Michael's  
***A Lent course by USPG  
with Anglicans in World Mission.***

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in Lent**

Morning Prayer 8.30am St. Michael's  
Mid-day Prayer 12 noon St. Michael's  
Evening Prayer 5.30pm St. George's  
Compline 9.00pm St. Michael's

**ALSO**

**Holy Communion**

Tuesdays 10.30am St. George's  
Wednesdays 10.30am St. Michael's

**LENT LUNCHES**

In aid of the World Vision – HURUNGWE PROJECT, Zimbabwe  
Thursdays in Lent: 12.45pm – 1.45pm in the Methodist Church Hall £2 per person



**REMEMBRANCE BOOKS**

Books of Remembrance are at St George's Church, West Grinstead and St Michael's Church, Partridge Green, to provide a lasting memorial to those who have died.

If you would like to have an inscription put in the Book of Remembrance you will find forms available in each church by the display cabinet.

You can also contact Fr. William Harris, The Rectory, Steyning Road, West Grinstead, West Sussex phone 01403 710339.

Price for each entry:-

2 lines.....£30

4 lines.....£50

Additional lines (each).....£10



## **PALM SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> March – HOLY WEEK begins!**

Normal Sunday am services at both churches

### **Maundy Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

7.30pm Holy Communion and vigil until 10pm St. Michael's

This is a very important service during which we remember Jesus at the last supper, his love for his disciples and his humanity in washing their feet, his betrayal and arrest. Jesus said to his disciples:

**“Could you not watch with me one hour?”  
That is just what we do during the vigil.**

### **Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

9.00am **Morning Prayer** (said) **St. George's**

10.00am **Ecumenical Procession of Witness** starting at St. Michael's

2.00pm **Dramatic Reading of the Passion Narrative** at St. Michael's

7.30pm **The Cross of Christ** – a meditation for choir and congregation at St. George's

### **Holy Saturday: 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

The Churches are decorated and prepared for the glorious celebrations of Easter Sunday

## **EASTER SUNDAY – RESURRECTION DAY! 4th April**

**8.00am Holy Communion St. George's**

**9.30pm SUNG EUCHARIST St. Michael's**

**11.00am SUNG EUCHARIST St. George's**

## **Saint George's Parish Weekend**

**The Parish Church, West Grinstead**

**Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am**

### **FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT**

**Exhibition of Transport Through the Ages**

The importance of the Canal, Turnpikes and Railway to the parish of West Grinstead

### **HARRIS'S OLDE TYME FUN FAYRE**

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**Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup> Preview Evening 6.30pm to 8.30pm**

**Wine and Canapés Tickets £10.00**

**Country Music and The History of the Adur Canal Talk**

**Contacts: Brenda Weller 711 821, Lynda Martin 864 329, Dave Tidey 864 762**



**OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
WEST GRINSTEAD  
& CORPUS CHRISTI CHURH, HENFIELD**

**Holy Week & Easter**

**Palm Sunday** 9.00am Mass at Corpus Christi, Henfield  
28<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am Parish Mass  
3.00pm Extraordinary Form of the Mass (Latin)

**Holy (Maundy)Thursday** 8.00am Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper  
1<sup>st</sup> April followed by the Watch until Midnight

**Good Friday** 10.30am Stations of the Cross for families  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2.00pm Stations of the Cross (traditional)  
3.00pm Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday** 7.30pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of the Resurrection  
3<sup>rd</sup> April

**Easter Day** 9.00pm Mass at Corpus Christi, Henfield  
4<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am Parish Mass (West Grinstead)

**Low Sunday** 9.00am Mass at Corpus Christi, Henfield  
11<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am Parish Mass  
2.00pm Diocesan Divine Mercy Pilgrimage

*For all other details please telephone the Parish Office on 01403 710273*

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## PARTRIDGE GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

### EASTER

We are once again joining up with other local churches to provide Lent Lunches at our church hall beginning

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February and continuing until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Lunches will be served between 12.15 and 1.30pm.

Proceeds will go towards the World Vision project which we support in Zimbabwe.

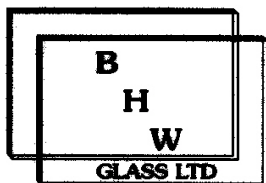
On **Good Friday** we will join the Procession of Witness which leaves St. Michael's at 10am.

You are invited to join us at 2pm at the Methodist Church for our annual ramble.

We return to the church at approx. 4pm for hot cross buns and tea.

This will be followed at 5pm by a short service led by Rev. Paul Cockburn.

**Easter Sunday** the service at 10.30am will include Holy Communion.



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## **HURUNGWE PROJECT (ZIMBABWE) - February 2010**

The Annual Report from World Vision shows that the Project is working well, and that gradually there are improvements in the lives of the people there. 'Channels of Hope' workshops have been held throughout the year, and 320 church leaders have completed courses on HIV/AIDS. These are both informative and practical. The leaders then teach 'Hope Teams' who carry on the work, thus extending help to many more orphans and vulnerable people. They often need food, soap, medicines, gloves and clothes. The good news is that rates of HIV/AIDS infections have been falling as the information on avoiding infection is more widely spread. Education helps remove the stigma of the disease and demonstrates how aid can best be given.

Malaria is also more under control, again with education on prevention and with the supply of long lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets and also blankets. The new cholera outbreak has not badly affected the Hurungwe area at the time of writing. Last year the harvest in the whole of Zimbabwe was very poor, so food shortages are common.

However the garden project in Hurungwe has worked well. Vegetable seeds were distributed, and some church gardens now feed local people in need. Others are able to sell some produce to help pay for health and schooling needs for the children in their care.

Our help, and that of many others, is making a real difference to the lives of many of the people. Thank you so much. Once again, thank you to our carol singers, all who gave their support, and to the Methodist Church for the so welcome refreshments at the end of a very cold evening. We raised £136.10. Lent Lunches in the Methodist Hall will be available every Thursday from February 18th to April 1st from 12:45 to 1:45 pm. Do come along if you are free. The proceeds from your £2 lunch will go to Hurungwe.

There is always more information available in participating churches, or contact one of us and we will try to help.

***Thank you from the people of Hurungwe and from our small committee***  
***Geoff Bird (Treasurer) 710875, Robin Taylor 01273 495194***  
***Marion Van Breda 711526***

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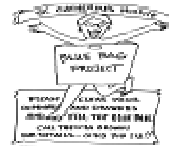
davegreenfield8@hotmail.com



## ST CATHERINE'S HOSPICE

Our Partridge Green Group celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Our very first event was a coffee morning on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2000, which raised £272.86. During the intervening 10 years the Group has contributed £50996.84 to Hospice funds. In addition the Blue Bag Scheme, which has been running for 2 years and 6 months, has raised a further £12,000, making a grand total of £62,996.84 for our Group. This fantastic result has been achieved by the efforts of so many people who have filled our collection boxes, made donations and supported the various events that have been organized over the years.

**THANK YOU so much to you all.**



The Hospice is planning to open a new shop in Caterham in the near future, and it is very pleasing to know that many items from our Blue Bags are considered to be exceptional quality and have been put aside to form part of the opening stock.

Future fund raising events include the annual sponsored bike ride on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, based at Handcross Park School, and the sponsored Midnight Walk for women only on 18<sup>th</sup> June. Full details of the bike ride will be available shortly – the Midnight Walk will start and finish in Horsham Park and is ideal for women of all ages and fitness levels. Entry costs £15 and every walker will receive a special Midnight Walk T shirt, refreshments along the way and breakfast and a medal at the finish line. Both of these events are fun-orientated and you don't need to be super fit to take part in them, so please make a real effort to join up and raise some much needed sponsorship money.

