



Photo; Julie Holland, Jonty Wild & Steve Jones.

The Pumpkin Year 2011

The Pumpkin Club made every effort this year to make Pirton as Festive as possible, complementing the School's Advent calendar. As you can see from the photo we even had to break the ice and wade through the pond to put the twinkling lights on the island. This year we also experimented with a tree outside the Village Hall and some solar lights on the Maypole.

The festive season also included the annual Boxing Day Ramble. After all the bad weather we were lucky to have a fine afternoon. A more difficult mix of questions left three teams vying with each other over the tie-breakers to determine our prize winners. All found the refreshments in the village hall afterwards very welcome after their stroll around the village.

You will have already seen in your newsletter the list of major events for this year, starting with the Pensioners' Party on Saturday 5th February. We have had nearly 70 people book already, at the time of writing; however there may be a place left for you, if you haven't already reserved. Please call Julie on 712280 if you'd like to make a last minute reservation. I'd also like to personally thank everyone who helped us raise the money for this by attending or helping out at an event last year or by paying their subscriptions.

There has been a change this year in the timing of collecting the membership. Previously we have begun at the start of the calendar year and continued collecting with the spring newsletter (which

is when the seeds are delivered to everyone). Now we will make it a separate event and collect membership and deliver membership cards in April, at the start of our financial year. This should help as none of us seem to remember when we paid! The cost will remain the same at £3.50 per individual or £7.00 per household. Of course, if we didn't get to you last year, contributions are most welcome at any time. In addition to funding the Pensioners' Party we have recently been able to assist;

- The Parish Council with additional funds to help with the work required to do more clear-up work on the pond.
- Pirton Pre-School with additional funds to help the costs of setting up in their new building.
- The Village Hall with additional funds in order to purchase some more tables.

We hope to assist other groups in the future.

Two other dates in the calendar require some thought now;

- The first is the annual AGM, on Wed 6th April, which more people have begun to attend again. This is when anyone can put forward their own good ideas and suggestions. We can also review our growing list of volunteers who help out, maybe just once a year. We couldn't function without them!
- The second is the Visit to Southill Park on Friday 20th May. Bookings are open now.

Thanks again to everyone involved

Julie Holland - Chairman of the Pirton Pumpkin Club