The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 38

December 2014/January 2015



Horsington Marsh lane in the snow

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on Monday 12th January 2015

All opinions expressed in articles published are those of the authors and not of the magazine

To view past and present copies of the Villager go to the Wincanton Window website <u>www.wincantonwindow.co.uk</u> and click on the 'Villages' link

Events Diary December 2014

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mon 1st	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group	King's Arms, Charlton Horethorne
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tues 2nd	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.00pm	Blackmore Vale Lions with Father C	hristmas Horsington
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 3rd	3.00pm	Tea & Chat	Half Moon Inn
	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	Village Hall
	7.00pm	Blackmore Vale Lions with Father C	hristmas South Cheriton
	8.45pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 4th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	WI Christmas Party	
Fri 5th	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 6th	11.00–3pm	Horsington School Christmas Fayre	Gartell Light Railway, Yenston
	7.30pm	St Nicholas Day Concert St Pe	eter & St Paul's Church, Wincanton
Mon 8th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tues 9th	10.30am	Upholstery	
	8.00pm	Badminton	
	7.30pm	NC Gardening Society	North Cheriton Village Hall
Wed 10th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	Village Hall
	7.30pm	Film : The African Queen	King Arthurs
Thu 11th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 12th	10.00am	Art	"
Sun 14th	7.30pm	Wincanton Choral Society Messiah	Wincanton Sports Centre
Mon 15th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tues 16th	10.30am	Upholstery	
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 17th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 18th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 19th	10.00am	Art	"
		Horsington Church School term ends	5
Wed 24th	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St John's, Horsington

Horsington Candlelit Carol Service will be held in the Church at 6pm on Christmas Eve. Make your Christmas Merry and Bright (as Bing

Crosby would say)! by coming to enjoy singing some well known carols,

listening to the choir render one or two fresh ones, and to hear the age-old but ever uplifting story.



The ideal start to your Christmas. Don't miss it.

Cover photograph by Paul White

		Events Diary January 2015	
Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mon 5th		Horsington Church School term starts	
	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group	The Old Inn, Holton
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 6th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 7th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
	8.45pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 8th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	Lunch	WI New Years Lunch	"
Fri 9th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 12th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 13th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 14th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 15th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 16th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 19th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 20th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.30pm	Film : The Railway Man	King Arthurs
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 21st	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 22nd	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 23rd	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 26th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tues 27th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 28th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 29th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 30th	10.00am	Art	"

Please note North Cheriton Gardening Society will not meet in January

The Villager would like to wish all their readers, advertisers and contributors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We very much look forward to receiving further input, comments and suggestions in 2015.

17777777777 If anyone would like to become involved in any aspects of the magazine, please contact one of us (phone numbers on cover).

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<u>St Margaret's Village Hall Dinner</u> by John Macdonald

The St. Margaret's Hall Committee would like to thank all those villagers who participated in and donated to the Sparkler dinner fundraiser. We are constantly amazed and gratified by the generosity and support of our community of Horsington and South Cheriton.



As yet we have not finalised the figure raised by the dinner and the raffle, but a considerable sum for Hall funds was generated, which will go in some way to make good some of the monies used from our reserves incurred bv the heavy costs of the

recent refurbishment of the outside of the Hall. The roof was retiled where necessary. Some of the external wood was replaced before the whole of the exterior was painted!

Apart from one of our ticket sellers who went off message for a moment, succeeding in selling tickets at five times the nominal value, the raffle appeared to be a popular part of the evening. Amongst the prizes were signed copies of John Vallins' book of wonderful vignettes of Wessex life! We find we can cater for sixty persons on the night, and it wouldn't be the event it is without the people in the background who organise and produce the event. Thanks must go to the committee members and their husbands and wives and to the other volunteers who cooked the food and help run the evening. Thank you to the many supporters who bring their own puddings; this is now becoming a tradition! Judging by the notes of thanks I have received the dinner went down well. (Pun intended)

Exploring the Namibian desert by Amelie Jannoe

In July this summer, I embarked on a fantastic 6 week expedition as a Trainee Leader. As my second venture with British Exploring (BE), I chose to return to the arid yet beautiful Namibia, where I was able to share my pre-gained knowledge of the environment with 30 Young Explorers (YEs). Together with the leadership training I had obtained before the expedition, I was able to inspire, manage and facilitate their own development during the trip.