The Garden and Local Produce Fair will be held at Summers Place, Billingshurst on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 8.30am to 3.30pm. This event always draws many visitors and is a must for all garden lovers.

The Autumn Gift Fair will take place at Knepp Castle, Shipley, on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, with over 70 stalls offering a whole range of goodies – something to suit everyone.

Please watch this space for details of further future events.

Once again we must say "VERY WELL DONE" to all of our supporters. Please keep the good work going.

***Thelma and George***



## COME RAIN COME SHINE

You would be forgiven for thinking this piece was going to be all about snow. Although December was not particularly outstanding, November was quite a remarkable month, and has been forgotten as we struggled under a blanket of snow in January.

Last November was the wettest in my records, with a total rainfall of 9.02", about half an inch above the previous record holder. This was well over twice the average for the month which is around four inches. There was measurable rain on all but two days during the month, again another record. The thirteenth of the month was particularly wet, with 1.26" of rain; this was on top of the 0.76" the day before. There was another very wet spell at the end of the month with a total of 1.83" spread over the 27th, 28th and 29th. The temperatures in November were above average and it wasn't until the 30th that I recorded my first frost. The average minimum night-time temperature was 1.4°C above the normal average for November.

The rainfall in December was about 1½" above average at 5.01", with heavier rainfall at the start and end of the month, especially the 29th with 0.82". There was also a light covering of snow on the 16th and 17th, although this quickly vanished.

The temperatures in December were the complete opposite of November, with both day and night-time temperatures below average. The temperatures were very similar to last December with frosts recorded on 15 nights.

The total rainfall for the year was 38.15", which is just over seven inches above average, and this makes 2009 the wettest year since 2002. November's extraordinary rainfall total contributed nearly a quarter of the yearly total.

It will come as no surprise that the temperatures in January were well below average. Frosts were recorded on 18 nights (twice the normal amount) and this helped keep the average much lower than normal. In fact for the first time in my records the average night-time temperature for January was below freezing, at -0.4°C which is about 3°C below normal.

### **Early Dementia Day Clubs**

*For the lighter side of quality care that is stimulating, entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable*

Careful Hands Ltd currently run early dementia clubs 3 days a week at Warnham, Horsham and are coming to the Partridge Green area in March/April 2010. The day includes a nutritious lunch, crafts & fun activities.

### **Respite & Home Support Services**

Our experienced staff, who are of course CRB checked, recognise the testing issues that can accompany dementia and will undertake household tasks, respite sitting or companionship with diplomatic & friendly care.

### **Contact Us:**

You are welcome to join one of our clubs or we will be pleased to visit you to discuss your individual needs.

Please call Jenny on 07951 652788

or E Mail: [info@carefulhands.net](mailto:info@carefulhands.net) or visit our website at: [www.carefulhands.net](http://www.carefulhands.net)

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There is not much more I can say about the snow that hasn't already been said in newspapers, television and radio. To really do it justice would take a whole newsletter in itself. The bulk of the snow fell on the night of the 5th/early hours of the 6th, and that is when everything ground to a halt for a while. There was further snow and sleet over the next four days, but not in any great quantity beyond the 6th until the 12th when there was a further covering of snow.

The actual amount of snow I measured on the morning of the sixth was about 4", although I have heard local measurements of between 4" and 8". When melted this snow equated to 1.05" of rain, and the overall rainfall for the month was 3.63", about a third of an inch above average.

The cold temperatures kept the snow lying on the ground for well over a week, and it wasn't until the temperatures started to rise up to 6°C and 7°C around the 15th and 16th that we finally saw the snow disappear, although some of the larger heaps of cleared snow and ice have lasted well into February.

I think we have heard enough about cold and wet weather, so here is a rhyme for the coming months, to remind us that spring is on its way and hopefully with it drier, warmer and brighter days:

*A dry March, wet April and cool May  
Fill barn, cellar, and bring much hay.*

**John Gasson**

# FREEMAN BROTHERS

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## SUSSEX WILDLIFE

Not the best of starts for a New Year so I thought I would finish off 2009 with some of the exciting natural history seen in and around the parish during the back end. This is a lovely expression used in the North of England.

On one day in October there were 36 Painted Lady and 10 Peacock butterflies in Oakwood. I really hope they have now found shelter as usually if we do get a warm spell in February we see the Peacocks again – something to really look forward to. We now have somebody local recording fungi and as far as I am aware over 60 species have been found so far including Plums and Custard, Wood Mushroom, Bay Boletus and Butter Wax Cap. Needless to say birds have featured with 8 goldfinch on one feeder and several reports of longtailed tits. A really exciting sighting in the middle of December was a view of all five species of thrushes on our holly bush which had the most berries I have ever seen, but they did not last long with the onslaught of a Mistle and two Song Thrushes, eight Blackbirds, one Fieldfare and eight Redwings. The last 2009 highlight was a Barn Owl seen in the vicinity of Wilton Close.

Into 2010 and I am so pleased to say that I already have super things reported. I have not been able to see it personally but I know the Winter Heliotrope around St. George's Church has been spectacular. It has a lovely almond scent and before the leaves get really huge the flowers are really attractive. When the snow went there was a large flock of Fieldfares and Starlings on the fields up Littleworth Lane, all enjoying the chance to probe for food. A major personal excitement was the arrival, albeit briefly, on our patio of a male Yellowhammer, a really striking finch with a brilliant yellow head. We have lived in Littleworth 44 years and this is the first time I have seen this species in the garden — hence the excitement. It is a bird of farmland and has certainly declined in decent years so maybe it is making a recovery.

I also had a very interesting visit from a former resident, Mr Doug Penniford who brought me a detailed description of an event in 1951 down Spithandle Lane, Ashurst when he, Tom Jackson and Gordon Tidey were able to photograph a Nightjar with young. To my knowledge this summer visitor no longer breeds in the parish but there are several pairs in the RSPB reserve at Pulborough and on the commons at Iping and Lavington. They have a wonderful churring noise which starts as it gets dark and just as the midges come out in their thousands so repellent is definitely the order of the day. The Nightjar will not be with us until May, but another migrant is already here. In fact it may not have gone away as more and more have been wintering in the South of England. This is the Blackcap and one was seen in the car park by the shops in the High Street.

Writing this towards the end of January I already have one clump of snowdrops out, such a cheery sight so there is plenty to look forward to in the coming weeks.

*Iris Simpson*

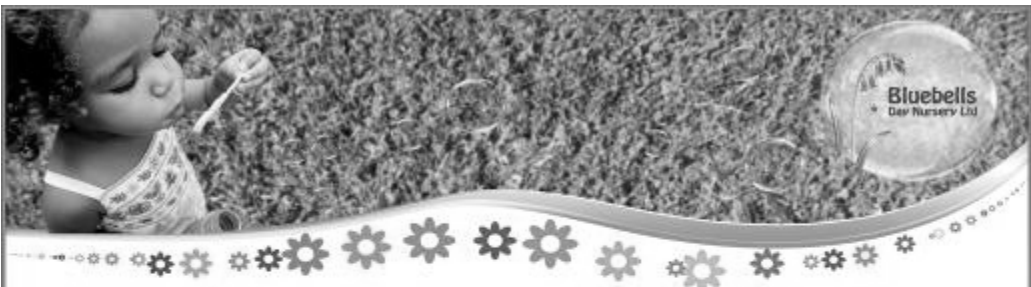
## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Spring is the time of year when we often go out in the garden and leave the side door unlocked or even open. Unfortunately in this current climate, this is the opportunity for a sneak thief to enter your property without you knowing and be out again with your valuables without you knowing until you return indoors. It is also advisable not to leave garden implements about after a day gardening as thieves use spades and the such like to force open patio doors. The advice from the police is to lock your side door if you are out in the garden or answering the front door and lock your garden equipment away in the shed at night.

