

The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 55

September 2016



Chris Bailward cycles for Sport Relief

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 12th September 2016

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 September 2016

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Thu 1st	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
		WI: Tea and Chat (afternoon)	Marsh Barn Farm
Fri 2nd	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
Mon 5th	Lunch	Ladies' Lunch Group	Helyar Arms, East Coker
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 6th	2.30pm	U3A Open Meeting	Henstridge Village Hall
Wed 7th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	Village Hall
	8.30pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 8th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 9th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 12th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 13th	10.40am	Upholstery	"
Wed 14th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 15th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 16th	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 17th	2.30pm	North Cheriton Gardners Society—Annual Show	N/Cheriton V/Hall
Mon 19th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 20th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.30pm	Film: Suffragette	King Arthur's
Wed 21st	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	Village Hall
Thu 22nd	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 23rd	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Wincanton History Society—Talk	Wincanton Memorial Hall
Mon 26th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 27th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 28th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 29th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 30th	10.00am	Art	"

Future Events: 26th October—Beer and Cheese Evening to be held in the Orangery at the Grange

Cycling through 48 Ceremonial County Towns of England in aid of Sport Relief by Chris Bailward

At 12.54pm on 30th June, I posed for this picture outside County Hall, Truro, having completed my cycle ride through the 48 Ceremonial County Towns of England.



The idea for the ride goes back to a book I was reading by Steven Primrose-Smith called *No Place Like Home* (Thank God). The author set out to cycle through 52 Capital Cities of Europe, which he achieved over a three year period, covering 22,000 miles in the process.

I only had a month or so to spare to satisfy my summer cycling wanderlust that has taken me from end to end of the British mainland and down to the Mediterranean Sea and back since I retired, so my quest had to be somewhat less ambitious. I have long had a love of geography and maps and an almost equal dislike of aeroplanes and, more particularly, airports, and, having (very briefly) considered US State Capitals, my thoughts turned closer to home and the Counties of England.

My cycle planning tool of choice is an on-line app called RidewithGPS. This allows me to plan a route on a map and play around with it until it suits my purpose, generally staying away from main roads and also, where necessary, away from rough tracks. Because the program uses Open Source Maps that have been edited by all and sundry, some of the tracks shown are little more than a deer path around the headland of a field, so a lot of care is required in arriving at a final course. What has made this task much easier is Google Streetview where one can zoom in and look at roads and tracks as if you were on site. This didn't, however, prevent me from making a lot of mistakes in the final route.



I started planning the journey in November 2015, with a view to cycling through June when, I hoped, the weather would be in my favour. I decided that I would try to visit the 48 Ceremonial Counties of England, defined as those to which a Lord Lieutenant is appointed, currently under the Lieutenancies Act 1997. The much maligned Wikipedia lists them, and that was where I went to start my planning. I further decided to visit each of the County Towns for photographic evidence that I had been there. This map misses out the City Of London which is one of the 48. A further complication is that County Towns are not easily defined, so I took decisions based upon a mixture of common sense and pragmatism, missing, for example, Matlock in favour of Derby.

I planned to cycle about 70 miles each day for 29 days, giving a total of about 2000 miles: imagine my delight when my first calculation of the total came to 2015.6 miles, as near to 2016 as made no difference so I decided to broadcast my intention to cycle 2016 miles in 2016, and raise £2016 to support Sport Relief. The route wiggled back and forth, first east and then west, crossing the Pennines four times before they flattened out in the Midlands and made for some easier cycling on the longest wiggle across to Norwich and back to Gloucester.



Booking.com has made finding accommodation en route very simple and I was able to book my evening stops on-line, well in advance of the journey. I stayed with friends and relations on 9 nights, the remainder were in cheap hotels or B&Bs. All my kit was carried in two rear panniers and a handlebar bag and I had no support team.

I set forth from Horsington on 1st June, driven to Bristol Parkway to catch a train to my first County Town, Carlisle (1) in Cumbria which I reached at about 4pm. After an uncomfortable first night I cycled, in sunshine, along Hadrian's Wall, branching north east to Morpeth (2), Northumberland and then to Newcastle (3) for the night. Next morning I meandered through the elegant Georgian city and across the Tyne by



way of the millennium bridge, heading south past the Angel of the North, towards the lovely city of Durham (4) with its imposing Cathedral high above the River Wear, continuing south to Northallerton (5), county town of North Yorkshire and on to Bedale for the night. Day 3 took me across the Yorkshire Dales, through Wensleydale (more cheese Gromit?) and onto Hawes, England's highest Market Town, before a bracing climb up to Newby Head followed by a fast descent down to the magnificent Ribbleshead Viaduct and on through the Trough of Bowland and Lancaster to my destination at Morecambe.

