



Press Release

Doddinghurst Time Capsule Event

Thursday 3rd November 2011

A little piece of history for the future is being included as part of Ashley House's current development at Doddinghurst.

A copy of a local paper, children's school work and medical equipment have all been packed into a time capsule for a future generation to unearth. Young school pupils helped to lower the cylinder of treasurers under the floor of one of the consulting rooms.

Descendants of these children may be charged with digging back up the buried memories of 2011, which include various contributions from both Doddinghurst Junior and Blackmore Primary Schools together with photographs, a pair of reading glasses, a doctor's stamp and a uniform blouse from the surgery.

Speculating over the future of the village, Doddinghurst Junior School pupil, Sophie Cook, 10, said: *"I think it will be dug up in 50 years time. This doctors' surgery should last a long time."* She added: *"I think the school logo in that time may change for one thing."*

Chris Cairncross, 10, said: *"I think they will use less paper at school and use computers instead."*

The local paper joined representatives from the schools, the surgery and Ashley House along with borough and parish councillors, at the official lowering.

The practice manager, Ray Turnbull, said: *"We have put in medical equipment so they can have a good laugh in say 100 years time. These are things that are currently used today, but when the capsule is dug back up, it may be obsolete."*

The hand print of every single Blackmore Primary pupil was buried in the capsule, along with the prospectus and school cap.

Head teacher, Karen Gibbons, said: *"I think this is important for the children. They will grow up in the area, some will stay here and it would be great when they dig it back up, to say that is my hand print. I think it is good to be involved in the community."*

A prospectus from Doddinghurst Junior School, together with its newsletters, school work from every year and photographs, was among the rest of the treasure.

The GP surgery is due to open in August next year and will serve the community for generations to come. It will replace the current Outings Lane premises, built in 1963, which is no longer fit for the 8,700 patients served.



Left to right back row are: Linzi Knights, (Development Manager, Ashley House), Margaret Cooper (Head teacher of Doddinghurst Junior School), Keith Parker (Parish Councillor), Mrs Deborah Dicker (Parish Councillor), Roger McCheyne (Parish Councillor), Jane Whannell (Head of Year 3, Blackmore Primary School), Jane Gibbons (Headteacher, Blackmore Primary School), Jackie Jacobs and Mrs Julia Le Page (Parish Councillor).

Front row: Dr Lesley Clough, Sophie Cook and Chris Cairncross from Doddinghurst Junior School, Dr Nigel Butler, Connor and Billie from Blackmore Primary School.