There have been a few burglaries in Partridge Green and West Grinstead but well below the national average.

There have been some reported phone calls where someone phones you up, says you have won a prize and asks for a deposit to pay for paperwork or worst still asks for your bank details. These are all scams and must be ignored. No one gives you money for nothing and once these people have the details of your bank account they can clean you out in an instant.

Beware of doorstep callers offering to carry out some task for you at an inflated price. There are still some about. There are plenty of local traders who can do a much better job and at a cheaper price.



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***For further information please contact Mary or Louise on 01403 711084***

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## **HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS**

The extreme weather we saw recently and the slow thaw has made the start of this year one to remember. While we enjoyed the snow fall initially it brought with it a whole host of problems for us in the rural areas.

Elderly and vulnerable people, students taking GCSE exams and commuters were confronted by many difficulties. Horsham District Council diverted its refuse collecting staff to help the County Council keep the main highways open and other staff helped to deliver essential services and minimise disruption caused by the cold snap. However HDC are reviewing its response to the snow to see what lessons can be learnt.

The Flooding & Drainage Working Group has met three times this year to take evidence from Southern Water, West Sussex County Council and Shermanbury Parish Council.

The Environment Agency will give evidence in March and the group hope that they will be able to report by April. Evidence given by West Sussex County Council showed that Cowfold, Partridge Green and Shermanbury have been identified as high risk sites for surface water flooding. Lack of maintenance of rural ditches and culverts is a recurring theme of evidence given to the working group.



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MicroBiz the annual event organised by HDC to support small businesses and start ups will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March. MicroBiz's success has recently been recognised by the award of the Local Authority Small Business Award by the Federation of Small Businesses. In its eighth year this HDC initiative has helped hundreds of small businesses, especially those based at home, to tackle these challenging times.

By the time you read the Newsletter you will know how much your council tax will be. Ian and I have worked with District Councillors of all parties to minimise the increase while maintaining services. Inevitably charges will have to go up to meet the short-fall in revenue caused by the financial crisis and Horsham receiving some of the lowest grants in the country from central government. We do believe that the budget agreed is a cautious and prudent one for these difficult times.

This winter local residents and local councillors have been working on helping to find a solution to the issue of Partridge Green's Boy Scouts hut. These local scouts and their volunteer helpers are striving to re-establish a Boy Scout group that matches the success of the Girl Guides. The work of the uniformed youth movement is essential to the well-being of any community and we must try our best to support scouting in Partridge Green.

**Jonathan Chowen**, District Councillor, 01403 710634

E-mail: [Jonathan.chowen@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.chowen@horsham.gov.uk),

**Ian Shepherd District** Councillor, 01403 789141 E-mail:

[Ian.shepherd@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.shepherd@horsham.gov.uk)

## OUR WONDERFUL CARING COMMUNITY

We are sure we were not alone in feeling very vulnerable during the extreme weather in January. However a day did not pass without friends and neighbours checking on our well-being and offering to do any shopping, even when it meant walking to the village in the thick snow and ice. It really lifted our spirits. In earlier crises like the 1987 storm we were able to help others and it was those folk with gas who provided hot meals and drinks for the many of us without heat and light, but we are now a lot older so are not in a position to offer help and it is the owners of four wheel drive vehicles who come to the rescue – how things have changed.

We would like to express our real appreciation of the many kindnesses we received and feel sure that other people had the same experience and would wish to do the same. Our parish is a great place to live . **Thank you all. Alf and Iris Simpson**

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Precept

The precept for the financial year 2010/2011 was set at £61,788 at the Finance meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, which represented a zero increase on the precept set for 2009/2010. This was subsequently agreed at the meeting of the full Council on 20<sup>th</sup> January. This still allowed for a contribution of £2000 towards the allotments project during the year and also took account of the agreement that the Parish Council should accept the cost of rejoining the Sussex Association of Local Councils.

### Christmas Lights

The annual switching on ceremony of the Christmas lights took place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Once again there was a very good turn out for both the switching on and the Christmas carols and refreshments in the village hall afterwards.

### Public Meeting Local Transport & Traffic

Approximately fifty people attended a meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January prompted by the numerous comments about traffic and transport issues mentioned in the returns of the parish questionnaire. County Councillor Lionel Barnard provided an overview of the County Council's role and Chief Inspector Mark Trimmer spoke about the current approach of the Police to issues such as speeding and parking. Seven members of the public volunteered to be on the Transport Working Group to be set up by the Parish Council.

### Planning

In recent years the proliferation of wind turbines within rural areas has become a much-debated issue. Up until recently it has been an issue that has passed this parish by. At the planning meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February however the Planning Committee had to consider an application for the erection of a wind turbine at Bowshotts Stud on the Cowfold Road at West Grinstead. A number of local residents expressed concern about the impact of a wind turbine within in this location and also that they had not been notified about the application.



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The Planning Committee asked for the application to be determined by the Area South Committee at Horsham District Council rather than be determined under delegated powers by officers. Another planning application that caused concern to a number of local residents was at Construction House on the Star Road Estate. The previous occupiers of the unit had caused considerable disturbance to local residents and it was feared that a requested change of use to allow the production of marble and granite worktops would lead to further problems in the future. The application was however approved by Horsham District Council after submissions were put forward to demonstrate that there would not be significant noise and disturbance generated by the proposed use.

### **Dial Post Village Hall**

The new hall is now open for business and the first Parish Council Meeting to be held there took place on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Whilst there are still some external works to be finished the hall was completed in line with earlier projections and represents a marvellous achievement on the part of those who raised the necessary funds and saw the project through to completion. (*see also p44*)

### **Cold Weather Conditions**

Not surprisingly the ongoing cold weather conditions were discussed at the January Meeting of the Parish Council. Both the Finance and Open Spaces Committee meetings scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> January had to be cancelled. Lionel Barnard provided an update on the County Council's response to the challenge of the severe winter weather. It had been necessary to prioritise the gritting of roads with the emphasis on keeping the major roads usable for essential services leading to some of the roads being gritted three times per day. This inevitably meant some minor roads could not be treated. The question of communities acting together more to look after themselves was discussed following the disruption caused by the weather and in response the Parish Council is looking to produce a parish community emergency plan.

### **Scouts**

The local scouting group has had a difficult time in recent years with numbers declining. The group has however re-launched itself and now has a thriving Beaver group meeting in the church room behind St Michael's. Plans to re-launch the Cubs in February / March are well advanced.

***Marcus Staples***

***The Parish Office (at PG village hall) opening times are:  
Monday 14.00 – 17.00; Tuesday 9.00 – 13.00;  
Wednesday 14.00 – 19.00; Thursday Closed; Friday 9.00 – 13.00  
Tel: 01403 710270 email: westgrinsteadpc@tiscali.co.uk***

## MY TRIP TO KENYA ...

On December 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 I was lucky enough to be going on a trip to Kenya with the Henfield Football club who had been fund raising for a long time. The aim was to take out to the local community their old football kits, boots, shoes, clothes and school equipment and also play football with the local boys.

