

WEATHER – OCTOBER 2019

Total rainfall for month	158mm	6.22ins
It rained on	20 days	
Rainfall same month last year	73mm	2.87ins
Total for 2019	835mm	32.87ins
Total for 2018	748mm	29.44ins
Max temp (on 18th)	20C	68F
Min temp (on 27th)	-1C	30F

We are nearly up to our 25 year average rainfall of 33.75ins with two months to go!

John Smail

LADIES COFFEE MORNINGS

The December Coffee Morning will be hosted by Helen Mehaffey (893119) at The Limes on Wednesday, 4th December 2019 from 10.15 onwards.

The January Coffee Morning will be hosted by Clare Read (896672) at Hurstbourne Priors House on Tuesday 14th January from 10.15 onwards.



REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPIES

The Parish Council purchased a number of large poppies which are mounted on suitable sites within the Parish as a symbol of remembrance and to honour Britain's war dead. They go up for the two weeks either side of Remembrance Sunday.

I am very saddened that someone felt the need to remove some of these from display less than 24 hours after they were put up. We have not received any comments of disapproval, indeed residents appear to appreciate them.

If whoever removed them could return the poppies, simply leave them in the porch of the Village Hall, I would be most grateful. They were affixed with cable ties so they didn't simply 'blow away'.

Clare Read
Chairman, Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council

CHRISTMAS REFUSE, RECYCLING AND TREE COLLECTIONS

These are the revised schedules (weather permitting) for the rubbish and recyclable waste collections over the Christmas period. Basingstoke and Deane hope that normal collections will resume week commencing 13th January 2020.

Please remember that gift wrap and tags cannot be recycled and should be put into the black bin with normal household waste. If your glass box is full please take excess bottles to a recycling site or keep until the next collection day. The recycling team cannot take bottles in bags or other boxes.

Friday 20th December – Black bins, bottle boxes and green bins

Friday 27th December collection will be on Monday 30th December – Black bins only

Friday 3rd January collection will be on Monday 6th January – Black bins, bottle boxes and green bins

Friday 10th January collection will be on Saturday 11th January – Black bins only

Friday 17th January back to normal – Black bins, bottle boxes and green bins

This year those with garden waste collections can leave their real trees out for collection (please make sure you have removed all decorations) on Friday 17th January. Otherwise please take your tree to the Winchester Road Car Park in Whitchurch between the 2nd and 26th January for recycling. The Waste and Recycling Centre in Andover can take them during normal opening hours – 0900-1600 except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council

WORD OF THE MONTH

SCURRYFUNGE: to rush around cleaning when company is on their way over (Old English).

I am sure many households in The Valley will be partaking in this activity over the coming weeks!

Barbara Carrodus



PARCEL FRAUD - PLEASE BEWARE

Christmas is fast approaching. Royal Mail and The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a Premium rate number).

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message, you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655

For more information, see the Crime Stoppers website: www.crimestoppers-uk.org/crime-prevention/helping-prevent-crime/scams/postal-delivery-scam

Please be aware that the premium rate number may change but nevertheless please do not call any number stated on a card from PDS.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS - 2020

Your Parish Council meets every other month on the final Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All Parishioners are very welcome to attend, and they do not need to give any notice that they wish to come. However, if there is a particular item which you would like to discuss and which you feel it would be beneficial for the Councillors to look into prior to the meeting, please contact either:

the Parish Clerk, Richard Waterman, on richard.waterman150@btinternet.com

or the Chairman, Clare Read, on clareread@aol.com or 07711 917375.

Dates for 2020

Wednesday 29th January
 Wednesday 25th March
 Wednesday 27th May
 Wednesday 29th July
 Wednesday 30th September
 Wednesday 25th November

Minutes from previous meeting are available to view on the Parish Website.

*Richard Waterman,
 Clerk*



Meet Morris, he is just 3 years old and very affectionate. He came into care due to changes in the household and he was becoming increasingly stressed out. As there were three other cats in the

household who he was not happy with, we feel he should be the only cat in the family. He is used to children and needs a safe garden to explore once settled into his new home.

Lucky Lexi was adopted by one of our former fosterers and has settled in well with the resident cat.

We always have a break in homing cats in the two weeks leading up to Christmas as households are often busy so new cats struggle to settle in.