Operating in four separate main locations during the weeks (Base Camp, the Doros Crater, the Skeleton Coast and the Brandberg), we trekked over 100km whilst studying the environment around us.

Flora and fauna were plentiful despite the climate, and we felt increasingly familiar with our environment the more we learnt about their characteristics and/or uses. Highlights include seeing wild endangered Elephants, Rhino and even a Leopard. We survived entirely on the water and food we had bought and stored at Base Camp at the beginning of the expedition, and cooked it on fires. There were no showers or any contact to home, and we were sleeping in tents for the entirety of the trip. While this seemed daunting at first, it was a great fun experience which forged very strong friendships.

The final week was perhaps the greatest adventure of all. The four Trainee Leaders and myself planned and initiated our own one week expedition up Namibia's highest mountain, the Brandberg. With the aim of finding undocumented ancient rock art from the indigenous San Bushmen, we pre-calculated the areas where we would have the greatest luck, and thus went about executing a search of these using the help of other expedition staff. Water and weight was our greatest enemy as we ascended the vast bouldery valleys, and thus we lived light weight and minimal. Our constant state of dirt, smell and boredom of the same daily repetitive meals only added to the experience which surprisingly I memorise so fondly. Finding an oasis at 500m altitude brought us even closer to our San ancestors, as we sheltered from the sun and boiled water from a spring to be used as a main resource thereafter. By the end of the week, we had not only reached 1200m, but found 9 sites of palaeolithic significance, which included engravings.

painteenties significance, which included engravings, paintings, pottery and stone tools. All in all it was a tremendous experience to be part of the team running an entire expedition. Whilst it was fun, it wasn't by any means easy. Aspects of safety and logistics created immense pressure and always had to be in the forefront of our minds. Hence there was little if no opportunity to fully relax when in this position of responsibility. My communication skills and organisation were also constantly tested, such as when liaising between the chief management staff and the YEs.



However, ultimately I learnt that to be a Leader one has to be selfless, and observing the senior leaders and learning from their examples was an invaluable experience to me as a hopeful future leader. I have seen and felt the amazing difference an expedition like this can make and would wholly recommend anyone interested in leading expeditions or simply doing something new to turn to British Exploring.



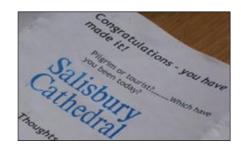
Horsington Church School

Fire Class Pilgrimage to Salisbury

by Ian Rumbelow

This was a very exciting day! We travelled from Templecombe to Salisbury by train, where we were met by staff working for the cathedral. Following a pilgrims' route through the meadows, we reached the Cathedral Close. We found out that the close and cloisters are the largest in Britain.





Within the cathedral we admired the amazing architecture. It was explained to us that it was built in only thirty-eight years and that the previous cathedral had been at Old Sarum where the Normans originally had their castle.

One of our guides showed us how close the underground water is to the floor of the cathedral. The day we visited it was only seventy-five centimetres below the floor which is why the cathedral doesn't have a crypt. The guides showed us how the columns of the cathedral are bent due to the weight of the spire which is the tallest in Britain.

Finally, we arrived at the Trinity Chapel just like pilgrims would have done hundreds of years ago. In the chapel were the remains of the grave of St. Osmund who was the first Norman bishop and who originally was buried in the previous cathedral. There were lighted candles by his tomb and we quietly sat thinking about our journey and about how special this place was. It was very calm and thought provoking. Prayers were said at the tomb and we



thought about God.

Whilst we were at the cathedral once every hour a vicar said prayers from the pulpit. He even said a prayer for us and our school.

After lunch in the cloisters we walked to the North Transept and made a pilgrim's badge each to take home with us as a token of our pilgrimage. Pilgrims in the past and today often left something special at the end of their journey and took something home to remind them of their journey.



www.horsingtonprimary.co.uk www.Facebook.com/HorsingtonSchool www.Twitter.com/HorsingtonS



North Cheriton and District Gardening Society

It seems such a long time ago already, but early in September the club held their annual show where members and non-members got the opportunity to showcase their horticultural and many other talents.