Day 1: 14 of us arrived in Nairobi after a night flight, all very tired but excited. After a short drive to the accommodation and lunch we drove to our first football match. We were not prepared for what came next. The vans pulled up next to a pitch of sorts where we assumed we were going to play, but no, after a long walk into the slums of Kibera and through long bumpy narrow roads with open sewers, we eventually arrived at the pitch (if you can call it that) and were met by Vincent and Kirsty who worked for a charity called Vision Africa and who organized all the matches in Kibera. After losing our first match we shared our drinks and biscuits with the teams.

Day 2: Early in the morning we were off to Nakuru, a long journey, but with stunning views of the rift valley and of Africa.

## ...BY SAM GREEN

Our next match was at Ronda School where we were met by the singing of the local older girls. The boys played their 2<sup>nd</sup> game, and lost! The locals enjoyed having their photos taken. After the game we had refreshments again and a sermon by the local preacher. The boys interacted well and left school things and clothes etc.

Day 3: We were up early and off to the Makuru National Park famous for its lake, flamingos and rhino. We went off to baboon cliff — the view was amazing but not a single baboon! Then it was back home for a quick lunch and then off to a stadium for a game. But then it hit me, I don't know what its called in Africa but if in India, it's Delhi belly. What a joy, so I missed the game and the donation of some of the things we had brought with us.

Day 4: No breakfast for me, just pack up and on the van for a 5hour trip with legs crossed! We were off to the Masai Mara for a safari 2 night stay. When we arrived at the entrance of the Masai Mara Park the security was very tight and the Masai women very intimidating. We arrived at the fig tree camp, wow what a beautiful place, our accommodation had up to now been very basic, this was under canvas but it wasn't camping. We had a wonderful welcome lunch before going off to see the animals, Zebra, lions with cubs, buffalo, giraffe and a leopard, just amazing!

Day 5: Oh dear now 3 of us had the bug and we decided to opt out of the safari. The others spotted a cheatah plus lots of other animals and came home for a swim and visit to the Masai village. When we arrived it was very hot and the Masai men greeted us with their dancing and jumping, we had to take turns in joining in.



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Then we had a tour round the village, it's so basic but very clearly designed for their needs. The men are allowed to take more than one wife, but they get cattle for them so the more wives the more cows!

Day 6: We were very sad to leave such a beautiful place, we set off back to Nairobi for a quick lunch and then back to Kabira where we met Vincent and Kirsty again and they took us to an office which was being used as an after school club for the local children to come and sing. This was above the public toilets, you cannot imagine the smell.

They had plumbed the pipes from the toilets up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where they turned the sewage into gas for cooking. From here we went onto our 4<sup>th</sup> game next to the railway line. With a number of the boys not well, we had to borrow some from the local team, but this was good for all of us.

Day 7: We were off to the elephant orphanage and giraffe sanctuary: a really lovely experience. Then back for game 5 which we lost, these boys were quite good and a few of them play in bare feet or with one boot on their striking foot!

Day 8: This was the last day and the boys all got some time out to go swimming, they were all getting very tired now.

After lunch we headed off to another stadium, played our last match 9, (lost)

and after the match we had a big presentation of all the different kits we had brought with us.

We had a photo shoot of the boys in the kits – they were all eager to try them on.

We also planted some small trees around the stadium we had purchased and then it was time to leave. It was actually very emotional. After dinner it was time to pack up and leave, we were coming home to the snow!

We also took with us 28 teddy bears knitted by the ladies at the Open Door Club. Kirsty was going to be spending Christmas day at the abandoned baby orphanage and was delighted to have some Christmas presents. She emailed me 3 beautiful photos of the babies and their teddies and said the matron of the orphanage was going to put the bag that each one came with on the end of their cots. Thanks to all who made them.

I would like to say a big thank you firstly to the boys, they all behaved so well and were a pleasure to take away. Also I would really like to thank everyone who donated, from boots to balls, it was a drop in the ocean for what they need out there, but it's a start and I am sure we will keep a connection going with Vincent and Kirsty.







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## CASPER JARRETT'S GARDENING CORNER

As I sit here writing this piece with the coldest winter for years still with us, Spring gardening seems a distant dream. However bulbs are springing up out of the ground, the first snowdrop is about to flower and if we get some sun the crocuses won't be too far behind.

The first signs of spring can be seen in opening leaf buds and the growth of grass, weeds and flowers from daffodils to dwarf tulips. It is one of the busiest months for the gardener with vital pruning tasks to be done.

Buddleias should be cut back, removing all of last season's top growth to an inch above the older brown wood.

Pansies or Violas can now be grown out of doors. They will be sufficiently mature to flower during the late summer and again next year and are excellent as an edging to rose beds.

If you want to grow your own tomatoes, peppers, aubergines and half hardy annuals such as antirrhinums and petunias, start them off now in a heated propagator in the greenhouse or alternatively on a south facing window-sill in the house.

Cut back late flowering clematis almost to ground level to a plump pair of buds on each stem. Once daffodils and narcissi have finished flowering remove the spent flowers so that the bulb does not have to waste needless energy in forming seeds and apply fertiliser to ensure good plump bulb growth. If your bulbs have not flowered well they may be overcrowded and once the foliage has nearly all died down then it is a good idea to dig up the clump and separate the bulbs so that they can be planted singly with some space around them.

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## Gardening Cont.....

If you are a vegetable grower you can now sow seed such as brussel sprouts and parsnips outside, and lettuce, cabbage and cauliflower indoors for planting out later.

If your garden is like mine you will need to protect the emerging shoots of delphiniums, hostas and lupins against slugs. There are now methods that are safe to birds including slug traps and sharp gravel. However some slug pellets now claim to be safe for animals to eat.

Prune bush and HT roses in mid March or early April with a special rose fertiliser and again in July.

The popular Japonica is one of those shrubs which should be pruned when flowering has finished. When grown as a bush in the open it requires little or no pruning but if it is planted as a wall shrub it is necessary to keep its shape.

The fragrant Daphne is a spring flowering shrub which should not be pruned as it dislikes cutting of any kind.

At the beginning of March it should be safe enough to plant sweet peas in the open ground. At the end of March it should be safe enough to plant dahlia tubers.

***Children have sung "Here we go gathering nuts in May" for generations and the brighter ones have wondered about the month chosen for this little song, and just what nuts might you expect to be available in May. The original version of this nursery rhyme did not mention nuts at all children used to sing "Here we go gathering Knots in May" as they gathered knots of bunches of flowers in readiness for the May Day Festival.***

**David Webb**

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## **WEST GRINSTEAD PLANNING REPORT**

### **PENDING**

DC/10/0245: 20 Blanches Rd, PG: single-storey side annexe extension (Lawful development prop)

DC/10/0219: Honeybridge Mushroom Farm, Honeybridge Lane, DP: 2400sqm polytunnels

DC/10/0102: Sheiling, Bines Rd, PG: workshop & greenhouse

DC/10/0071: Badgers Ash, Church Rd, PG: rear conservatory

DC/09/2187: 53 Oakwood, PG: 2 storey extension

DC/09/1823: Hobshorts Barn, Rookcross Lane, WG: demolition of existing atcost building & erection of new building, tractor shed, stable block & riding arena

DC/09/1729: Star Rd: development of 15 commercial (B8) and office (B1) use units arranged in 4 blocks

DC/09/1503: New House Farm, Worthing Rd, WG: change of use of 2 redundant agricultural buildings

DC/08/2556: KGV Recreation ground, PG: replacement scout hut

### **REFUSED**

DC/09/2071: Grants Farmhouse, Lock, PG: 1-bed annexe (plus LBC)

DC/09/1989: Land north of Oakley flats, High St, PG: replace 2 existing buildings with a single building for ancillary residential use

