

The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 39

February 2015



The climb ahead up Kilimanjaro

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on Thursday 12th February 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
www.wincantonwindow.co.uk and click on the 'Villages' link

Events Diary February 2015

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mon 2nd	Lunch 6.00pm	Ladies Lunch Group Pilates	White Lion, Bourton Village Hall
Tues 3rd	10.30am 8.00pm	Upholstery Badminton	" "
Wed 4th	6.15pm 8.45pm	Adult Tap Dancing Music Night	" Half Moon Inn
Thu 5th	10.00am 7.30pm	Art WI	Village Hall "
Fri 6th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 9th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 10th	10.30am 7.30pm 8.00pm	Upholstery North Cheriton Gardeners' Society Badminton	" North Cheriton Village Hall Village Hall
Wed 11th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 12th	10.00am 7.30pm	Art Parish Council Meeting	" "
Fri 13th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 16th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 17th	10.30am 8.00pm	Upholstery Badminton	" "
Wed 18th	6.15pm 7.30pm	Adult Tap Dancing Film: The Invisible Woman	" King Arthurs
Thu 19th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
Fri 20th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 23rd	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 24th	10.30am 8.00pm	Upholstery Badminton	" "
Wed 25th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 26th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 27th	10.00am	Art	"

Cover photo provided by Jules Curtis

CLIMB TO KILIMANJARO

by Jules Curtis

As I left home in Horsington on 24th September on a self-funded trip to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, with my friend Hannah New, it was with a great sense of excitement but also some trepidation. We would be hoping to raise funds and awareness for ICP (Intyatyambo Community Project) which provides pre-schooling education for disadvantaged children in South African Townships, and where I work as a Fundraiser and Hannah is an Ambassador.



Jules & Hannah - On our way to the National Park

On the morning of the 26th, three incredible guides, Isaac, Frank and Faustien, collected us and drove to the National Park, where we signed in, got our porters loaded up and set off through the rainforest. We were off!

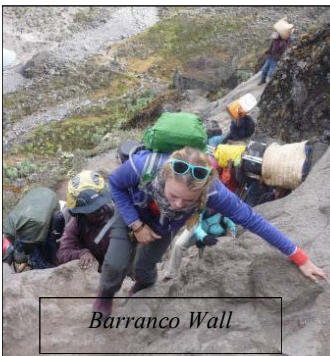
We passed through incredible scenery from rainforest on day 1 to barren, glacier-scarred wastelands and steep cliff-face ascents. We had chosen to do the Machame route so we walked high and slept low each day to try to acclimatise on our 7 day climb.



Jungle Trekking - feel so small

By day 2, at 3,800m, I was struggling with altitude sickness and was soon on medication. These cured the headache and meant the symptoms were unpleasant but manageable. The hiking on days 1-4 was relatively easy, walking “Pole, Pole” meaning “slowly, slowly”, the mantra that was repeated by the guides to keep us from going too quickly. With every turn, views opened up revealing vast expanses and we passed through cloud, rain, heatwaves and hail. The mountain threw all she could at us and we experienced four seasons in one day regularly.

Waking up to views like this certainly energised, inspired and slightly daunted us when we saw the extent of the challenge ahead but we just couldn’t wait to get there.



Barranco Wall

A real high point was day 4, scaling the Barranco Wall up to 4600m. This is an 800 foot ascent up a relatively steep cliff face with a path forged into the rock face. We both loved the bouldering and the views were incredible but we were amazed by the traffic! Climbers and porters had to walk in single file to squeeze through the gaps in the rocks as the path is only wide enough for one person at a time.

On day 5, a foggy, 4 hour hike up to base camp warmed us up for the night ahead.

Kili throws all the bad weather she can at us



Then we came to the highlight of the climb: *SUMMIT NIGHT*

SUMMIT NIGHT

We started our ascent at midnight and started our 60-68 degree climb slowly, steadily and quietly, all of us nurturing our own private fears, doubts, dreams and hopes. We were told by our guides not to ask "how much further" until sunrise which happens around 6.30am. As we climbed, the temperature plummeted from already below freezing and by 4am it reached about -20°C. At this point, I had icicles up my nostrils!! With numb feet and hands, we continued at a painfully slow rate and as the sun rose we could see the peak looming above us, just out of reach. The air grew thinner and colder but the view was breathtaking as the sun rose and both of us shed a few tears at the sheer beauty of it all.



Crater edge - Stella Point at 18,885 ft

As sugar levels dropped, we were force fed snacks and juice and despite extreme fatigue and massively reduced oxygen levels, our incredible guides ensured that we ALL made Stella Point at 8am! The expanse of the Uhuru crater stretched away from us to our right and we could see Uhuru peak, the climax of our climb just 300m away. Tears flowed in abundance at the relief, the beauty and the shock when we were informed we still had 300m to go!

