

ENMORE GREEN COMMUNITY NEWS

Winter 2023-2024

Welcome to the Winter edition of our newsletter. Thank you for the encouraging comments about it that we have received.

The Christmas period is a time of community and whatever you are doing, we hope it is a joyful time for you and your family.

Several new articles this time and please keep these coming. It is good to hear what is going on in Enmore Green and what people are doing. Please send your thoughts to the Editor – details at the end of the newsletter. Or just post them on our website: www.enmoregreencommunity.com/ or to David Wynn Mackenzie on david.wynn-mackenzie@talk21.com

Jo Churchill

Enmore Green Community Field

The Community Field is a green open space for everyone to enjoy, having once been the playing field of the Enmore Green Infant School on Church Hill. It is owned by the Town Council who cut the grass. A committee of nearby residents has managed and protected it in partnership with the Council since 1975. Alongside the Allotments, Community Orchard and Churchyard it offers another valuable kind of green space in Enmore Green.

There is an entrance through the Community Orchard on Church Hill and another off the Butts. There is only one Football goal so that it is clear the field has multiple uses. The trees offer shade and protection from the rain - we have even had someone practise slacklining between them. There have been Sports Days, informal birthdays, family gatherings, bouncy castles and more over the years. No dogs are allowed in the field as it is a scheduled Activity Area but a path on the Orchard side of the fence meets up with both gates.

It is the perfect place for children to let off steam and for outdoor activities such as football, cricket, Yoga and Tai Chi. The field can be hired for private events and is securely fenced with vehicle access if necessary. We would love to hear from anyone who might like to run an event or activity in the field.

Contact Jo Churchill on 01747 850432 or jo.churchill@enmoregreen.co.uk

The Playing Field now has official **Field in Trust status**. This means it must always be preserved as a green open space for the community. The Donkey Field Community Orchard next door is also protected with the same Deed of Dedication, under the aegis of the National Playing Fields Association. You can read more at www.fieldsintrust.org If you use the search box on this site you will see the Enmore Green Playing Field and Community Orchard as well as Castle Hill, Motcombe Meadows and many more Fields in Trust across the country that are now protected in perpetuity.

Click, Click, Click

That is the sound that Freda Wicks, a resident of Enmore Green for 15 years, is used to. At the Church regular coffee mornings, Freda is there chatting away and knitting automatically. – always the same pattern, different colours. What's the story?

The story begins in 1989 when President Ceausescu of Romania was assassinated. It was then that the state of the many ghastly orphanages was discovered. My son, Tony, told me of his church's project to knit mittens and hats for these lost souls and I started knitting.

Tony became involved in the Samaritan's Purse charity which sent filled shoe boxes to needy places in Eastern Europe and it was discovered that hats and mittens were more needed than blankets as these were easier to make. I was then asked if I could make sets for older children as they were given plenty of things for small children and I have been knitting this size ever since.

I use double knitting acrylic yarn, as it is tougher than wool and dries more quickly: Bargains in the High Street, Shaftesbury have a splendid selection: bright colours are preferred. A friend of mine, not a knitter, now pays for the wool instead of knitting herself.

My son collects the hats and mittens when he visits and a van goes out several times a year. The countries covered are Romania, Ukraine, Moldova and Croatia.

After nearly 20 years, it appears that I am the only one left knitting for the Charity so if any local knitters would like to help, that would be grand. I have the pattern and any contributions can be left either with St. John's people or in the church.

Freda Wicks

After talking to Freda, I did a few calculations. From 1989 to 2008 Freda knitted one set per fortnight; on retirement this increased to one set per week. This means that Freda has knitted some 1,225 sets of Hats and Mittens.

Friends of Breach Common

We are now well into our Autumn series of works which including clearing some areas of non-fruiting brambles. During this we have uncovered lots of bluebell bulbs and hazel, hawthorn and blackthorn saplings. These should now thrive without being outcompeted and choked by the brambles. From previous years efforts, we are hoping to see primroses and snowdrops in these areas which we didn't know were there. Fingers crossed.