DC/09/1811: Bowshots, Cowfold Rd, WG: erection of wind turbine

DC/09/1809: Bowshots, Cowfold Rd, WG: erection of timber shed as home office

DC/09/1807: Bowshotts Stud, Cowfold Rd, WG: installation of rooflights, windows & solar panels

DC/09/1772: 1 The Rise, PG: construction of hard standing for caravan with new access

### **APPEALS**

DC/09/0481: Blanches Farm, Littleworth Lane, PG: removal of agricultural occupancy condition 4 of WG/18/71

DC/09/1989: Land north of Oakley flats, High St, PG: replace 2 existing buildings with a single building for ancillary residential use

DC/09/1772: 1 The Rise, PG: construction of hard standing for caravan with new access



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**PERMITTED**

DC/10/0024: Woodbine Cottage, Littleworth Lane, PG: 2-storey rear & single-storey side extensions

DC/09/2364: Old Barn Cottage, Worthing Rd, DP: change of use to coffee shop

DC/09/2338: 15 Bedford Sq, PG: rear conservatory

DC/09/2279: Moat Cottage, Worthing Rd, DP: chainlink and timber fencing

DC/09/2246: Moat Cottage, Worthing Rd, DP: rear ground floor extension, dormer window, balcony

DC/09/2235: The Old Cottage, 35 Bar Lane, WG: retention of 4 roof lights to rear (plus LBC)

DC/09/2039: Keepers Mead, Greentree Lane, PG: demolition of existing 1-storey extension, construction of 2-storey extension (plus LBC)

DC/09/2006: Construction House, Star Rd, PG: change of use from B1/B8 to B2

DC/09/1981: 7 Middle Rd, PG: retention of 2 metre high brick pillars & wooden gates

DC/09/1931: Hameeda, 5 The Old Sussex Stud: internal works (LBC)

DC/09/1897: Bentons Lane, DP: surgery to 1 oak tree (T6), land opposite Holly Lodge

DC/09/1825: Priors Byne Farm, Lock Lane, PG: agricultural workers 3-bed dwelling to replace mobile home (outline)

DC/09/1822: Hydehurst Farm, Worthing Rd, DP: retention of existing lounge extension to mobile home

DC/09/0866: Wincaves Farm, Worthing Rd, DP: retrospective application for phase 2 of acoustic bund (approved WG/11/03)




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## WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

If there is one subject that dominates my postbag it is speed of traffic and the condition of our roads. We have recently experienced the worst snow storms in 30 years, which meant a real and unenviable struggle for those living in side roads and now we are trying to deal with thousands of potholes, many of which threaten to dominate the road surface.

Over £2m and nine teams have been diverted to searching out and filling potholes. Often these holes are 'cold filled' on a temporary basis. We know it isn't as good as a hot fill but a rapid response during rainy weather is often called for. There are some 2,500 miles of roads in West Sussex and the upkeep on them all is something of a strain on our budgets. Unfortunately the weather doesn't recognise how much, or how little, money there is to spend and we are experiencing weather systems that are, to say the least, unusual, forecasting what you will need a year ahead isn't easy.

The other worry residents quite rightly have is speeding and excessive loads on large lorries. The police can address both but ask for your help in doing so by reporting anything that you see as unreasonable behaviour to [www.crackdown.org](http://www.crackdown.org) This is a totally anonymous way of telling the police who they should target. And they do, I recently heard of a car salesman who constantly drove in an unsociable manner and had his car taken away from him. A constant complaint is parking outside fire stations, but many that do it are locals collecting milk or newspapers and they feel very aggrieved when asked not to do this. It is an unfortunate fact too that untidy parking in a high street will slow the speed of traffic down. But, two wrongs don't make a right.

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Many of the members are concerned about the subject of speeding motorists. Unfortunately lowering the speed limits doesn't always work, as many drivers ignore them anyway, whatever they are, and regrettably many live locally. The County Council is asking the cabinet member for Highways to consider how we can address the problem of speeding through villages and how we can address this through the rules and regulations. What we need is a full-scale investigation as to what we can do, what we reasonably can't and how do we make drivers more socially responsible. The full debate will be webcast and is available for some time afterwards, you can find it on the county website after 12<sup>th</sup> February. We desperately need to keep the killed and seriously injured (KSI) numbers in our county down and I know that the Police, the County and the Safer Roads partnerships are working hard to do so. Let us hope that all drivers do too.

**Lionel Barnard**, Deputy Leader of the County Council

Member of the Sussex Police Authority.

Local Matters 01403 711856, County Matters 01243 756784

E: [lionel.barnard@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:lionel.barnard@westsussex.gov.uk)

## A CUP OF TEA WITH ...FATHER WILLIAM



William Harris was born in Bangalore, India, in 1946, the youngest of four, with two elder brothers and a sister. His father's family had been in India since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, while his mother was Russian; they had met and married while his father was in military service in Basra, Afghanistan.

William went to St John's College in Bangalore until he was about 10 years old, when his father, now a manager at British American Tobacco, sent his wife and children to the UK for educational reasons. They came to Nuthurst and William attended Gaveston Hall, returning to India every summer for the holidays. He left there aged 14 and went to Andrew Cairns School in Littlehampton, where he found life somewhat different from the sheltered time at Gaveston. He then joined the Royal Engineers and as a sapper served in Germany and Aden (when it was a hot spot for the army), before being demobbed owing to problems with his back. Once in Civvy Street, he found himself working in Goring for a company that designed packaging for the perfumery trade.

Even as a child, observing the vicar, Revd Dr George Gibson in Nuthurst, William had thought "I could do that job", but he did not respond to this calling until after the sudden and early death of a brain haemorrhage of his first wife, Lynn, in 1971. He presented himself to his local vicar, and so began the long process of interviews before he was accepted into Salisbury and Wells Theological College.

He was curate at his first job in Eastbourne when he rediscovered in the late 1970s an old family friend, Mary, from the Indian days. They were married in 1977, and after serving as a curate in Worthing and Brighton, William came with Mary to West Grinstead in 1985.

**What is your choice of fancy dress?** A villain.

**Who would you invite to dinner?** Billy Connelly and somebody to the right of Genghis Khan.

**Best childhood memory?** Christmas in India, with the smell of pine from the tree, and my mother brushing cotton wool across the branches to make snow.

**Favourite piece of music:** *Tribe Bolero* by Sasha Sitkovetsky

**Most watched film:** The Die Hard movies.

**Your hero:** Older brother Nick, whom nothing fazes. He was my role model as I grew up, and I still use him as a benchmark.

**Most frightening moment:** Photographing a half-exposed, possibly booby-trapped unexploded mine in Yemen without a telephoto lens. I had to stand astride it.

**If you had to live abroad, where would it be?** India or South Africa. The warmth and way of life appeal.

**Marmite or Bovril?** Yuk.





## HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL HEALTH WALKS

All welcome to guided, **free**, sociable, HDC walks led by trained volunteers; no need to book, just turn-up at the start point (if you are new to our scheme please arrive 15 minutes before the start time for registration). Programme booklet containing about 200 walks is available by contacting the Walks Co-ordinator on 01403 215269 or by downloading from the website (enter Horsham DC Walks on a search site, e.g. Google). Beginners are recommended to contact the Walk Leader to discuss suitability. Forthcoming walks in the **West Grinstead** Parish and neighbouring areas are as follows:-

**(1008) Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2.00 pm: Down & Up the Downs Link**, 2 mile gentle flat stroll along the Downs Link. Surface suitable for mobility scooters and wheelchairs. Meet in the **WSSC car park next to the Downs Link at West Grinstead**. Dogs allowed on a lead. 1½ hours. **Leader Derrick 01293 523531**

**(2094) Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 10.00 am: George & Dragon, Dragons Green**, near Shipley, **New Walk:** (the pub with a gravestone in the garden). About 5 ½ mile circular walk on undulating Wealden tracks and through woodland, Could be wet and muddy in places. Meet in pub car park, good beer and excellent food (TQ 139235). No dogs. 2 ¾ hours. **Leaders Bill 01403 256248 & Geoff 01403 258180**

**(1009) Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 11.00 am: Southwater**, as for Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> March above.

