

Hurstbourne Priors

Weather November 2012

Total rainfall for month	116mm	= 4.56ins
It rained on 10 days		
Rainfall November 2011	67mm	= 2.36ins
Total to date 2012	923mm	= 36.33ins
Total to date 2011	599mm	= 23.58ins
Min Temperature	-5C	= 23 (29 th)
Max Temperature	17C	= 62 (14 th)

We have had 12.75ins **more** rain than this time last year and are 3ins over our 10 year average, with still one month to go!!

John Smail

Ladies Coffee Morning



The January coffee morning will be hosted by Precelly Murray at the Long House (☎ 892606) on **Wednesday 9th**, from 10.15 onwards.

Cats Protection

A Happy New Year to all our readers. If you have not already done so, now is the time to get your female cat spayed. In February, female cats come into season and, in the spring, many unwanted kittens will be born. If you are in receipt of benefits and need financial help with neutering your cat give us a call on 01256 892019.



Botham (pictured) and his friend Mojo are elderly cats who had been sadly neglected before they came into care. They have now had dental and other treatment and are feeling much better. If anyone will offer them a loving home, Cats Protection will pay for any ongoing veterinary treatment associated with their age and condition.

Enquiries: 01256-892019 or www.andovercats.org.uk
 Stories of rescued cats:
adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk
 Fund-raising/volunteers:
adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk
 Items for resale: 01256-892773

Claire Bevan

Coordinator Andover & District Cats Protection

Mobile Library



The Mobile Library will be at the Village Hall, from 11.05am until 11.35am, on **Saturday 26th January.**

@thecrossroads

is an occasional series exploring traditional and contemporary Spiritualities through complementary and alternative worship and meditation events using silence and a wide range of music, art, and poetry. After the success of our first event, *Let the Wild Goose Fly: A Journey*, we are encouraged to offer, in January, the second of the series:



IKON: Through a glass darkly

St Andrew, Hurstbourne Priors

Saturday 26 January 2013, 8pm

IKON: Through a glass darkly is an evening meditation using silence, Byzantine Chants from *Kontakion* a Romanian Choir, and religious icons from the Eastern Orthodox traditions. Religious icons are often called 'windows to heaven' and are a powerful tool in meditation and when combined with Orthodox music present both a challenge and an opportunity of discovery for Western Christians and others. We will end the meditation with a simple service of Compline (Evening Prayer) from the Anglican tradition.

Silence, Greek liturgical chants sung in Romanian, a collection icons from various traditions and Anglican Compline, what's not to like? Interested? Intrigued?

Come join us **@thecrossroads!**

Future meditation events planned include:

Words of Wisdom, reflection on the wisdom traditions of our own and other faiths in word and music;
Communion of Life, exploring sacred awe and wonder using, music, art and the poetry of Chris Glaser;
An Ethereal Light, a meditation using the paintings of Mark Rothko, music and poetry ;
After the Deluge, a meditation using the music of Jocelyn Pook.

Further information: John Scott, Email:
jscott0454@gmail.com, Telephone: 01264
 738972, Mobile: 07889 977593

Hurstbourne Priors

Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council

The Minutes of the November Meeting of the Parish Council were not available at the time of going to press but will appear in the February Hill & Valley.

Dates of the Meetings for 2013 are:

23rd January, **13th** March, 29th May, 31st July, 25th September and 27th November

NEWS FROM TESTBOURNE

MAKING 2013 A YEAR TO REMEMBER

How do you follow 2012? It has been such an exciting and memorable year that it certainly will take some following. It poses a new challenge for us all – but, on the basis that if you put your mind to it, you can create your own achievement, success and memorable moments; it is a challenge we are ready to take on!

For Testbourne, an important part of that challenge is maintaining the spirit and standards that led to our “outstanding” status. There have been three different Ofsted frameworks since September 2011, each one more demanding than the last. The Government has been public in its expectation that the number of outstanding schools will fall – but we will absolutely strive to resist that particular trend and still enjoy ourselves in the process.

