

WEATHER OCTOBER 2017

Total rainfall for month	32 mm	1.26 ins
Rained on 13 days		
Rainfall in October 2016	48 mm	1.89 ins
Total for 2017	746 mm	29.37 ins
Total for 2016	837 mm	32.95 ins
Max. Temperature	25 °C	77 °F (25 th)
Min. Temperature	0 °C	32 °F (29 th)



Homing Enquiries 0345 260 1501 or andover.cats.org.uk
 Fund-raising and volunteers 07733 242196 or email coord@andovercats.org.uk
 Items for resale 01256 892773

The festive season is nearly here once again. Hopefully the New Year will not bring too many requests for us to take in unwanted Christmas presents. We do not re-home cats in the two weeks running up to Christmas as it is only fair to let a cat settle in before the festivities start. An exception to this rule is a household where there are no children and the occupants are spending a quiet Christmas with no guests.

Baby is still in care. She has had one of her teeth removed and is eating well..



Woody is a charming, tabby and white, 4 year old, boy. He is very friendly and likes a lap. He could possibly live with a well-behaved small dog.



Coffee Morning

Our December Coffee Morning will be hosted by Sheila Perkins at Mistletoe Cottage (01256 892181) on Wednesday 13th December from 10.30am onwards.

**SAVE THE DATE!
 Saturday 10th March 2018**

**HURSTBOURNE PRIORS
 SAFARI SUPPER**

**An opportunity to meet others
 around the village over drinks and 3
 courses**

If you would like to take part or receive more details, please contact
 Ann Orr 01256 895 983
annjorr@btinternet.com

**Carols at the Manger
 Thursday 21st December at 5.00pm**



Come and join us at the Cricket Pavilion as we sing carols together, enjoy the lighted nativity tableau and share mulled wine.

**HURSTBOURNE PRIORS
PARISH COUNCIL
WINTER QUIZ NIGHT**

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2018
AT 7.30 PM

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS VILLAGE HALL

£12.50 PER HEAD

INCLUDES POPPADUMS, ONION BHAJIS
AND CHOICE OF CURRIES BY BLUE
GINGER OF WHITCHURCH

AND... PRIZES!

BYO DRINKS

MAXIMUM TEAM SIZE OF 6

TICKETS FROM JAMES AND SARAH
WYATT-TILBY BEFORE 22ND DECEMBER
2017

(THE OLD POST OFFICE OR
SARAH@WYATT-TILBY.COM)

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO PLEASE GET
IN TOUCH EARLY

ANDOVER FILM CLUB

London Symphony

Monday 11th December, ODEON Cinema.
Start time: 8.00 pm

Cert. Parental Guidance, 72 mins.
Language: None, 2017.

Director: Alex Barrett

Written by: Rahim Moledina

Music by: James McWilliam

**HURSTBOURNE TARRANT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Next Meeting – Monday 11th December;
7.45pm in the Community Centre**

This will take the now-traditional format for the December meeting, with members giving a short talk on a subject of their choice.

Tilting at Windmills by Andy Watson

At the request of a local resident Andy used old documents, maps and information gained on line to investigate ancient rights of way and the history of the windmill in Stoke.

Ancient Yew Trees by Mike Nash

According to the “Ancient Yew Group” Hampshire is a “yew tree rich” area; Mike will give a short talk on the ancient yews we have around us.

Making Sense of the Census by Bryn Evans

Bryn will give a brief review of the historic background to the UK census and recent work done on our own local census for Hurstbourne Tarrant.

Open Tables – Bring Along Your Finds

What have you found while digging in the garden, in the loft while clearing out or hidden up the chimney? Do you know their history? Have you been able to identify them? How old are they? Bring along your finds and we will put them on show for everyone to look at and maybe even help answer your questions!

Mince Pies, Mulled Wine and a Raffle – Bring Along Your Friends!

We will hold our usual raffle, and to start off the Christmas festivities there will be complimentary mulled wine and mince pies for you to enjoy while looking at the open table artefacts.

Visitors most welcome to join us (£3.00).

For further information please contact

Chairman: Andy Watson e-mail

andrew.w.watson@btinternet.com or 01264
736459

Two Rivers Medical Partnership Newsletter 2017

This year we have set an exemplary example of how to deliver primary care in such challenging times. We really appreciate your patience and understanding while we have implemented so many changes since merging Derrydown with Whitchurch Surgery last year. Feedback from patients at a recent Saturday flu clinic was overwhelmingly positive and supportive and this continues to help us improve our service further.

GP Access

We have implemented our novel 'pod' model, where each GP works collaboratively with a generalist advanced nurse practitioner. We are able to improve access for routine appointments (within 2 weeks on average) while continuing to encourage continuity for patients with their clinician. We are also part of a wider group of practices that have developed a 'Hub' in Andover War Memorial Hospital (within the minor injury unit), which is now open every weekday evening 5-8pm and each Saturday and Sunday morning. This offers routine GP and nurse appointments which are bookable through our reception.