**(2084) Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 am: The White Horse, Maplehurst**, 4¾ mile, mostly flat, circular walk across farmland around the village. Good views of the South Downs. Could be wet and muddy in places. Good real ale and food in this Free House. Meet in pub car park (TQ 190246 RH13 6LL). **Leaders Bill 01403 256248 & Geoff 01403 258180**

**(2087) Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 am: The Countryman Inn, Shipley going South**, as for Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March above.

**(2093) Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 10.00 am: The White Horse, Maplehurst - Going East** (Note new starting point): About 6 mile circular Wealden walk through fields and woodland. Could be wet and muddy in places. Meet in the pub car park, good beer and food (TQ 190246 RH13 6LL). No dogs. 3 hours. **Leaders Bill 01403 256248 & Geoff 01403 258180**

**(2025) Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 6.45 pm: The Countryman Inn, Shipley**  
**4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MID-SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM WALK & BBQ & MUSIC**

A shortened version (four miles, two hours) of our usual flat circular walk (5 stiles) through farmland, Shipley village and Knepp Park where we hope to see Fallow Deer, Tamworth Pigs, Exmoor Ponies and Old English Longhorn Cattle followed by a pub BBQ at £10 per head as the last 3 years and a live "Good Time" jazz band in the pub garden. No dogs. Please advise Bill before 18<sup>th</sup> June if you wish to participate.

**Leader Bill 01403 256248 & Geoff 01403 258180**

# WEST GRINSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

INVITES YOU TO THE

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

on

Wednesday 24th March 2010

at 7.30 p.m.

Partridge Green Village Hall

What has been happening within your Parish over the last year and what are the plans for the future?

Members of the Council and local organisations will be reporting on activities.

Come and chat to your councillors over cheese and wine. Raise questions, either on the night, or in writing beforehand.

**The Chairman and members of the Parish Council  
look forward to meeting you.**

Questions to: The Clerk, Parish Office, Village Hall, High Street, Partridge Green, RH13 8HX



## WEST SUSSEX FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Winter proved a fairly quiet time for the local fire crew, apart from a few Road traffic collisions on the A24 in Dial Post. The snow was beautiful to look at, but made life interesting whilst responding to both the station and incidents during early January. I would like to thank Michael Nash for lending us (Nick Hedley) his tractor to clear a path into the fire station. This made life so much easier for the crew to respond to emergencies, whilst navigating through PARKED vehicles blocking our entrance.

Parking in front of the Fire station was a major topic for debate at January's WG Parish meeting. As a result of the meeting it has been decided, following advice from Sussex Police & West Sussex County Council, that vehicles will now be reported to the Police via 'Operation Crackdown'. It's with much sadness that the crew find themselves in this position of reporting many local residents for nuisance parking. However it's not just about the appliance responding to emergencies. Firstly about the crew being able to get into the station to crew the appliance.

We appreciate that local residents have to use the Co-op and that Lorries have to deliver provisions, but please avoid parking in any of the 'zig zags' in front of the fire station.

Now that Spring is upon us it's time to carry-out a 'fire safety spring clean' to reduce the risk fire in the home. Partridge Green firefighters have the following fire safety tips;

- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- To help prevent nuisance alarms, gently vacuum your smoke alarm every six months or as needed.
- Change batteries in smoke alarms, torches and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Never borrow smoke alarm batteries to use for toys or other equipment.
- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer
- Use outdoor BBQ's (weather permitting) with caution. Place in a safe area away from building, windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units or places with high/dead vegetation.
- Never use petrol to start the fire, and don't add charcoal lighter fluid once the fire has started.
- Use BBQ's outside only - not under overhangs or balconies, and away from combustibles.

Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks; never store propane indoors.

Keep safe and remember 'Think before you act, don't act before you think!' We are here to make YOU safer, so please help us to help you and KEEPING CLEAR of the entrance to the station

Until next time.....Watch manager **Joe Bullingham**

## OUR HISTORY

### THOMAS STONE 1849 – 1937

#### Verger at St. Michael's and All Angels for 45 years

"It is taking us a long time to get over it. The church has become part of us" said Mrs. Stone in July 1935.

That Sunday was the first time for 45 years that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stone of High Street, Partridge Green had been able to leave the Parish Church after a service without having to stay to "lock up" and as Mrs. Stone said, "it is very hard". The church was built in 1890, and from the very beginning Mr. Stone had been the verger there, and his wife had started looking after the inside of the church in 1903, but now both felt, at the age of 86 and 83 respectively, that they had earned retirement. They had served no fewer than 17 rectors, during which time they had also seen the harmonium replaced by an organ, the addition of a chancel screen and of a fine lectern.

Mr. Stone's connection with the church goes back before he was a verger, however, because he was, as foreman of a brickyard in Partridge Green, responsible for making the bricks that were used in building it. He belonged to a Bosham family, whilst his wife came from Spalding in Lincolnshire. Thomas married Sarah Susannah Wadds in St. John's Church, Burgess Hill on March 9th 1878 and moved to Partridge Green in the following year. Between 1879 and 1892 they had eight children, five boys and three girls. (Fanny, Thomas, Tamar, William, Charles, Harriet, Percy and Frederick.) It appears that at least seven of them attended Jolesfield School. Unfortunately, between



*Thomas Stone*

1909 and 1915, four of the children died from tuberculosis, all being in their early 20s. Thomas and Sarah moved into Maple Cottage in the High Street in 1912. All five boys followed in their father's footsteps and worked in the brick making industry. The fifth son, Charles, was for 12 months unaccounted for during the First World War and it was believed that he had been killed, but he had been held as a prisoner in Germany.

There were two things that every parishioner referred to when talking about Mr. and Mrs. Stone: the lantern which Mr. Stone carried as a warning to traffic in the winter, and the tricycle on which Mrs. Stone made numberless journeys to her work at the church, although she always walked to a service. Mrs. Stone related how two of their sons, Charles and the late William, used to sing in the choir, and Mr. Stone added: "Yes, and Percy blew the organ, but got himself into trouble once when he fell asleep and there was no wind for the hymn!"

Mr. Thomas Stone died on 17th January, 1937 at the age of 87 and his wife Sarah died on 11th February, 1944 at the age of 90. Both are buried together in St. Michael's church yard. William †1909, Harriet †1911, Percy †1912 and Frederick †1915, are all buried in St. George's church yard.

*Adapted from an original article in the West Sussex County Times and Standard, Friday July 19th 1935 by Herbie Whitmore*



## Partridge Green Area Response Team 'PART'

*Our Local Life-Saving Initiative*

We are your local Community Responder Team working in support of the Ambulance Service, attending your 999 calls and providing essential help at the earliest possible stage for your medical emergency.

We are completely self funded and would like to thank all those who have supported our recent fund raising activities.

### PART QUIZZES

6 Teams took part in our January Quiz which was hotly contested and very close run but 'The Wanderers' clinched it in the final round. Our congratulations to them and our thanks to Clive and Dawn and all the teams who helped make it a fun evening for all. We look forward to seeing you all next time -

THURSDAY MARCH 25<sup>th</sup> - 7.30PM - PARTRIDGE PUB

Why not get a few friends together and come and join in?