GOOD NEWS ON PUPIL PROGRESS

We have started the new year with good news – although linked to the year gone by; we already knew that we had achieved our best ever GCSE results in terms of the percentage of students achieving A*-C grades, including English and Maths. We now know from the DfE Raiseonline report that we have achieved a value-added score of 1013.2. (The national mean is 1000.) The data is complicated but essentially it means that our students – of all abilities – are making significantly better progress than similar students nationally.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE YEAR AHEAD

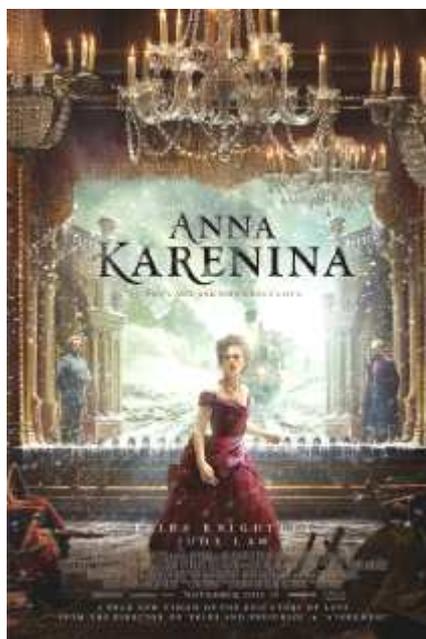
We have a number of events coming up which will help give 2013 a character of its own:

- February half-term sees our first-ever Geography field trip to Morocco - to study Deserts and Mountains, not easily available in Whitchurch!
- At the same time, our latest Team Uganda will be off to Mityana to visit our partner school;
- At Easter time some of our first cohort of Spanish GCSE students will be off to Spain to practice the language and absorb the culture;

- And, don't miss our fun, first-time production of “Our House” – at the Haymarket Theatre in Basingstoke on Thursday, 31st January at 7.30 p.m. and Friday 1st February at 12.30 p.m. (matinee) and 7.30 p.m. Tickets are available from the Haymarket Box Office (01245 844244 or on line @anvilarts.org.uk): £10 for an adult; £7 for children and OAPs and £30 for a family (consisting two adults and two children).

In the meantime, we wish you a Happy New Year from all of us at Testbourne. We look forward to bringing you more news as the year unfolds – and hope it will be another year to remember.

Hilary Jackson
Headteacher

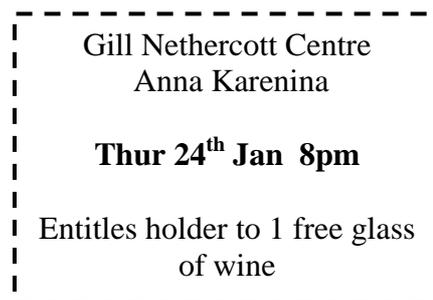


**Thursday Film
at the Gill
Nethercott
Centre
Anna Karenina
(12a) Thursday
24th January**

Set in late-19th-century Russia high-society, the aristocrat Anna Karenina enters into a life-changing affair with the affluent Count Vronsky.

With a star-packed cast, including Keira Knightley, Jude Law and Matthew McFadyen, this is a classy retelling of the Leo Tolstoy classic.

To tempt you out on a cold January night, cut out this voucher and receive a free glass of wine!



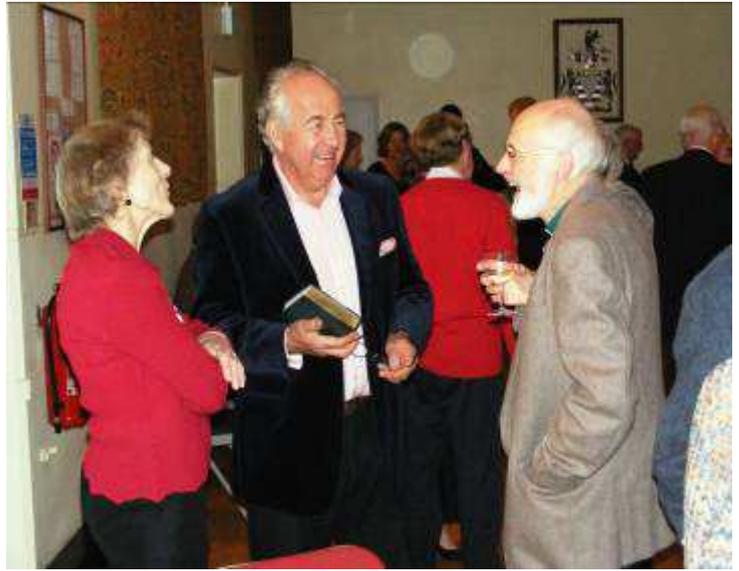
Tickets cost £5 in advance or £5.50 on the door, available from the GNC or Library.