Quality of care

Part of our care can be measured objectively by measuring data or quality outcomes - we have continued to improve this year and are among the highest achievers in west Hampshire. We were visited and inspected by the quality commission last year and were rated good or outstanding in all areas and continue to set our aim at being outstanding throughout. We were recently visited and described as a training centre of excellence. We have expanded our teaching and training significantly this year. A huge thank you to patients that have volunteered their time to come and speak to students about

their illnesses and experience. We have successfully implemented a telephone triage system for patients with emergency problems which most people are probably now familiar with. This system has enabled our team to be more responsive and help prioritise patients.

Focus for this year

We are continuing to improve the service provided by our reception team and are in the process of recruiting to the team while modernising the practices' reception and administration functions. Our vision will hopefully improve patients' experience with reception and help improve our 'front of house function' further. We are also auditing our dispensary to ensure it remains able to cope with the huge increase in prescription turnover. We are soon to implement a new telephone system which we hope will help make patients' experience with contacting the practice much smoother.

How can you keep helping us?

We still rely on your help and support. We know you already think carefully about who to see and how urgent your problem is. However, I have written a brief leaflet which is available to view or download on our website. This is also available at the surgery and summarises some of the options available to you. Please keep making use of our website

tworiversmedicalpartnership.co.uk for any queries or requests. Please request your medication online if you don't already and allow 48 hours for the practice to turn around your script as has always been the case. For anyone keen to support the practice further and would like to help your local NHS - our next patient group meeting is on Thursday 4th January at St Mary Bourne village hall.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

*Dr Lickman
and the whole team at Two Rivers*

Top 10 Christmas traditions and their origins

Christmas cards

Having helped set up the Public Records Office (now the Post Office), Sir Henry Cole and artist John Horsley created the first Christmas card in 1843 as a way of encouraging people to use its services.

Even in our online age nothing trumps the joy of receiving a traditional Cards cost a shilling (equivalent to almost £5.75 now) and stamps a penny (about 40p at modern prices). Advances in printing brought prices down, making cards hugely popular by the 1860s. By 1900 the custom of sending Christmas cards had spread throughout Europe.

The Christmas tree

While Christmas trees have been around for a millennium in northern Europe, the first one did not appear in the UK until the 1830s. When Prince Albert put up a Christmas tree at Windsor Castle in 1841, he started what became an evergreen trend.

Mince pies

Early mince pies were made of meat, fruit and spice. They commonly had 13 ingredients representing Christ and the Apostles, and were formed in a large oval shape to represent the manger. Meat had disappeared from the recipe by Victorian times, although beef suet is often still included.

Stockings

Leaving stockings out at Christmas goes back to the legend of St Nicholas. Known as the gift giver, on one occasion (as legend has it) he sent bags of gold down a chimney at the home of a poor man who had no dowry for his unmarried daughters. The gold fell into stockings left hanging to dry. St Nicholas was later referred to by the Dutch as Sinterklaas and eventually, by English-speakers, as Santa Claus.

Holly and ivy

Synonymous with Christmas and the subject of a traditional British folk carol, both holly and ivy

were originally used in pre-Christian times to celebrate the winter solstice. As they provide a rare splash of colour in the darkest month of the year, their popularity has endured.

Christmas crackers

London sweet-maker Tom Smith invented Christmas crackers in the late 1840s, inspired by traditional, paper-wrapped French bonbons. Even though he included mottos or riddles inside each, it was not until he found a way to make them "crack" when pulled apart that sales took off. His sons Tom, Walter and Henry later added hats and novelty gifts.

Turkey

Turkeys originated in Mexico and were first brought to Britain in 1526 by William Strickland. Henry VIII enjoyed turkey and although the bird became fashionable in high society in the late 19th century it was Edward VII who made it de rigueur at Christmas for the middle classes. Even by 1930, however, it took a week's wages to buy one and turkey remained a luxury until the 1950s.

Christmas pudding

Also known as plum or figgy pudding, this Christmas staple possibly has its roots as far back as the Middle Ages in a wheat-based pottage known as frumenty. By the mid 17th century, it was thicker and had developed into a dessert with the addition of eggs, dried fruit and alcohol. In Victorian times plum pudding was a Christmas favourite. It is traditionally made a week before Advent on what is known as "stir-up Sunday".

Mistletoe

Hanging mistletoe in the home is an ancient pagan practice adopted by early Christians. The word itself is Anglo-Saxon and the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe originated in England. Each kiss required a berry to be plucked until none remained.

Christmas carols

Carols were songs and dances of praise and joy in pagan times and the practice of carol singing carried over into the Christian era. Carols have been written through the centuries but the most familiar date from Victorian times.