### COFFEE MORNING

A very successful and enjoyable event, many thanks to our hostess, Pat Spain.

### VALENTINE'S DISCO

There was room for more at our PART Valentine's Disco and if you weren't there you missed a great night.

Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it a success especially Danny the Disco!

### GRAND DRAW

Our Grand Draw took place at the Valentine's disco, congratulations to all the prize winners but especially to Steve Duffell of Henfield who scooped the first prize of our 'Romantic Balloon Flight for 2'!

Thanks once again to Forest Litho Printers who donated the raffle tickets and everyone who kindly gave raffle prizes.

Anyone wishing to learn more, help or make donations please contact Karen Beadle or Eileen Lock on 01403 713383.

Be a **PART** of it - We Need Your Help - One Day, You May Need Ours!



### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEWS**

It was disappointing that we were without Service 17 for such a long time after the heavy snowfall in January. Apparently the problem was that the Mill Lane/Littleworth lane part of the route was still impassable when the High Street/Shermanbury Road had been reasonably clear for several days.

I have written to Stagecoach to raise two points:

1. Could they try to identify somewhere in the High Street for the bus to turn (like the 106 used to).
2. Do they have any influence to persuade the County Council to grit the whole route.

However I expect the answer to be that they can't solve every problem when conditions are that severe, and we must accept that their safety regulations are paramount.

Regarding the gritting – the stock reply seems to be that they have to prioritise the main roads, which isn't much use if no one can get to them! I myself saw a gritter going along the High Street one morning when it already seemed reasonably clear and in no danger of refreezing for several hours – I felt that the load could have been put to better use!

*Judy Smith* 01403 710148

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## RECYCLING CDS AND DVDS



CDs and DVDs are made up of a variety of materials such as polycarbonate (a form of plastic), aluminium and paint. Their cases are either plastic jewel cases or paper cases and most jewel cases will also contain paper inserts.

All of these materials, if buried in landfill, not only become 'lost' resources but may pose a significant environmental impact and take a long time to break down.

Recycling makes environmental and economic sense. Recycling reduces the need for raw materials and using recycled products often requires less energy in the manufacturing process.

Plastics for instance are derived from crude oil, a limited fossil fuel, so by recycling discs and their cases this can help contribute to lower oil consumption, preserving stocks for longer.

### **Where to recycle CDs and DVDs**

Save your unwanted CDs and DVDs and take them with you on your next visit to your local Horsham Hop Oast Household Waste Recycling Site (HWRS), where a blue wheelie bin is provided for CDs and DVDs.

***CDs and DVDs cannot be placed in your recycling bin at home.***

### **Other options – Reduce & Reuse**

- Try using re-writable CDs and DVDs which can be used over and over again.
- Donate old music CDs and DVDs to charity shops.
- Use old CDs and DVDs for art and craft projects or as instant drinks coasters.
- Hang CDs and DVDs in gardens to stop the birds eating your vegetables!
- Use DVDs for storing data. The manufacture of DVDs requires fewer materials than CDs and can hold more data.

### **Did you know?**

West Sussex started recycling CDs and DVDs in June 2008. Since then, residents in West Sussex have recycled over 15 tonnes of CDs and DVDs. This is the same weight as 15,000 bags of sugar (1 kg).

## VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### Partridge Green Football Club

It's been a challenging start to 2010 following the departure of first team manager Steve Painter who has moved to the manager's role at County Division 3 Broadbridge Heath FC. We wish Steve all the best in what will certainly be testing times at BBH and thank him for his part in trying to change our club for the better. Obviously this opens a opportunity for the role first team manager at PGFC, if you are interested please contact me using details at bottom of this article.



Life in division one has certainly proved a tough experience for our first team with the team struggling to get the results some of their performances have merited. However one majestic recent performance was our 1-0 Victory against local rivals Henfield.

Our reserve team, led by manager Chris Angell, have gone from strength to strength and youth has certainly proved profitable for his team. The reserves' good run in the Tony Kopp has come to a premature end following West Sussex football league's decision to cancel all cup competitions to complete league fixtures.

However injuries, transfers and player retirements have hampered the senior section and will continue to cause headaches and heartaches throughout the remainder of the season, such is the nature of village football teams!

The youth section continues to blossom with some spectacular team and individual performances. Both the girls and boys of our youth section continue to promote our club in a positive light and are a credit to themselves and the club.

Why not pop along to the social club in the park for a chat or visit our website: [www.pgfc.info](http://www.pgfc.info) for more details on fixtures, results, club news, training and general information or contact us at: [info@pgfc.info](mailto:info@pgfc.info) or [enquiries@pgfc.info](mailto:enquiries@pgfc.info)

**John Bellamy**, Chairman – 01403 710159

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**Elaine on 01403 731939**




## Partridge Green Horticultural Society

Our programme starts this year in February with a talk from Will George from Prenplants, The Haven Billingshurst. His subject will be "A Year on the Herbaceous Nursery." In April, (the 22nd) Barry Newman will be giving an illustrated talk on Advice, Techniques and Ideas on Vegetable Growing. This will be an opportunity to learn some new ways for the experienced, clever techniques for the novice and advice for us all. Join us afterwards for tea, homemade cakes and a warm welcome. Events coming up include an outing to Kew and the Flower Show.

For further information and entry forms for the Village Flower Show call Libby 01403 711132 and Yvonne on 01403 711598. All talks take place in the Village Hall at 7.30.

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## Partridge Green Cricket Club

With the new season approaching through the blizzards, nets are taking place at Handcross Park School on Sundays 5-7pm until the end of March. A bowling machine is available to save the bowlers from a 2 hour workout and to provide some consistency for the batsmen. There are social events organised approximately 1 per month during the season (1st game away 18th April) with a Single Wicket Comp & BBQ (May 30th), Skittles in June and a Race Night at the Windmill (July 4th). As ever if you would like to contribute in any way to the cricket club please contact either Mark Fisher (01273 495104) or Alan Newman (710995) to discuss how you can help.

**Alan**



## **West Grinstead Local History Group**

Our project of researching the history of education in West Grinstead, Dial Post and Partridge Green continues, and we are very grateful for the help we have been given by past pupils and teachers.

We will be having an exhibition, in cooperation with Jolesfield School, on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in Partridge Green village hall, and some of the group will be talking about our findings at our May meeting. A book will follow. We would still love to see any old school documents, photos, reports etc. If you have anything like this do contact any of those named below.

In the meantime our bimonthly meetings continue. In January following the AGM Jeremy Hodgkinson gave a fascinating talk about the Wealden Iron Industry. If anyone missed this or wants more information he has published a book on the subject and Norman has details.

Coming up are:

March 16<sup>th</sup>: David Briffett on the history of Horsham Hospital.

May 18<sup>th</sup>: Education in West Grinstead, by group members.

**Norman Berry** 710465

**Dorothy Banks** 711839

**Colin Rudling** 710021

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**PARTRIDGE GREEN BASED COMPANY.**

## Partridge Green Colvin WI

Partridge Green Colvin WI resorted to "home grown" Christmas entertainment when the booked speaker was unable to come. Karen and her worthy crew brought the house down with their "off the cuff" entertainment, giving us a good start to our Christmas activities. An excellent all round evening – thank you to everyone involved.

Snow deferred our Christmas dinner to February but it was well worth the wait. The Eight Bells at Bolney did us proud.

At our January meeting we travelled with Doreen who enthusiastically talked about her recent holidays with her husband, his wheelchair not hampering them from fulfilling many of their dreams. She has just launched her book on travel entitled Around The World in a Wheelchair – if you are interested please contact 01403 710047.

