

Picket Piece Resident Newsletter

Issue
#4

Village Hall
Wednesdays
10.30am to 12 noon
£1 per adult
50p per child

Toddler Group at Picket Piece

Thank you to all who responded about the starting up of a Toddler Group for Picket Piece.

We have now held our first session on June 6th which was well attended. **Thank you to all those who came and helped.**

The group will continue to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am-12 noon at a cost of £1 per adult, 50p per child which includes coffee and snacks. As with all Toddler Groups it is a stay and play so that adults are responsible for their children.

Thank you to those who have already offered their help. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with either the running of the group or making refreshments, whether you have pre-school children or not, this would also be very welcome.

For more information please contact Andrea Harris:
aharris@testvalley.gov.uk
or **07990 755104**.

Donations of toys, books or puzzles in good condition suitable for pre-school children would be gratefully received please. However storage space is limited so for the time being nothing too large please



Update on the development

At the end of April, there were 358 occupations within the new development.

The football pitch on Ox Drove has been seeded and will hopefully be ready to use for the football season in 2018. The area next to it will be grassed and left as an open space.

The developers are still in the process of marketing to find a suitable retailer for the shops within the development but have started work on the foundations for the building.

Unfortunately the play area on Chaplin Way has been damaged so there is now a delay for this opening.

It has been agreed that a Toddler swing will be installed in to one of the play areas after a request from a few residents.

Dog Fouling

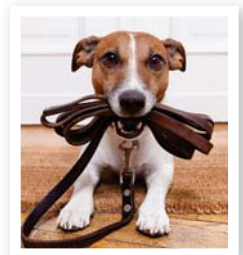
PLEASE, PLEASE can all dog owners clean up after their dogs

There have been a number of complaints from residents that there continues to be a problem with dogs fouling on the paths at the play area and within the open space on Ox Drove. Please can all dog owners pick up after their dogs, even if it is in the rough ground as children like to go and explore. Please do not throw the bags in the hedge, either take your bag home or use one of the bins provided. **A big thank you to those who already do clean up.**

It is not very pleasant when anyone treads dog mess into their home as well as it being a health risk.

The Animal Welfare Officer for Test Valley Borough Council and myself have walked around the site and he has put up some signs to encourage people to pick up after their dogs foul.

At present these areas are still being looked after by the developers and we have made them aware of the problem but do also contact myself (**aharris@testvalley.gov.uk**) or the Animal Welfare Officer for TVBC (**01264 368000**), if you see anyone not picking up after your dog.



BAG IT BIN IT.

Bus at Picket Piece.

Please don't forget that currently the number 13 bus is a hail and ride so you can stop it anywhere along the route.

We would ask that passengers be considerate when waiting for the buses if stood near to resident's property. We have had reports of children running around other peoples gardens whilst waiting.

For information and timetables contact: Wheelers Coaches **02380 471800**
www.wheelerstravel.co.uk

Access around the development.

An update on pedestrian movement across the development site and in particular access to the open space on Ox Drove.

There is permitted access across the grass area to the rear of the Village Hall on Walworth Road which will take you onto Locksbridge Road. You can then access the play area via Picket Road and then cross over the Ox Drove from here which will take you to the Open Space.

Please take care when crossing the road and remind children to be vigilant when crossing from one side to the other.

There will be other paths opened as the development continues but Locksbridge Road will not be fully open until the development is completed.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Back in September, Chris and Mike Fluen, Jeanette Garland, Louise Hannah and a team of ladies organised a Macmillan Coffee morning in the Village Hall. There was a lovely variety of cakes and bakes for people to buy as well as a couple of competitions including the best decorated cake.

Val Fox won the best decorated cake which was judged by Marcia Burnett from Sentinel Housing.

A big thank you to all who came and supported the Macmillan coffee morning which raised £180.

During the morning, Marcia Burnett from Sentinel Housing presented Chris Fluen with a cheque for £350 which went towards funding the Christmas Party held by the Sports and Social Club.





Walking for Health in Picket Piece, starting this June.

Health Walks will be starting this month in Picket Piece as myself and a local resident have undertaken the Health Walk Leaders training.