Day 4 took me through Preston (6) and Liverpool (7) before my night stop at Widnes. The following day I went through Manchester (8) and then a hard slog back over the North Peak District to Wakefield (9), taking in the interesting Yorkshire Sculpture Park on the way.



Day 6 took me through Leeds and York, neither a County Town, and Beverley (10) before arriving at Hull. On Day 7, I went across the Humber Bridge, the longest Suspension Bridge in the world that can be crossed by bike and made my way south to Lincoln (11) and then veered back westwards to my destination at East Retford. I knew that Day 8 would sorely test me as I had to climb steeply on to the High Peak District from Sheffield (12) and then down to Hathersage and Hope before a precipitous climb up Winnats Pass which defeated me and was the only time in the trip that I had to get off and push. Once over that, I still had a couple of steep climbs before my nightfall with my cousin near Whaley Bridge.



I was now past the worst of the climbing until I reached Devon and Cornwall, and Day 9 took me past Jodrell Bank observatory where I fell off my bike whilst trying to make my way down a rough track and damaged my ribs which proved to be somewhat painful for the next couple of weeks. Onwards across the Cheshire Plain through Chester (13) before arriving at my night stop in Bangor-on-Dee which happens to be in Wales.

Next on the list was Shrewsbury (14) and then Stafford (15), with some exhausting riding on a switchback to Uttoxeter where I stayed the night. Now away from the major hills but with deteriorating weather, Day 11 took me to Derby (16), Nottingham (17), in heavy rain and Oakham, Rutland (18). The rain continued on Day 12 as I made my way through Leicester (19), calling in at Bosworth Field to see where Richard III met his end, and along canal paths to Birmingham (20) where I stayed with another cousin.

There was no improvement in the weather on Day 13 when I cycled through Hereford (21) and I arrived cold and wet, with a broken gear cable, in Worcester (22) for the night. The next morning, I missed my customary large breakfast in order to get my cable renewed and set off from Worcester later than normal, taking lunch sheltering from a heavy storm in Warwick (23) before making my night stop in Northampton (24) after some fairly unpleasant riding along poor canal paths.

Day 15 and half way through the trip, the weather improved a bit as I was joined by 3 friends from my days playing rugby for Bedford (25) to cycle through the town and on to Cambridge (26). However, 4 miles past Cambridge, and over 1000 miles into the trip, I had my first puncture, proving how sturdy modern tyres can be. This held us up long enough to be caught in a torrential thunderstorm for about 40 minutes just short of our destination in Mildenhall.



My companions left me and cycled back to Bedford whilst I continued towards Norwich (27) but I had a difficult day with 2 punctures and a broken tyre pump before I stayed with another cousin near Scole. The weather improved on Day 17 which was as well as I cycled nearly 90 miles through rolling country, through Ipswich (28) and on to Chelmsford (29). The next day I went through Hertford (30) and on to Long Marston for the night where I met another friend who cycled with me the following day in the pouring rain, through Aylesbury (31) and Oxford (32), leaving me at Cassington before I carried on alone. 68 miles into the journey my rear derailleur snapped off and I was left with no drive. After pushing the bike for 4 miles across the Cotswolds I rang home and my son arranged for a taxi to collect me on the A40 and take me to my night stop in Cheltenham.



The following morning, Day 19 the bike was repaired by midday and I set off for Gloucester (33) and on to Bristol (34) by 5pm and then along cycle paths and canals to Trowbridge (35) where I was met at 7.45pm by my son who brought me back home for the night and, generously, cleaned and serviced my bike, returning me to Trowbridge the following morning so that I could make my way along the Kennet and Avon canal, including

the rise to Devizes by the Caen Hill lock system, to Reading (36) before nightfall at Bracknell.

Overnight there was a torrential thunderstorm that caused local flooding which I had to avoid on my way to Guildford (37). By the time I reached Fulham the heavens opened once again and I was soaked by the time I reached my destination, staying with an old friend in Parsons Green.

Day 22 dawned brightly to the shock of the Brexit vote and as I made my way past Westminster the thick crowds forced me to push my bike for a while until I was on the Embankment heading for the Guildhall (39) and then on to City Hall (39) before heading for Maidstone (40) and my stop in Tunbridge Wells. On the way through Kent my front wheel disintegrated and I had to push the bike for 4 miles before I found a bike shop where I was able to buy a replacement.



The following day was again wet as I made my way through Lewes (41) and to Bognor, where I stayed with friends who guided me to Chichester (42) the following morning in improved weather. I continued to Winchester (43) and then on the ferry from Southampton to Cowes and Newport (44) where I spent the night.