Special Event – please make a note in your diary for the 13 May when we will be having a Flower Demonstration in the Village Hall. The prebooked tickets will be available and will include tea and coffee.

Our February meeting was is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> and our speaker was Mr Stuart Card and the subject of Warnham Mill Reserve. Guests and new members are always welcome at WI which is held in the Partridge Green Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Incidentally, have you heard that there are a number of new WIs opening and one I would like to mention in particular is in Brighton university. No – we are not a dying breed but are growing from strength to strength – we understand that many women of today are appreciating the values, both modern and not quite so recent that the WI has to offer and we are thrilled to learn this.

*Next time you are advertising your event on the lampposts  
get it on the website too:*

***graham.g.jenner@btinternet.com***

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## Cubs and Beavers

We've been BEAVERing away for over 4 months now and getting up to loads of fun and exciting stuff!

Since the launch of the Beaver Colony in November, boys and girls have been enjoying weekly sessions of activities, games and mini adventures. Most recently the Beaver Scouts have been learning about animals as part of the Animal Friend Badge and getting creative with a themed session about Chinese New Year.

Following February half term the Cub Pack will be opening its doors to young people aged 8 to 10½ years. The Cub Pack will meet on Thursdays 6.15pm till 7.45pm at St Michael's Church Hall. With a high energy Pancake themed launch night planned we're expecting everyone involved to leave having had a real buzz of a time!

Limited spaces are now available in the Beaver Colony and Cub Pack, so give Sharon or Tarquin a call on 01403 713563 if you are interested in joining.

With a rapidly growing Group we are now looking for additional adults to help! We'd be particularly interested to hear from anyone interested in supporting the management side of the Scout Group – if organisation and administration is your thing! We need you on the team.

Contact Vernon Cowdell for more information tel: 01273 844001  
or visit [www.scout.org.uk/join](http://www.scout.org.uk/join)

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## West Grinstead Bird Cage Society

Meetings/club nights are held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month in Partridge Green Village Hall at 7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start. The AGM is held in February; details of future meetings are:

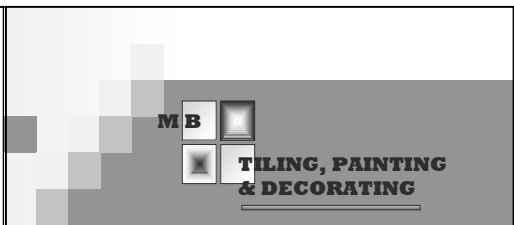
Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> – Guest Speaker from the RSPB (Pulborough Brooks)  
 Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> – Guest Speaker – talk and slide show on foreign birds  
 Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> – Guest Speaker – talk on owls or fancy chickens  
 Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> – Guest Speaker – talk on lovebirds

Other events to put in your diary are:

Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup> – Sales Day, 10am – 12noon

Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> – Annual Show, open to the public from 2pm.

Entry for non members is £1.00. Annual membership costs £5.00 (£2.00 for under 16s). For further information please contact the club secretary Joan Stillwell on 01403 783843. See us at the Partridge Green Village Fete on Saturday August 14<sup>th</sup>.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>R. J. SKINNER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ROADS &amp; DRIVES CONSTRUCTION RESURFACING ALL TYPES CONCRETING BLOCK PAVING PATIOS * DRAINAGE BUILDING GROUNDWORK</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Horsham 01403 253367</b> <b>Partridge Green 01403 710362</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mark Belton</b> <b>Tel: 01403 711580</b> <b>Mob: 07986023158</b></p> <p>For all your tiling and decorating needs. Please call for a free estimate.</p>
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## Calling all girls...!

# Brownies

Are you aged between 7 and 10? Have you thought about becoming a Brownie? Our recent activities have included a pamper evening, planting bulbs and herbs, swimming, a visit from the Community Police officer (together with two sniffer dogs!), and a visit to the pantomime at Christmas. We have an exciting year ahead of us too, as we celebrate 100 years of Girl Guiding.

We meet on Monday evenings during term time from 5.45-7.15 p.m. and currently have some places available, so if you are interested in joining us, please call Andrea Wellstead on 01403 710448 or 07719 703621.

## Jolesfield School Association

Already dates have been agreed and preparations begun by the Jolesfield School Association for the fun events that will take place in 2010. On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February a Bingo night was held at the school and this proved to be an encouraging start to the year.

We would like to give a huge thank you to all the parents and members of the local community who helped to organise and take part in all the events that took place last year. Without everyone's enthusiasm it would not be possible to raise funds for the school.

Now we can look forward to a year of events and celebrations and hope that many of you will join us in the fun.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2010   | Village Quiz Night at 7.30pm        |
| 2) Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2010     | Auction of Promises                 |
| 3) Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2010 | End of the Year Tea Party at 2.30pm |
| 4) Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2010 | Fireworks Night                     |
| 5) Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2010 | Christmas Bazaar                    |

There will be notices and leaflets sent out and put on notice boards throughout the village and surrounding areas detailing each of the events nearer the time so please look out for them and we look forward to your continued support!

**Kate Brokenbrow**, Secretary



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## Dial Post Village Hall

is up and running and open for business. There are already 5 regular user groups and there have been several private events since the hall opened on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

The facilities are wonderful: the main hall is bright and light, with electrically operated velux windows equipped with blinds. Courts for badminton, 5-a-side football, netball and basketball are marked out, and a hearing loop is installed. There is underfloor heating, powered by an eco-friendly air source pump (i.e. no gas or oil) and the doors and windows are triple glazed. The roomy kitchen has a dishwasher, hob, cooker and fridge. There is a loo for the disabled in addition to the 2 each for men and women, with baby changing facilities in both the ladies' and the gents'.

This all represents a huge effort in countless man hours working on site, doing the admin and fundraising by the DP Village Hall Association and other volunteers. It is not over yet: the footings are in for the meeting room extension, which will go ahead as soon as the necessary £26,000 are raised.

In the meantime, the DPVA has asked us to express its gratitude to Viridor, Biffaward, local councils, Blaker Sisters, the Garfield Foundation, the South Lodge and Knepp Estates, the Co-op, the Low Carbon Trust, the Crown pub, the bowls club, Ibstock bricks, PD Kitchens and ELP for all the grants and gifts, totalling £337,818, that have made it all possible.

Bookings are being taken for parties and events: get in touch with Pauline Saunders on 710908, Alan Childs on 710388 or Peter Whale on 710670.

<p><b>Kaori Slater</b> MIIR (Reg'd)</p>  <p>Registered Member of the International Institute of Reflexology Graduate of the National Japanese Massage Institute Member of the International Guild of Professional Practitioners at Louisa Jayne Unisex Hair Salon 1 Wilton Close, High Street Partridge Green</p> <p><b>Tel: (01403)711764</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:kaorislater@mac.com">kaorislater@mac.com</a> <a href="http://homepage.mac.com/phillipslater/kaori">http://homepage.mac.com/phillipslater/kaori</a></p>	 <p>Professional Dog Walking Service Pet Feeding Qualified in Canine First Aid Fully equipped air-conditioned vehicle Insured and Police Checked References Available <b>Call Lucy on 07849 500860</b> <a href="http://www.zebscaninewalks.co.uk">www.zebscaninewalks.co.uk</a></p>
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## Dial Post Village Hall



Demolition January 2009



Foundations June 2009



Walls going up August 2009



Plasterboarding November 2009



In the snow January 2010



In the warm January 2010

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**[graham.g.jenner@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.g.jenner@btinternet.com)**

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