It's important to remember to keep nervous cats somewhere quiet during the exciting festive period to keep them as stress free as possible.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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



HURSTBOURNE PRIORS MAY FAIR Sunday, 3 May 2020

Preparations are underway for the 2020 May Fair+ and we already have a full programme planned including highly successful attractions from previous years.

The Annual May Fair is organised to raise funds for the Village Hall, St Andrew's Church and the Recreation Ground.

If you would like to join us to help organise the May Fair, please contact Kim French (home@thefamilyfrench.co.uk) or Fenella Williams (fenella.wiliams@btopenworld.com)

DIARY OF A WIMPY NIMBY CYCLIST

Until Burnham Wood comes to Dunsinane...

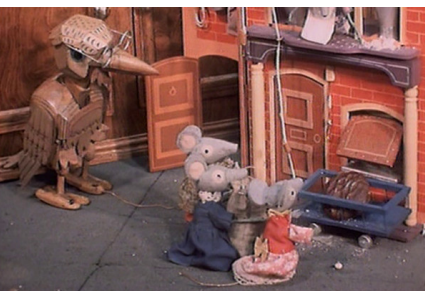
There is a Power Station to be built 5 miles from your house. As the crow flies this is 6 miles south of the Pond at St Mary Bourne. That same crow/duck/goose will be incinerated in a puff of carboniferous steam as it flies above the 80 metre stacks, or through the window of the 46 metre-tall Boiler Hall.

The Plant will burn metals (yes, metals) from households from the surrounding 5 counties, trucking in waste from within a 2 hour road radius. The Plant will consume 1,100 homes' worth of water every year. It will take 3 years to build, and the A303 is likely to be dug up to connect the electric to Andover, closing a lane. The site is a small field, not an industrial estate.

The short-term jobs created will mean more contractor vans and 4x4 pick-up trucks pressuring our lanes. Bullington Cross will be a turnabout for lost lorry drivers who missed the site turn-off at Barton Stacey. These are all facts that your resident cyclist gleaned at the public exhibition on 12th November.

The exhibition was well attended and even made a cameo appearance on BBC South Today. The staff from Wheelabrator accosted us with dough-eyed stories of low environmental impact, clever architecture and ill thought-out marketing: "What two-tone colour scheme would you like your 'Cathedral-to-Waste' to be?"

The print out of google maps that they had on the table did not even show the lane the proposed Plant would be on – a key lane that is on many of our cycle routes and used by many local drivers. 10 of the 12 highlights from the Preliminary Environmental report were proudly displayed as "impact = Not Significant". This seemed like a suspicious "home run".



The factory diagrams were reminiscent of the marvellous mechanical Mouse Mill from Bagpuss (if you are not familiar: They feed it

chocolate biscuits and it produces chocolate biscuits; Type "ChocolateBiscuit15000" into YouTube).

If the waste is not trucked to us it will continue to go to landfill, or be shipped to the European continent. To be fair to the Harewood-brained scheme if you were looking at England from a great height (say, as an American) and bisected the country vertically, then drew across using a Roman road from London to Exeter, the cross-hairs would hit Bullington Cross – already the site of a metal recycling facility (coincidence or irony?). The choice of site would appear to be purely about road network, not about Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or risks to thousand-year old pure water courses, or the thatched idyll that many of us have escaped the industrialised parts of our country to live in.

As a cyclist, my scepticism is rooted in road safety due to the additional commercial traffic burden on local roads and the intimidation of a power station. As an environmentalist it is folly to believe we can burn our waste using old technology, having suffered 3 years of further polluting disruption to our local roads.

As a NIMBY I expect a thank-you postcard every year from Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Surrey and Wiltshire for "taking one for the team" in a nationally significant infrastructure project designed to over-rule rural England. My fear is that our part of the A303 will become an industrial corridor, much like the M1 with its power stations and massive empty warehouses for let. It appears our countryside is to bear the burden of the blatant throw-away culture started by the very same people that now want to sell us our own waste. Our ecology will suffer, and we need better technical innovation and location choices than this.

Please write to them with your concerns. The deadline is election day, 12 December (again, coincidence or irony?).

*Simon Mattison
Cyclist*

SAFARI SUPPER – 2020

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday 7th March 2020
**HURSTBOURNE PRIORS SAFARI
SUPPER**

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

If you would like to take part or receive more details, please contact
Ann Orr 01256 895983
annjorr@btinternet.com