Next day was bright and I caught the ferry from Yarmouth to Lymington and had the easiest day's cycling of the trip through Bournemouth to Dorchester (45) and a night with my mother at Martinstown. More heavy showers the next day, Day 27, and I ticked off Taunton (46) and Exeter (47), where I spent the night with friends.

Now the hard climbing started again in earnest as I made my way across the edges of Dartmoor by the Granite cycle trail, and Bodmin Moor before arriving exhausted at Menheniot after 62 miles and 5,400 feet of often very steep climbing. My final day dawned fair but clouded over later, although there was no rain on my way to

Truro (48), passing the magnificent Treffry viaduct on the way.

I covered a total of 2042 miles on the bike, visiting all the County Towns as planned and, as I write this in the middle of August, my generous friends and relations have donated £2,846 to Sport Relief. With Gift Aid this takes the total to over £3,300. All of this money has gone directly to the Charity as I have met all my own expenses. There were times when it was hard and the weather and bike failures were difficult but I can look back with a great deal of satisfaction on a journey that was, generally, enjoyable.



(Congratulations to Chris on his magnificent effort. Donations can still be made via his **justgiving** page)— <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Chris-Bailward1>

Horsington Church School

A selection of magnificent crowns and bunting made by the pupils for the celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday



Parish Council Report by Angela Clayton

The Parish Council Pond Stall at the Village Fete in June was a great success. It enabled us to consult and engage with local parishioners to discuss the plans for the renovation of the Horse Pond. The stall drew a lot of interest and the overall plan – to create a living and sustainable freshwater habitat – was overwhelmingly supported. We would like to thank everyone for their positive comments on the Project and for the donations received during the afternoon and from the ‘Rattling Boys’ gig in the evening, when over £100 was raised. With support from Tim Cook, Community Development Officer for South Somerset District Council and Ward Councillors Tim Inglefield and William Wallace, we have already been awarded a Grant of £5000. Further funding arrangements for the renovations are at an advanced stage and we are awaiting results from several other applications. Work will hopefully commence in the autumn.

We would like to remind visitors to the Cemetery and Churchyard that dogs are welcome, but should be kept on a lead at all times. Please tidy up after your dog and take any mess home with you.

It is that time of year again when footpaths are being well used, but are also being over-run by rapidly growing foliage – so do take your secateurs with you and feel free to prune any offending brambles, bushes and tree branches.

We continue to carry out annual general maintenance to the Play Area in Horsington. This is a very popular facility, but it is now over 16 years old and we are already looking ahead and reviewing future management and funding.

Parish Councillors were saddened to hear of the death of Bill Candy. Bill was a long-standing and enthusiastic member of the Parish Council with a particular interest in the Horse Pond.

The council is down a member after the resignation of Steve Hawkins, so if you are feeling civic-minded, we would love to hear from you.

We are also looking to recruit a new Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer. If you think you have the time and experience for this paid position (the chairman is having to cover this herself!), or are interested in becoming a councillor, please contact Jackie Pyne on 370713.

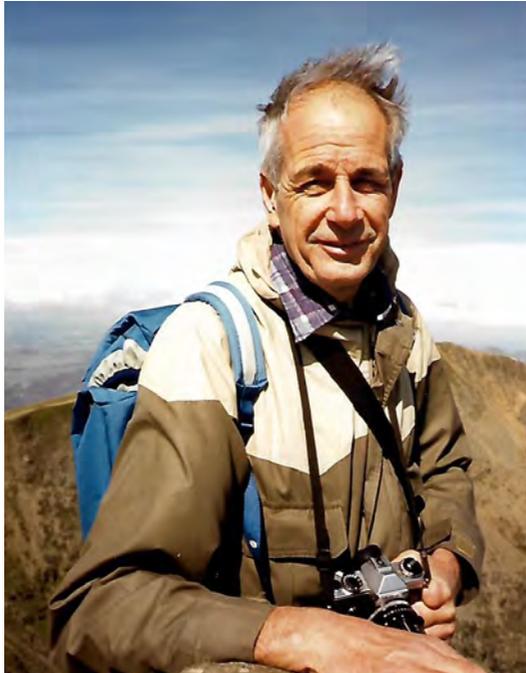
Bill Candy Obituary

Born 10th April 1926, died peacefully 28th June 2016 aged 90.

Bill was the only son of local railway worker William Candy and his wife Edith of Hockys' Corner, Horsington and later 18, Horsington. Following his marriage to Pam in 1958 the couple moved to Broadmoor Lane. Bill attended Horsington school until he was 14 years old and then, in spite of losing several fingers while investigating an incendiary device, took up an apprenticeship at Budgens Garage in Wincanton. This was followed by a spell at Raymonds Motorcycles in Templecombe. The rest of his working life was spent at Plessey's Wilkinthroop establishment.