These are a great way to get fit, are free and last for about 1 hour to 1 ½ hours, depending upon the pace of the walk. They are open to everyone but if you do have any health issues then please check with your GP to make sure it is suitable for you.



Supporting you to
get active and stay active

Together the Ramblers and Macmillan Cancer Support run Walking for Health, helping more people – including those affected by cancer – discover the joys and health benefits of walking.

The Ramblers' Association is a registered charity (England & Wales no. 1093577, Scotland no. SC039799) www.ramblers.org.uk
Macmillan Cancer Support is a registered charity (England and Wales no. 261017, Scotland no. SC039907, Isle of Man no. 604) www.macmillan.org.uk

The route is just over 3 miles long, buggy friendly and will take us from Picket Piece Village Hall, through Finkley Down Farm to Augusta Park and then back via River Way, through Walworth Industrial Estate back to the Village Hall.

The first Health Walk will be on the 20th June and then run on the third Tuesday of each month leaving Picket Piece Village Hall at 10.30am. To register please come at 10am, wear sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing, bring a water bottle and sun cream if required.

Visit the website to find out more about Health Walks:

www.walkingforhealth.org.uk

Thursday Drop In for Coffee and a chat.

Don't forget that I still hold regular drop in sessions at the Village Hall on Thursday mornings 10am-12 noon.

This is an informal opportunity to meet other residents and find out what is going on in the area or discuss any issues regarding the development over a cup of coffee.

Councillor John Cockaday regularly attends to answer your questions too.

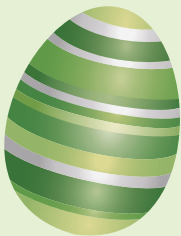


Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party organised by the Sports and Social Club was held on Saturday 17th December at the Village Hall which was a great success with approximately 95 people attending. There were games for children and adults, quizzes, a lovely spread of food and of course a visit from Father Christmas with a present for every child.

Thanks go to all the Committee members and especially Emma Jones for organising the evening.

A big Thank you to Sentinel Homes who gave us a grant towards the Christmas Party.



Easter Party

The Easter Party took place in the middle of April where there were games and Easter Eggs for the children.

Thanks go to all Committee members and Emma Jones who organised the event.

Hazel Dormice at Locksbridge Park, Picket Piece

Below: One of the Picket Piece hazel dormouse, showing characteristic furry tail



Hazel dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius* are arboreal mammals which spend the summer living in trees and hedgerows; though they hibernate on the ground in winter. Dormice have gingery fur and unlike other mice they have furry tails. They feed on a variety of fruits, nuts and invertebrates and build woven nests from leaves, grass and other vegetation. They are nocturnal and become torpid when the weather is cool. Dormice are found in southern England, and are present in Picket Piece.

Dormice are a declining species of conservation concern and they and their habitats are legally protected. Therefore, the housing development at Picket Piece was designed to retain hedgerows running through and around the development. In addition, new habitat was planted as part of the recreation area to the South of Ox Drove. This new woodland replaces areas of hedgerow lost, and will develop to provide an increase in the area of habitat for dormice in the Picket Piece area. Dormice are being

monitored at Picket Piece, and have continued to be recorded every year since the development commenced.

Dormice can struggle to remain present when the habitat is fragmented and divided by roads; therefore, to connect the land to the south of Ox Drove a dormouse bridge has been installed. This structure is being monitored to test its effectiveness at providing an aerial route for dormice to move from one part of the Site to another. This will aid designing structures which can be used in other areas to maintain links or to reconnect fragmented habitats.

What can you do to help?

- If you have a hedgerow within your garden you can help by maintaining it as a thick, dense hedgerow and completing trimming carefully to avoid dormouse or bird's nests. It's best to prune hedgerows in winter (between November and February) when dormice are hibernating at ground level and most birds are no longer nesting.
- Dormice are vulnerable to being disturbed, potentially leaving them exposed to predators like cats; therefore, if you notice monitoring equipment (boxes or tubes) within hedgerows do not interfere with or open these.
- Dormice may be captured by cats; if you have a cat ideally they should be kept in at night, when dormice are active. If your cat does bring in any dormice, injured or dead, then contact the Hampshire Dormouse Group Secretary (Charlotte Rimmer, Test Valley Borough Council Countryside Officer, crimmer@testvalley.gov.uk, 01264 368811). Please send a photograph of the dormouse to confirm identification.



