

Blandford Heart Forum (BHF)

February 2014 Newsletter.

Dear Members,

I cannot believe that since my January Newsletter, it is still raining and blowing ! Maybe an 'Ark' is not such a bad idea after all !

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20 February at 2.30 PM in the Restaurant of Blandford Hospital. Our Speaker will be Diana Goetz and her talk is titled "The Life and Times of Thomas Hardy"

We were gratified to see so many of you at our January meeting to hear Martin Shephard, the Senior Pharmacist at Dorset County Hospital in Dorchester. His professional and informative talk prompted much interest and a multitude of questions which must have exhausted the poor chap by the end of the long afternoon !

During our Committee meeting on the 6 February, we discussed the question of choosing a suitable destination for our Spring Outing in May. I have mentioned this in my last 2 Newsletters, but received no feedback thus far. We have a number of possible destinations in mind given the criteria that the trip should be no more than 2 hours and should not involve too much walking for our older Members. It also of course, has to be of interest to the majority. Please give the proposed Outing some thought so that we can make a final decision at our meeting on the 20 February...

We have been recently approached by Julie Wigg of the DT11 Forum, which is funded by the North Dorset District Council (NDDC). She has been tasked to organise a "DT11 Forum" Event in mid-September to run over 3 days from the 18 September, and will be titled "DT11 Forum; Health and Wellbeing". The BHF has been asked to participate in the "Health" part of this Event and we have been invited to hold our meeting at the usual time in the Sealy Suite of the Crown Hotel, Blandford. The 18 September, as you will have spotted, is our AGM when Dr. Simon Winterton, our President attends to give his address on "Developments in Cardiology". There will be more of all this in subsequent Newsletters and our meeting on the 20 February. A large number of Organisations will be participating in the DT11 area, i.e. Blandford and the surrounding Villages.

You will be pleased to learn that henceforth, the BHF and its activities will be advertised/listed each month in the Blackmore Vale Magazine which has a very wide

readership.. We already advertise in "Forum Focus" which has already produced some new members..

Since my January Newsletter, Isabel has had an exploratory operation in Dorchester Hospital to attempt to determine the cause of an acute abdominal pain. She is now back home. Sadly, however, Mike was recently diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. Our thoughts and Prayers are with them at this difficult time. Mike and Isabel are grateful for all the offers of help they have received from friends and neighbours.

Can I please again ask anyone who has acquired an e mail address over recent weeks to let me know, to obviate the need to Post this Newsletter which now costs 50P / mailing.

All Best Wishes to you All

Ray Suter

7 February 2014

Tel; 01258 860 787

PS; Just remembered the Trip to Wisley NHS Gardens on the 15 April run by Shillingstone Gardening Club. If you would like to go, please let me know ASAP to secure a seat on the coach which departs Shillingstone at 9 AM. Travel cost £10pp.. I will check on the entry fee before our next meeting. I know it is not extortionate ..