There really is something for everyone at the show, with classes for fruit and veg growing, flower arranging, photography, a children's section, baking and preserve making, and this year for the first time we offered a handicraft section which proved popular.

Trophies, cups and certificates were handed out, tea and cakes were consumed, raffle prizes were won, growing and baking secrets were perhaps not shared, but then it is a competition isn't it?! But mostly, it is a great way for the society to get together, coo over everyone else's fruit and veg and say to ourselves, that maybe I might just win the longest runner bean class next year!

A huge thank you must go to everyone who entered something into the show as that is what makes it, but also to those who worked hard behind the scenes making sure that all ran smoothly before and on the day. So thank you to Joan, the committee (and their families), our external judges and everyone else who helped to make the show a great success.

If you are interested in joining our friendly group, we would love to see you.



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Please call Sarah on 01963 34711 for details of our next event.

St John's Church Horsington

St John the Baptist, Horsington

7th Dec	9.15am	Holy Communion with Sunday School
14th Dec	11.00am	Morning Prayer
21st Dec	9.15am	Holy Communion
24th Dec	6.00pm	Christmas Eve - Festival of Carols and Lessons
25th Dec	9.15am	Christmas Day – Holy Communion
28th Dec	10.30am	United Service in Templecombe United Reformed Church

St Nicholas, Henstridge

7th Dec	11.00am	Sing Glory! Worship for All Ages
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong on an Advent Theme
14th Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion
	4 – 6pm	Messy Christingle
21st Dec	11.00am	Holy Communion 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
24th Dec	4.00pm	Crib Service – come dressed as angels, shepherds, kings etc
	11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas
25th Dec	11.00am	Peace to God's People – Christmas Communion for All Ages
28th Dec	10.30am	United Service in Templecombe United Reformed Church

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

7th Dec	11.00am	All Age Worship
14th Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st Dec	6.30pm	Festival of Carols & Lessons with members of Wincanton Silver Band
24th Dec	11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas
25th Dec	9.30am	Peace to God's People – Christmas Communion for All Ages
28th Dec	10.30am	United Service

St John the Baptist, Horsington

4th Jan 11th Jan 18th Jan	9.15am 11.00am 9.15am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Horsington Churchwarden Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478
25th Jan	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	

St Nicholas, Henstridge

4th Jan	11.00am	Sing Glory! Worship for all ages
	6.30pm	Evensong
11th Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion
18th Oct	11.00am	Morning Prayer
	6.30pm	Evensong
25th Jan	11.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

4th Jan	11.00am	All Age Worship
11th Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion
18th Jan	11.00am	Holy Communion
25th Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion

From the Rector

Greetings: You will be a rare person if you have managed to escape listening to or watching the news reports about the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. In fact we hear so much about it that it is easy to become deadened to what is going on. It's over there – we are here thank God!

It has been made much more personal for me by listening to some of the audio-diary broadcasts by Dr Geraldine O'Hara on Radio 4's current affairs programme, PM.

She is, of course, just one of many who have gone out to help. I am moved and challenged by their courage and love that they put their lives on the line for strangers – strangers in deep and desperate need. As you listen to Dr O'Hara's voice, and the stories she tells, you cannot but be struck by her sheer weariness, but determination to carry on helping. In a broadcast I listened to just before writing this, she was home. But after a rest, and training others, she knew she was going back: going back in spite of the risk.

I don't know anything about Dr Geraldine O'Hara, or any of the others who have gone out to help. I don't know what ultimately motivates them to make this huge sacrifice. Some of these folks may have a faith in God – others may abhor anything to do with belief in God. Yet there they are.

For me, it is a powerful piece of evidence that human beings are made in the image of the God who is love. Just as light always overcomes darkness, so in the end, love will always overcome evil. In the Christian world view, the last word as well as the first is Love

May the love and peace of God be upon you and yours this Christmas time, and into the New Year.

Peter Hallett 01963 362266 ~ halatvic@gmail.com



<u>A Christmas Epiphany – 1944</u>

by John West

The polished red floor tiled passage seemed endless as it stretched between the cavernous kitchen to the left and the staff rooms to the right, before finally reaching the few steps to the dining room, all bathed in the hazy light cast by a few dim electric bulbs hanging from the ceiling at lengthy intervals. The whole effect was decidedly dingy, but perfectly in keeping with the interior of a large residence that was now maintained, decorated and furnished in a style that appeared to deliberately banish any pretence of homeliness, although that had definitely not been so when the house had some months earlier been the Newmarket residence of a well-known horse racing family.

