

The Frank Bond Centre

be active, stay healthy, live longer



"the hidden gem in our community"

The good news: this has been a very busy year at the FBC. In addition to being open 5 days a week for the numerous regular activities we have also organised additional social events that have raised much-needed funds.

We had a performance of "As You Like It" from The Taunton Thespians, a Jazz and Pig Roast evening, an Afternoon Tea, a Sunday Curry Lunch, Grand National Race Day Draw and tea, and two coach outings.

The Curry Lunch & the Jazz & Pig Roast were very successful with 120 people at the Jazz night. These raised much needed funds that Barclays Bank matched with a donation of £1500. We really do appreciate the invaluable support we have had from Barclays Bank over the last 2 years. The real success story in 2010 was the Art Week in October organised by our very enthusiastic art group. They had over 120 visitors viewing 94 pieces of work. It is hoped this can be repeated in 2011. The group had a variety of styles & subjects on show and they all agreed that the influence and encouragement of a tutor during the year had been inspirational in raising their personal skills. The Music Circle has thrived this year with 20 members meeting once a month to listen to mainly classical music.

The Parchment Craft classes for members on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays are held by Celia Preston, a qualified Pergamano and PCA tutor and the SW Co-ordinator for The Parchment Craft Guild. If you want to know more, pop in for a chat on one of the Tuesday afternoons or to Frank's Café.

CROQUET has proved to be the outdoor success of 2010 with an enthusiastic group playing on Thursday afternoons. More players are needed, so beginner or expert, come along.

The work in the garden is nearing completion and this year a large summerhouse was built, with the help of a grant from The National Lottery: Awards For All. This offers a wonderful facility to those using our gardens for croquet, boules, other outside activities or just relaxing on a sunny day. The summerhouse is open all summer.

It was very sad that our beautiful horse chestnut tree succumbed to disease and for safety reasons had to be removed. Although this was done with great reluctance it has opened up the garden for future use. We hope to plant replacement trees in due course.

Now the bad news: by the time you read this you will be fully aware of the implications of the financial crisis in the country and the need to "balance the books".

Well, there is certainly **NOT** a financial crisis at the Frank Bond Centre but there is a need to balance the books!

Whilst the Trust has more than adequate capital reserves, generously left to the community by Frank Bond, there is regrettably an annual shortfall between regular income and the actual running costs of the Centre (i.e. gas, electricity, insurance, water, rates, caretaker's wages etc).

In 2009/2010 this amounted to approximately £90 per week. This is not a new situation as there have been shortfalls in most of the last ten years. The dramatic fall in investment income has been a major factor but inevitably the running costs have increased almost every year.

The Trustees have made a decision to reduce or clear this shortfall over the next five years.

This can only be done by reducing the overheads AND increasing income. A radical re-think of how the Centre is used, maintained and managed is going to be necessary, as we cannot continue with this disparity.

All the running costs will be reviewed and reduced wherever possible, which may reflect on the facilities and standards that everyone has become used to. The day-to-day income of the Centre must be increased. The Membership fee in 2011 for new members will be £14. The cost of hiring the

centre will be increased and we will be actively looking to find regular daytime & evening hirers, to provide a future sustainable income. Lunches & charges at Frank's Café will increase & tea, coffee & other beverages will increase to £1 per cup.

N.B. To reduce our postage costs we wish to use e-mails as much as possible. If you have an e-mail address please add it to your renewal slip.

The decision to increase all our charges has not been taken lightly but the Trustees have a duty to manage the Centre responsibly to ensure that this wonderful gift to the village is viable for the foreseeable future.

If you haven't been to see us for a while why not come and try one of the following:

Activities for Members

| GROUP | CONVENOR | DAY | TIME | CONTACT |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| ART | Pauline Meakin | Mon | 10am-12.00noon | 277443 |
| WHIST | Betty Keen | Mon | 2pm – 4pm | 271551 |
| GAMES incl. Croquet | Margo Rimes | Tues | 10am – 4pm | 326773 |
| GERMAN CONVERSATION | Dorothea Land | Thurs | 10am – 12.00noon | 335009 |
| BINGO | Tim & Linda Pope | Thurs | 7pm – 9pm | 286834 |
| COMPUTER CLASSES | ****See below**** | ? | ? | 257377 |
| BRIDGE for BEGINNERS | Ken Burgess | Thurs | 10am-12.30pm | 331043 |
| NAIL CLIPPING SERVICE | Ann/Rachael | Wed | 10am – 1pm | 0845 6434705 |
| CROQUET | Marilyn Griffin | Thurs | 2pm – 4pm | 274688 |