Ideal Christmas Presents

One of our team has been busy making thumb sticks, walking sticks and some garden ornaments from wood harvested from the Common. They are beautifully made and all individual. Also very reasonably priced! All proceeds will go into the Friends of Breach common coffers for future projects. Please message our Facebook page or email Barbara at breachcommon@outlook.com or barbaraat-bracknell@yahoo.co.uk

Rob will happily parade his wares so that you can choose the perfect gift. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year

Fran

Donkey Field Orchard

Look out for notices around the Donkey Field Community Orchard regarding Wassailing in early January. Please join our celebrations, welcoming the New Year and blessing trees with cider and toast.

Castle Hill, Enmore Green

I walk my dog along the path almost every day and have been intrigued by the work being carried on at the Pond. Best to go to the source so I contacted Brie Logan, our Town Clerk and she sent me this very interesting article.

The project will deliver a large new pond (0.25 acres) for Great Crested Newts and other wildlife and restore an existing pond within a Town Council owned wildlife reserve managed by Dorset Council. The reserve, which is also a SNCI (Site of Nature Conservation Interest) is a popular, accessible reserve on the edge of Shaftesbury serving the local community.

A large pond will be created in the location of a previous pond, with an adjacent pond restored. The existing pond and new pond are spring fed and will not only increase the number of ponds available for Great Crested Newts (GCN) but will help to address a local road and property flooding issue to the northeast of the site on 'The Butts' and 'Church Hill'. The ponds within the reserve will compliment ponds being restored to the east of the site, significantly improving habitat and helping to extend the distribution of GCN in that area. The ponds will be interpreted on site, raising the community's awareness of GCN and other pond wildlife.

Full details of the project plan outlines the scope of work in more detail.

It all looks very muddy at the present time and it will be interesting to see how everything develops over the coming months/years. Important to realise that conservation work is never instant – see our Breach Common Team.

Jo Churchill

St. John the Evangelist, Enmore Green

The Christmas period can be a time of stress, busyness and hype. St. John's can offer a place to chill out – on your own as the church is open every day – or joining others at our Christmas events.

Sunday 17th December – 3.00pm - Traditional Carol Service

.Reverend Anne Heywood

The St. John's Singers

Thursday 21st December Candlelight Christmas Dinner

5.30pm for 6.00pm in the Church

£10.00 Please contact Jean Parker to reserve a place – 074855 80472

Friday 22nd December

Carol Singing around the Christmas Tree on The Green

6.00pm - 6.30pm.

Collection for St. John's Church and the Air Ambulance

Sam Skey will be setting up his PA System and with members of his family providing musical accompaniment. Song sheets provided.

Christmas Day

10.00am Christmas Communion

In St. James Church

Sunday 31st December

10.00am

Team Service and the

Patronal Festival of St. John the Evangelist and Apostle

St John's Church Hall

There is no Coffee Morning at St. John's on 20th December but we welcome in the New Year on

Wednesday 3rd January

Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12noon £2.00

Foodie Raffle

Wednesday 17th January

Coffee morning 10.00am to 12noon £2.00

In Conversation with.....

Jo Churchill OBE – the Queen and I

Wednesday 7th February

Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12noon £2.00

Foodie Raffle

Wednesday 21st February

Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12noon £2.00

In Conversation with

Anne and Clare from Shaftesbury Museum

Photos from the Tyler Collection of villages around Shaftesbury. Can you help identify people and places

If anyone would like to take part in the 'Conversations' on the third Wednesday of the month, any subject of your choice, please contact Jean Parker on 074855 80472

The Hall is available for hire: please contact Mrs Sue Hake – 851338.

St. John's Churchyard

Wreaths

This is the time when Remembrance Wreaths and Christmas Wreaths are welcome in the Churchyard. These can stay in place until the end of February 2024.

We are grateful to Joe Hashman who is going to give our Hazel Hedge, which divides the upper and lower churchyard, a new lease of life.

Joe writes:

During the winter and early spring, I'm planning to cut down the hazel hedge which runs through the churchyard. This will stimulate regeneration of straight canes, sticks and poles which are useful for many purposes in hedging and gardening. Think of the hedge as a linear wood, and the cutting being the ancient practice of 'coppicing'. So, it'll look radically different to begin with but will grow back to become a really useful feature of the churchyard landscape.