It was mid-afternoon of Christmas Eve 1944 and, at the relatively tender age of 13, I was, together with a small team of other boys of similar age, down on my bony and sore knees, complete with aluminium bucket filled with warm water, hard bristled scrubber, flannel and carbolic soap, doing my level best to remove several weeks of dirt and grime, before a final surface shine achieved by using a well known brand of floor polish of that era. This operation was a housekeeping routine throughout the year, but as this was the prelude to our Christmas festivities, extra effort was required to ensure that everywhere looked really clean and bright.

Dear reader, I have no doubt that, in the light of contemporary accepted norms in relation to the welfare and happiness of children, you might possibly feel saddened or even upset at the scene I describe. Had I been describing the same scene on Christmas Eve 1943, prior to the arrival (in early 1944) of the new Superintendents in charge of this Barnardo's residential boys home in Newmarket, Suffolk - Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Whitehorne who moved to Horsington in 1946 – I would have shared your feelings. But not Christmas 1944! I willingly and cheerfully participated in the cleaning exercise, notwithstanding all the discomfort and hard physical exertion it required, because I was motivated by the childlike wish to reciprocate in one of the few ways open to me, for the unconditional love, affection and concern which I knew surrounded me all day and every day since the new Superintendents' arrival earlier that year. I sensed that, for the first time ever, Christmas was going to have an impact on my life that gave real meaning and expression to the biblical story, rather than participating in a cruel charade for the sake of convention and appearance. Then, as if to compound my happiness, it was expressed and conveyed to all who could listen and understand as we continued our toils on the floor, by the beautiful festive choral music emanating from the wireless set located on the mantel shelf in the dining room – the Christmas Carols from King's College Cambridge. I had never heard this broadcast before, or of its origins in the 1930's, but that first magical experience made me an enthusiast for life.

Even now, almost seven decades later, I firmly believe that, no matter what commercial or other interests may dictate, Christmas and its message of Love, Hope and Peace cannot commence for me unless and until I have listened to the traditional broadcast from Cambridge and again recalled the great revelation wrought on me and my boyhood friends all those years ago.



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<u>Charity Dinner in aid of *Help for Heroes* and *The Royal British* <u>Legion at Half Moon Inn on 1st November</u></u>

Raised over £1200 to be split between the two charities!

A huge 'thank you' from organiser Belinda Mann to everyone who generously gave their time to help make the evening such a resounding success. To all the local companies and individuals for donations. To Dave Shave, who played guests into dinner on his cornet. To Sarah Lowery, who entertained everyone with wartime songs. To Maddie Kirby, who played her harp so beautifully throughout dinner. To Joe Wakelam the photographer, and last, but certainly not least, to the dream team of volunteers who looked after everybody so well throughout the evening.



Organiser Belinda Mann with Paddy



Guest of Honour William 'Paddy' Fox, BEM. The Royal Hospital, Chelsea SW3



BLACKMORE VALE LIONS



This Christmas for the first time in the history of the Blackmore Vale Lions the Lions Float is coming to Horsington and South Cheriton. On Tuesday 2nd December the Float with Father Christmas will be arriving in

Horsington at 7pm.

On Wednesday 3rd December the Float will be arriving in South Cheriton at 7pm. We will be knocking on doors armed with lots of sweets for the children with collection boxes raising money for local charities.

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	lateral					(4)		6. Article includes horse and donkey for talisman. (6)						
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	9. Youngster near 18. (4)						15. Medium is elegant follower of South Korean							
	2. Mobile fair and tin make this continental. (7)							singer.		aich	thout -	nd um f	.	
	3. To see bright light in the sky come to Bethlehem. (5)								il airs. (ithout e	na up to	51	
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Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington at 8.45pm on Wednesday 3rd December & Wednesday 7th January 2015 Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer. Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from Anna on 370749