Hurstbourne Priors

Hurstbourne Priors Farewell Party

The first of a number of planned events to say farewell to the Rev. Canon Martin Coppen and his wife Christine took place at Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall on Saturday 15th December.

Villagers and friends extended their good wishes to Martin and Christine and enjoyed a pleasant evening, including drinks and nibbles, with the presentation of a parting gift from the village.



Hurstbourne Priors



MANET - THE MAN WHO INVENTED MODERN ART

Talk by Barrie Garnham

Wednesday 30th January 7.30pm

Westover Farm, Goodworth Clatford

To coincide with the RA Manet exhibition, top art historian, Barrie Garnham, will be giving us a talk on this fabulous artist.

Manet's influence on the art world was immense and Barrie will give us a wonderful insight into Manet's character, the world in which he lived and his contribution to the world of art.

Cost- £15, including glass of wine

Tickets available from:

enquiries@quiddityfineart.co.uk

www.quiddityfineart.co.uk or

Telephone 07765 860081

*The following article, **Help is at Hand**, is the result of a young lady contacting a Hill and Valley Area Community Enterprise Trustee for help in setting up her own business. This is an innovative way of a local person attempting to kick-start her life again and enhance her level of wellbeing having been made redundant at the worst possible time. Please read the article and, if it strikes a chord with you, please contact this lady (details below) to enquire about the various services she has to offer.*

Help is at Hand

I decided to write this article to gain feedback on a business initiative I am currently in the process of creating.

Having been made redundant during a difficult economic climate, and coming to the conclusion that, unless I was trained in a specific area, the chances of getting another job with ease were slim. I asked myself what am I good at, what do I like and what can I succeed in? The answer was animals, nature and people. The three combined allowed me to consider an occupation that involved all

three. I decided to set up my own business in animal farming and house sitting. Put quite simply, house sitting, dog walking, animal maintenance and caring for people's beloved creatures.

I feel people do need a helping hand to assist their busy lives, whether it be dog walking at lunch times, during evenings or weekends; or that the elderly seek assistance in animal care; or young families find themselves wanting to travel and are not able to because they have pet ties and commitments. Further, people may not wish to place their animals in catteries or kennels.

So I felt the best way to begin this venture was to gain opinion and reaction from the local audience as to how feasible this was and if there was a need for this service in this area and community. I ask the local population what they think and if they can steer me in the right direction to enable me to sustain and support myself independently.

Help is therefore, at hand.

Contact Sally Hazell - Email: salvhazell@aim.com



HAMPSHIRE POTATO WEEKEND

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 26th/27th JANUARY

10am to 3pm

At the Testbourne Community School
Micheldever Road, Whitchurch, Hants RG28 7JF
Admission £2 per adult, children free

A good day out and an event not to be missed by anyone interested in growing good flavoured, quality potatoes. 150 different varieties are available and 30 of these are also available as organic seed potatoes. These can be purchased in 2.5 gm nets or, more interestingly, as individual tubers, so people can enjoy experimenting by growing a few plants of varieties that are new to them.

Chris Bird, from the Horticultural Department of Sparsholt College gives a talk each morning on growing potatoes and practical advice is on hand throughout both days from potato experts Dave Chapell and Richard Stevens and his team.

There are activities for children and refreshments. A number of trade stands selling seeds, plants, preserves, and organic vegetables are in the main hall. In particular, the seed swap stall is a popular feature.