Enmore Green Community Website

www.enmoregreencommunity.com/

Our website, managed by David Wynn Mackenzie, is coming together but we need more input, especially photographs of Enmore Green. So far we have the Church and a shot of Yeatmans Close but there is Sally Kings Lane, Well Lane (is there a story there?), Horseponds and so on. What about a few photos of the work now being carried out at the bottom of Castle Hill where two ponds are being created? Photos – muddy and a bit desolate just now, but for our Spring edition it might have changed dramatically. And then all that is being done in Breach Common. They say a picture is worth a thousand words. We don't need the thousand words but a bit of copy with a photo will be gladly received.

Send to david.wynnmackenzie@talk21.com

A Defibrillator in Enmore Green?

The nearest Defibrillator is outside the Shaftesbury Town Hall. I have received a suggestion that funds could be raised to have one here.

I checked with the Town Council and they advise that their website lists all of the defibrillator sites in Shaftesbury which can be accessed via the link below.

<https://www.shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk/shaftesbury-town/defibrillators-2/>

These are owned and managed by different organisations (as referenced on the website) and are independent of the council. Some of these defibrillators are also listed on the national circuit defibrillator website.

The Swans Trust, a Shaftesbury based charity, supports local projects and notable investments have included on-going defibrillator installations. The Trust can be contacted at Swans Yard, High Street Shaftesbury, SP7 8JQ.

If anyone is interested in forming a group to explore the need for a defibrillator then do log into the website and this may throw up others who want to join in.

Jo Churchill

Advertisers in Enmore Green

Fair Trade

Arthur Simmonds, who co-ordinates Fairtrade locally, has a Fairtrade outpost in Bimport. The e-mail address and telephone numbers are:

arthursimmonds303@icloud.com 01747 853182

The Search for Sally King: A story of Enmore Green.

£8.50 per copy. Available at our Coffee Mornings on the first Wednesday of each month from 10am to 12noon in St John's Church Hall at the top of Church Hill, Enmore Green.

St John's, Enmore Green and the Weir Family

£2.50 Contact Jo Churchill on 01747 850432/ jo.churchill@enmoregreen.co.uk

Vertigo Roofing Ltd

A small friendly team offering a professional and honest service: flat roofing, slate or tile roof repairs, specialist leadwork, re-roofing. NFRC & Trustmark accreditation. Call 01747 854875 or e-mail Vertigoroofing1@live.co.uk

Anna - mobile Hairdresser

07814 262331 or 01747 850273

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07859 751565 / hello@carpet-monkey.co.uk

Alastair Humphries – Interior Design

For a consultation please contact Mobile: 074743 60077 or email: hello@alastairhumphries.com

Daisy Graphic design and print

01747 852747 / info@daisygraphic.co.uk

Shaftesbury Team of Churches:

The Team Office, 5 Gold Hill, Shaftesbury SP7 8JW Tel. 01747 853060

All these advertisers are based in our Community and now include Interior Designer Alastair Humphries.

Alastair writes:

My name is Alastair Humphries and the mainstay of my working life has been hospitality and Interior Design.

When we all moved to Shaftesbury from Brighton, we found ourselves renting a closed unloved pub with a somewhat checkered past. We took a long lease and I set out making it our home for me, my partner Carlo and our two dogs, Guthe-rie and Billy. Once finished, I contacted several reputable interior design maga-zines to do an editorial on our very interesting story. To my surprise I received a very good response and was also interviewed on the local 'This is Alfred' on the design process.

If you need any help with your interior design projects do not hesitate to contact me for a consultation. Mobile: 074743 60077 e mail: hello@alastairhumphries.com



Enmore Green Poetry Reading Group

A small group of people have been meeting once a month for 11 years now to enjoy reading poetry together.

The choice is varied, we tackle classical, modern and humorous with light discus-sion and laughter. We meet at one another's houses alternately

Organised by Freda Wicks 01747 858642

If you have any news or information you would like us to include in the Spring issue (copy date Friday 1st March 2024) please contact

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<https://www.enmoregreencommunity.com/>