Above: Picket Piece dormouse bridge over Ox Drove



the Lights andover



29 APRIL ALICE IN WONDERLAND BALLET
 5 MAY TERRY ALDERTON
 10 MAY HAMLET
 17 JUNE CREEDS CROSS — THE CELTIC JOURNEY
 17 AUGUST CIRCUS OF HORRORS

1 SEPTEMBER POP-UP BOWIE
 14 SEPTEMBER PAUL ZERDIN: ALL MOUTH
 15 SEPTEMBER NIK KERSHAW
 29 SEPTEMBER BEVERLEY CRAVEN
 30 SEPTEMBER THINK FLOYD



Check www.thelights.org.uk for the full season
 Box office 01264 368368
 West Street, Andover



**HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
SERVICE**



Safe & Well visits

Free visits for the most vulnerable in our community

What is a Safe & Well visit?

A person centred home visit to identify and reduce risk to the occupier or occupiers, taking into account their behaviours and the social and physical environment in which they live.

The visit will combine a Home Safety Check to reduce fire risk in the home, such as checking and fitting smoke alarms, with health referrals for extra support where appropriate, to improve the occupier's health and wellbeing.

Safe & Well visits maximises the opportunity to prevent ill health and harm to people in our communities.

Who do we visit?

We offer a free visit for the most vulnerable members of our community. By working with health and social care agencies we ensure that if you fall into the above criteria you will receive a visit, which will help you to stay safe in your home for longer.

Do you need a Safe & Well visit?

If you're unsure what advice you need, complete an online Safe & Well visit assessment. By answering a few simple questions, this will evaluate your needs based on the information you provide.

Refer someone for a Safe & Well visit

If you have fire safety concerns about anyone you know or work with, you can make a Safe & Well referral to us.

Our home safety team

Our dedicated team of firefighters, community safety officers and volunteers have a varied range of skills including British Sign Language (BSL) and are able to offer visits that are Dementia Friendly.

If you would like some home safety advice, please visit our website or contact our community safety team:

Web: www.hantsfire.gov.uk/keeping safe

Tel: **023 8062 6809**

E-mail: community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk

Test Valley Community Priorities

Hampshire Constabulary is about to look at what should be our next Community Priorities for 2017.

In order to receive as much information from the community as possible, and to get an accurate idea of what the public would like us to concentrate on in St Marys Ward and Andover in general, we have created a survey that I hope you will be able to complete:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TV010617

Your support and co-operation is appreciated!

Rob

16149 PCSO Rob Davies
St Mary's Ward
Andover Police Station

Recycling Is Easy!

In Test Valley, we collect 5 types of recyclable materials from your brown bin, and we have a network of more than 100 Local Recycling Centres to collect even more items!

At home, you can put the following items in your brown recycling bin:

- ★ Paper
- ★ Cardboard
- ★ Plastic bottles
- ★ Tins and cans
- ★ Aerosol cans

and you can take the following items to your Local Recycling Centre:

- ★ Glass bottles and jars
- ★ Textiles
- ★ Aluminium foil
- ★ Cartons
- ★ Books and media



To find your nearest or most convenient Local Recycling Centre and to see what you can recycle there, use Recycle Now's Recycling Locator:

www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling

Brown Bin Recycling Tips

- ★ Ensure your recyclable items are clean and dry.
- ★ Don't bag your items – keep them loose or they won't be recycled!
- ★ Don't put other plastics (pots, tubs, trays) in your bin – we can only recycle plastic bottles.
- ★ If in doubt, have a look at our recycling guide www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingguide

Sports and Social Club

The Picket Piece Sports and Social Club are looking to freshen up the hall and toilets by giving them a paint. If you could spare some time they would like to hear from you.

They also intend to provide a Baby Changing Table in the ladies toilet as that has a large cubicle.