After 10 minutes at Stella Point, we struggled onwards, Hannah now feeling the effects of altitude and serious nausea. I had been on medication since day 2 and, with very low oxygen levels, was also feeling pretty rough. After half an hour that felt like forever, we reached the summit!! After a few quick photos, we practically ran down. The surface had thawed and we were wading through knee-deep ashy scree; lower and lower to the shattered shale; throw in a snow storm, and eventually we ended up back at camp. It took 4.5 hours to get down that day followed by a further 6 hours the next day, by which point my knees were swollen and agony after twisting one just 300m from the top.

It took 22 extraordinary men to make this trip possible for 6 lucky ladies, all of whom successfully summited without serious injury. On the last day we reached the rainforest where we were lucky to see the rare, wild Black and White Colobus Monkeys. The perfect end to an epic adventure!

To all of you, who believed in us and sponsored us, thank you! For those of you who still want to show your support for the cause now is your chance! To donate, please go to www.justgiving.com/hannahandjules.



Hannah and Jules summited at 19,350ft on October 1st 2014 at 8.40am

BIRDWATCH

by Keith Davies

A short drive to Warminster will take you to the edge of a rare landscape that would have disappeared for ever under the plough were it not for the British Army using it for training. The Ministry of Defence owns about one hundred and fifty square miles of Salisbury Plain and this land represents the largest remaining alkaline grassland in north-west Europe. This grass is extraordinarily beneficial to rare plants, insect life and thus birds.

The area is of international importance for breeding and wintering birds. Stone Curlew, Quail, Hobby and Long-eared Owl breed here in nationally important numbers. And in winter there are foraging flocks of thrushes, finches and buntings. But the best sight of all on a winter walk is a raptor, usually Hen Harrier, Merlin, Short-eared Owl or Red Kite.



The Army's land is divided into three ranges and the one immediately next to Warminster is the Imber Live Firing Range. It is only open to the public for two weeks in August and three weeks over Christmas and the New Year. Take the Imber road out of Warminster and you enter another world. Whilst not allowed to leave the roads that cross the range, because of the danger of finding unexploded ordnance, you can traverse and view the whole area which covers approximately thirty nine square miles.



On the Imber Range the grass is periodically grazed to prevent it turning into scrub but this is the only farming activity. Thus insects and birds flourish here despite the disturbance from training exercises using tanks, helicopters, planes and live ammunition. These exercises can be spectacular as witnessed on a recent walk round part of the Imber Perimeter path. This is a circular walk of thirty miles. The path is permanently open but is sometimes not well marked so you need an ordinance survey map to make sure you do not stray off it!

If birds are not your thing a visit is still worthwhile as the landscape is evocative and you can also visit the deserted village of Imber. The village was commandeered by the army in 1943 for training for Operation Overlord and has remained closed ever since. The houses are now used for combat training. But when the range is open, St Giles Church is also usually open for visitors. It still holds some services over Christmas and one on Remembrance Day.

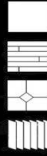


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CHRISTMAS FAYRE

by Lucy Mackay

The Christmas Fayre at Gartell Light Railway was a huge success. We were lucky it was a dry, sunny, crisp winter's day. The hall was filled with children and families. Outside, the train was kept very busy and Santa was visited by many in his Grotto, which was transformed from a cattle lorry kindly lent to the PTFA for the event by a family at the school.



The event raised £2000 for the school funds which are used throughout the year. Thank you to all those who helped and contributed towards the event's success.

The PTFA will reconvene in January to plan a school disco for the school children in February, Race night with the village in March and to begin planning the summer fayre for June. We look forward to a busy year supporting the school, we always welcome any new ideas and support.

On behalf of the PTFA we wish you all a Happy New Year.

Horsington Church School

The Governing Board are looking for a new Clerk to Governors. If you are interested in this post then please read the Job Description on our school website (see below). The deadline for applications is 23rd February 2015.

www.horsingtonprimary.co.uk

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ANSWERS TO THE CROSSWORD PUBLISHED IN DEC/JAN ISSUE

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Christmas Tea and Chat

Thank you to everyone who supported it. Together with donations, I have sent £75.00 to the Verrington Hospital in Wincanton.

Jean Handy

St Margaret's Village Hall Dinner

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, a little in excess of £750.00 was raised for Hall Funds.

John Macdonald, Chair of the Village Hall Committee.

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HETAS registered

From the Rector, Greetings.

This is the first edition of the Villager of 2015. I would love to begin by wishing you all a Happy New Year. But in the light of the events of the last few days, I find myself beginning by saying, "Je suis Charlie."

A principle of 'free speech' is profoundly important in a democratic society. That must involve the fact that some will be offensive, and some will be offended. It cuts both ways.

On Question Time last night, Vince Cable argued that we supported "free speech under the law." It is an important qualification – and as a rule one that I would wholeheartedly support. But it does depend on the context. There are times when saying things which are contrary to law are important. There are many 'Prisoners of Conscience' around the world who are there because they have spoken up for Human Rights in the face of oppressive regimes.

There are many Christian martyrs throughout history who have stood up against oppression. Even in our own country and in our own history – John Bunyan being a well known example. I guess, for me, it is important why someone is being offensive. Are they being offensive just because they can be, and want to be offensive simply for the sake of being so? Or, is their aim to express a valid point of view – even if others find it offensive? Motivation is important.