****** We may have a tutor for early 2011 if we can get enough interest.**

Please add names to list on Notice Board

The Centre is on broadband & there is a PC & several laptops available to any member to use at any time. **FREE!!!!!!!!!!** Contact Larry Fogg 288823

| GROUP | CONVENOR | WEEK OF MONTH | DAY | TIME | CONTACT NUMBER |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|----------------|
| FAMILY HISTORY | Bob Steed | First | Mon | 2pm – 4pm | 288089 |
| PARCHMENT CRAFT | Celia Preston | Second & Fourth | Tues | 1.30pm – 4.30pm | 283416 |
| SERENDIPITY | Don Ruffell | Third | Wed | 2pm – 4pm | 283851 |
| MUSIC CIRCLE | Julia Cann | Last | Wed | 2pm – 4pm | 442533 |
| FILM CLUB | Brian Pepper | First | Wed | 2.30pm-4pm | 251534 |

TAI CHI takes place in the Church Hall on each Monday 1pm – 2pm

Contact Larry Fogg: 01823 288823 email:larryfogg@googlemail.com

Tai Chi is a gentle form of exercise that develops strength, balance, energy, and coordination. Practising Tai Chi massages the body's energy systems to revitalise and restore the body's natural flow of energy.

There is a free library of popular paperbacks.

FOR MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

| GROUP | CONVENOR | WEEK OF MONTH | DAY | TIME | CONTACT NUMBER |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| FRANK'S CAFE | Carolyn Bulbeck | Every | Fri | 9am – 11am | 283941 |
| LUNCH CLUB | Carolyn Bulbeck | Third | Thu | 12-30pm-2.30pm | 283941 |
| PARCHMENT CRAFT | Celia Preston | Second | Sat | 10am – 4pm | 283416 |
| BINGO | Tim & Linda Pope | Every | Thurs | 7pm – 9pm | |

Walk Well in Taunton – Contact Steve Wild for dates – 286815

SOCIAL EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

(NB. more information on all these events will appear on the notice boards & in local publications in due course)

Flexercise taster session: A gentle exercise class. Wed 26th Jan 10am – 11am.

NHS Health Checks at Frank's Café Fri 4th February 9am – 1pm. Available to all 40–74 year olds. Providing an assessment of cardiovascular risk. Enquiries to Tone Leisure on 01823 273088

Quiz night in March.

Grand National Race Day: Tea & Tote. Sat April 9th 3pm–5pm

Garden Party/Games/Open Day with cream teas to purchase on a Sunday in May. All ages welcome.

The Taunton Thespians present The Servant of Two Masters by Carlo Goldoni on Tuesday 14th June

JAZZ Night and Pig Roast in July with music by The Grey Dogs.

End of season Boules/Croquet fun tournament with tea & cake for sale, on a Sunday in September. All ages welcome.

A coach trip in the spring and also one in the autumn.

A full size PETANQUE (BOULES) court is now in regular use and in 2011 we are hoping to start a monthly Sunday afternoon session. Contact Edward Rose for details.

WEB SITE: Ever checked the web site for information about us?

Well, you can if you go to the Bishop's Hull Village web site and click on the link for The Frank Bond Centre.

www.bishopshull.org.uk

Information about activities at the Centre is always included in the Bishop's Hull Community News and the Parish Magazine.

Have you thought that membership of the Centre might be the ideal present for a friend or member of the family?



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR

TRUSTEES OF THE FRANK BOND TRUST LIMITED

84 Mountway Road, Bishops Hull, Taunton TA15DS

Tel: 01823 331043 Email: fbctrustees@tiscali.co.uk

registered charity no. 287873

Your current Trustees are:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Chair | Mrs Carolyn Bulbeck 01823 283941 carolynbulbeck@tiscali.co.uk |
| Treasurer | Mr Edward Rose 01823 257377 red.roses-47_@tiscali.co.uk |
| Booking Secretary | Mrs Molly Burgess 01823 331043 kenmoll@eclipse.co.uk Mr John Newell 01823 276647 valnewell@btinternet.com Mr Steve Wild 01823 286815 steve.wild@eclipse.co.uk Mr Larry Fogg 01823 288823 larryfogg@googlemail.com Mr Ray Court 01823 274419 raycourt@btopenworld.com Mrs Celia Preston 01823 283416 c.preston08@btinternet.com Mrs Margaret Summers 01823 270812 margaret.summers@cooptel.net |

****MEMBERSHIP FEES 2011****

Renewal membership fees are due 1st January 2011. The membership fee for 2011 is **£14.00**.

If you pay your renewal with the slip below **BEFORE** 31st January 2011, you can pay

£12.00, saving £2.00!!

(Remember to pick up your new Membership Card from the box in the foyer)

Cut off this section and send it with your payment, or place in the box in the foyer. Cheques payable to The Frank Bond Centre.

PRINT NAME..... cheque/cash £

*****Email address.....

Tel No.....