Thursday 4th December Christmas Party

Thursday 8th January New Years Lunch

Contact Mrs Jackie Pyne on 370713

Wincanton Choral Society Símon Twiselton - Conductor

MESSIAH G F Handel

Katharine Hawnt – Soprano Andrew Stewart – Counter Tenor Tom Hunt – Bass

Kieran White – Tenor

Sunday 14th December 2014, 7.30pm at Wincanton Sports Centre, Licensed Bar

Tickets £13.50 in advance (up to 8th December) Or £15 at the door -18 and under £6.50 Box office: www netaticket co uk

Or contact Bob or Jane Jones on 370562 for further information/tickets

ST NICHOLAS DAY CONCERT

Saturday 6th December in St. Peter & St. Paul's Church Wincanton at 7.30pm

A concert to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season. The ecumenical PILGRIM SINGERS will present carols and readings in aid of the Balsam Centre and the Barnabas Society for persecuted Christians. Please support these worthwhile causes.

Tickets £10, £8 concessions and children free, to include seasonal wine and refreshments. Tickets available at the Balsam Centre, Divine Wines, Parish Office or any choir member.

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Parish Council Update by Angela Clayton

Two new Councillors, Richard Cotes James and Ian Snowden have recently been co-opted onto the Parish Council.

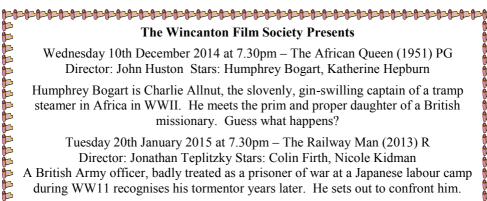
Richard previously served as a Councillor in this Parish and brings back many years of experience with him.

Ian has lived in Horsington since 1980 and his knowledge will be invaluable. The structure and members of the Council are as follows:

Chairman: June Wood Vice-Chairman: Jackie Pyne Councillors: Steve Hawkins, Angela Clayton, Belinda Mann, Richard Cotes James and Ian Snowden.

Not forgetting our Clerk, David Chapman.

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The Wincanton Film Society Presents

Wednesday 10th December 2014 at 7.30pm – The African Queen (1951) PG Director: John Huston Stars: Humphrey Bogart, Katherine Hepburn

Humphrey Bogart is Charlie Allnut, the slovenly, gin-swilling captain of a tramp steamer in Africa in WWII. He meets the prim and proper daughter of a British missionary. Guess what happens?

Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 7.30pm - The Railway Man (2013) R Director: Jonathan Teplitzky Stars: Colin Firth, Nicole Kidman A British Army officer, badly treated as a prisoner of war at a Japanese labour camp during WW11 recognises his tormentor years later. He sets out to confront him.

For further information contact Les Graney on 371668

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENING SOCIETY

North Cheriton Village Hall Tuesday 9th December 7.30pm

Thorngrove Nurseries Christmas Wreath demonstration

Please phone Sarah on 01963 34711 before the meeting if you want to try your hand at making your own decoration on the night

Please call Pat Holmes on 370017 for further information on the society

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO		
Bellringing	Anna Piechna	370749		
Buses (local)		0871 2002233		
Citizens Advice Burea	01935 421167			
CAT Bus Ring and Ri	de Service	33864		
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334		
-	Wincanton Health Centre	435700		
Horsington Church S	School Head/Secretary	370358		
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699		
PTFA	Lucy Mckay	33953		
French/Italian Conver	sation Jeanne Mortarotti	370021		
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478		
_	Susan Maltin	371400		
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177		
MP	David Heath CBE	01373 473618		
North Cheriton & Dist	rict			
Gardeners' Society	Jean Handy	371720		
Parish Council	David Chapman	370527		
Police	*	101		
St John's Church				
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266		
Warden	Rosemarie Wigley	371478		
Sunday School	Deirdre Loftus	370091		
Scouts	Geoff Crabb	370623		
Social Services		0845 345 9133		
South Somerset Distri	et Council	01935 462462		
Village Emergency Te	lephone System (VETS)	602500		
Wincanton Town Cou	ncil	31693		
W.I.	Jackie Pyne	370713		
Village Hall	www.horsingtonvillag	ehall.co.uk		
Chair	John Macdonald	370444		
Bookings	Emilie Gordon	371396		
Art	Gill Elston &	370236		
	Toni Salmonson	370235		
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767		
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689		
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959		
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032		
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126		
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