In the end, in a democratic society, we have to walk the tight rope, to run the risk. But as a Christian, I take due regard of the words of St Paul: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."

Peter Hallett – halatvic@gmail.com



St John the Baptist, Horsington

1st	February (Candlemas)	9.15am Holy Communion with Sunday School
8th	February	11.00am Morning Prayer
15th	February	9.15am Holy Communion
18th	February (Ash Wednesday)	7.30pm Holy Communion
22nd	February	8.30am Holy Communion(BCP)

Horsington Churchwarden
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

1st	February (Candlemas)	11.00am Morning Worship; 6.30pm Evensong
8th	February	9.30am Holy Communion
15th	February	11.00am Holy Communion
18th	February (Ash Wednesday)	7.30pm Holy Communion at Horsington
22nd	February	11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

1st	February (Candlemas)	11.00am All Age Worship
8th	February	9.30am Holy Communion
15th	February	11.00am Morning Praise
18th	February (Ash Wednesday)	7.30pm Holy Communion at Horsington
22nd	February	9.30am Holy Communion

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Thursday 5th February
Mrs Margaret Harper making Faced Glass Jewellery

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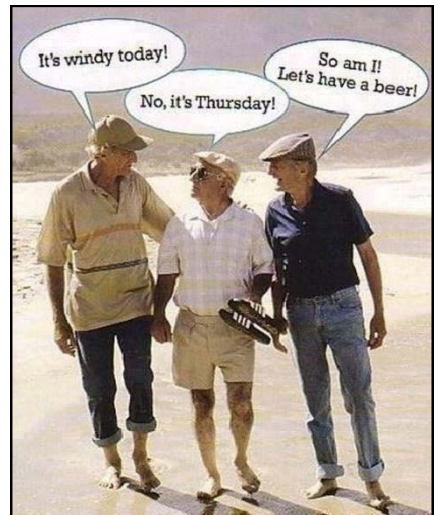
ADVANCE NOTICE

We are looking forward to celebrating our 90th Anniversary this year - with an event on Friday 15th May – and we extend a warm welcome to past members to join us. If you are interested in coming along to meet friends old and new, please contact Jean Handy (01963 371720).



Upcoming Event - Tuesday 3rd
March at 2.30 at
Henstridge Village Hall. U3A will
be holding an *open afternoon*
and a **General Knowledge Quiz**
all are welcome.

More information about U3A on 01963
370958 [bv3a@outlook.com](mailto:bvu3a@outlook.com)



The man who fell into an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.



**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.45pm on Wednesday 4th February**

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer.

Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from **Anna** on **370749**

**The Wincanton Film Society Presents
The Invisible Woman (12A)
Wednesday 18th February 2015 at 7.30pm**

Director Ralph Fiennes. Stars Felicity Jones and Ralph Fiennes.
Happily married, Nelly is haunted by her past and this story takes us
back in time and follows her relationship with Charles Dickens

For further information contact Les Graney on 371668

**NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10TH**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SEED SWAP
(Swap your unwanted seeds with other members)**

Please call Pat Holmes on 370017 for further information.

CONCERT IN AID OF TEMPLECOMBE BELL RESTORATION

On 22nd February in Templecombe Church at 3.00pm

Music: *For a While* - Sarah Poole - Soprano, David Heyes - Double Bass, Derek Harris -
Piano. Tickets £5. Adults. £2.50 Children under 16. To include refreshments.

Tickets can be obtained from **Sarah Moore – 370051, Audrey Riley – 370382** or at the door.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Including: *Births * Deaths * Birthdays * Weddings* Anniversaries * Congratulations*

If you have any announcements, articles for sale, baby sitting services etc. you would like included contact

info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk



Nick and Natalie Lucas
are delighted to announce
the arrival of their son
Samuel Alastair James on
7th January 2015.
(A grandson for
Mark & Mindy Lucas!)

GOOD SAMARITAN

I would just like to thank the Good Samaritan in South Cheriton who just before Christmas at midnight changed a wheel on our Range Rover when we had a blowout. It would be no mean feat in the warmth of a garage, but on a cold frosty night when he could have been in bed he chose to walk across the road and help us.

Chris Ullman

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE : SCREENINGS AT CINEWORLD YEOVIL

Watch recordings of live events!

Owing to lack of space in the magazine, we are unable to publish a full list of all live events being shown . You can find a list of the events with dates and booking information on the website:

www.cineworld.co.uk/cinemas/yeovil or ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/productions

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO
Bellringing	Anna Piechna	370749
Buses (local)		0871 2002233
Citizens Advice Bureau, Yeovil		01935 421167
CAT Bus Ring and Ride Service		33864
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
Horsington Church School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Lucy Mackay	824866
French/Italian Conversation	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 & District		
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 District Council		01935 462462
Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)		602500
Wincanton Town Council		31693
W.I.	Jean Handy	371720
Village Hall	www.horsingtonvillagehall.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