You can still apply for membership to the club by visiting their website or drop in to the club on a Friday or Sunday evening.

They would also like to hear from you if there is something that you would like to see at the club or perhaps help to organise such as a Quiz Night, Race Night or Film Night.

The club are offering free pool on a Friday evening from 7pm-11pm open to members aged 14 years and over.

In September the club will start their Bingo evenings on the last Friday of the month from 7pm.

The hall is available to hire for parties, christenings and other functions with or without the bar.

To keep up to date with events at the club or to contact them about hiring:

Website: picketpiecevillagehall.org
Facebook: [Picket Piece Village Hall](https://www.facebook.com/Picket-Piece-Village-Hall)
Telephone: 01264 332149
Mobile: 07775 466686

Post Natal Exercise Class

MummaBfit exercise classes are for all new mums from 6 weeks postnatal right up until your toddler is toddling around.

Classes are designed to reintroduce you back to exercise following the birth of your newborn or simply to get you back into exercise whilst living the hectic life of a mum.

Bring your baby or child and know that they are there with you at all times whilst you workout. Play mats are provided for babies and rollers to lay down on directly in front of you and a play area is set up to the side for older infants.

Each group has no more than 8/10 mums in it so I can give you my time and attention at all times. I try to make the classes as fun and relaxed as possible; you do not need any previous exercise experience or a certain level fitness.

Each week the workout is different and suits all fitness levels. My returning mums work just as hard as the new mums as I adapt everything when required.

After class there is time for socialising and a chat as I run around and make you hot drinks and provide biscuits.

Vicky Hawden.

For further information contact:
Facebook: [Facebook.com/mummaBfit](https://www.facebook.com/mummaBfit)
Mobile: 07917 035520
Email: info@mummaBfit.com

Regular events Picket Piece Village Hall and Community Centre

| Day | Time | Event | Contact |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| Monday | 9.30 to 11.45am | MummaBfit post natal exercise class Starting Monday 26 June. | Vicky Hawden 07917 035520 Facebook.com/mummaBfit |
| | 7.30pm | Slimming World | Zara Colwell 07519722385 |
| Tuesday | 9.45am Stage 2 10.45am Stage 1 | Sing and Sign Stage 1 (babies 6 months-14 months) Stage 2 (babies 15 months-2 years+) | Jennie Roper 01264 359224 jennieandmark@hotmail.co.uk |
| | 10am for 10.30am start | Third Tuesday of month Walking for Health . Register from 10am at Picket Piece Village Hall for 10.30am start. | Andrea Harris 07990 755104 aharris@festivalley.gov.uk |
| | 6pm to 7pm | Fit Camp £1 per session | Lorraine Chivers 07920101664 dancecrazylc@aol.co.uk |
| | | First Tuesday of month, Andover and District Bee Keepers Association | beckysbeezzzs@gmail.com |
| Wednesday | 10.30am to 12noon | Toddler Group | aharris@festivalley.gov.uk |
| | 6pm to 7.30pm | 3rd Andover Brownies | www.girlguiding.org.uk/ Joinus picketpiecebrownies@hotmail.com |
| Thursday | 10am to 12 noon | Community Development Worker drop in | Andrea Harris 07990 755104 aharris@festivalley.gov.uk |
| | 6pm to 7pm | Fit Camp | Lorraine Chivers 07920101664 dancecrazylc@aol.co.uk |
| Friday | 7pm to 11pm | Sports and Social Club Bar open | |
| | 7pm | First Friday of the month, free pool night | |
| | 7pm to 11pm | Free pool every Friday for club members aged 14 years and over. | |
| Saturday | 9.30am Stage 1 10.30am Stage 2 | Sing and Sign Stage 1 (babies 6 months-14 months) Stage 2 (babies 15 months-2 years+) | Jennie Roper 01264 359224 jennieandmark@hotmail.co.uk |
| | Sunday | 6pm to 10.30pm | Sports and Social Club Bar open |

For more details on any of the above events, or for details on membership for the Sports and Social Club, visit the website or Facebook page.

www.picketpiecevillagehall.org

www.facebook.com/PicketPieceSportsAndSocialClub