He was a loving husband of Pam for 58 years; father to twin boys Michael and Paul, and grandfather of five. His hobbies and interests included motor-bike trials riding, photography, observing wildlife, taking camping holidays and tinkering in his workshop. He was a Parish Councillor for many years and helped maintain the local footpaths.

He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.



From the Rector, Greetings.

So September is upon us — the kids go back to school; older young people back to college or university; autumnal weather begins – winds and rain. Some may welcome the end of the humid heat ~ others dread the arrival of the long night. The cycle of the year goes on, and nature heads for the slumber of winter.

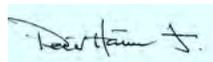
As the colours of autumn decorate our trees, the various harvests will be taking place. Some produce will have benefitted from the summer weather we've had; others not. One year is never identical to the previous, or the one to follow.

This September at St John's we will be repeating last year's initiative – to have our Harvest Thanksgiving on the last Sunday in September at 6.30pm. We warmly invite you to join us for this traditional harvest celebration. And not just a celebration, but supporting those who work the land and the seas with our prayers.

We will also be enjoying the fruits of many years labour, fund raising, and garnering grants as our newly enlarged parish room, new servery, and new toilet will be well in use by now. Ten years ago, when I joined you first as Priest-in-Charge, and then Rector, you had already been fund-raising for some years. I remember John Fleming saying it would take another ten years. Why? I asked! But ten years down the road the task is done.

As we continue our journeys through this world, all by different routes and byways, may we walk hand-in-hand with the one who brings it all into being and know his blessing.

Peter Hallett – halatvic@gmail.com



St John the Baptist, Horsington

Sept 4th 9.15am Holy Communion with Sunday School
Sept 11th 11.00am Morning Prayer
Sept 18th 9.15am Holy Communion
Sept 25th 6.30pm Harvest Thanksgiving

Churchwardens
Mrs Anne Jones 370626
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

Sept 4th 11.00am Morning Worship with Baptism 6.30pm Evensong
Sept 11th 9.30am Holy Communion
Sept 18th 11.00am Morning Prayer 6.30pm Evensong
Sept 25th 11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

Sept 4th 11.00am Morning Praise
Sept 11th 9.30am Holy Communion
Sept 18th 11.00am Holy Communion
Sept 25th 9.30am Holy Communion

Harold House

*(2nd Story published from "Images and Living Memories of Horsington School"
1855-2005)*

(Horsington School 1924—1933) I left school when I was 14. I remember my last day well. It was mid-morning playtime and a group of us decided to play Fox & Hounds. We left the school grounds, and being one of the foxes, I led a lot of the younger boys across three or four fields. Whilst we were far away across the fields, the schoolmaster, Mr Skuse, blew his whistle expecting us all to come back. He stood at the style for 10 minutes blowing but still some of us didn't hear him. When the last of us finally returned to school we went straight to lessons. Myself, Fred Rose and Ron Williams were quite surprised when Mr Skuse came into class and called us to the front. He went to the corner of the room to fetch his cane and gave us a stroke across each hand. To soothe our stinging hands, we sat holding the legs of the desks which were made of iron and nice and cool. That was my last day at school and what a memorable one it was. In the afternoon, Mr Skuse called me out of class and told me he had been surprised at my behaviour. However, on principle he was pleased with my schooling and proceeded to give me a glowing reference. I thanked him and to this day still have the reference at home.



Haymakers in front of partly-built hayrick and elevator.
Including George Hatcher, Fred Foot, Hugh Francis, Gentleman owner-farmer
and Bill Candy Sr.

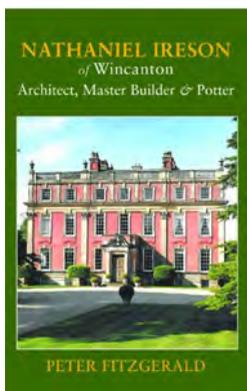
WINCANTON MUSEUM AND HISTORY SOCIETY
23rd September @ 7.30pm
At the Wincanton Memorial Hall

Peter Fitzgerald will give a talk on

NATHANIEL IRESON of WINCANTON - Architect, Master Builder & Potter

Nathaniel Ireson has long deserved to be restored to his rightful place as one of the leading West Country architects of the early 18th century, and in Peter FitzGerald he has found an author worthy of his achievements.

Peter FitzGerald, who lives near Wincanton and has a particular interest in architecture, has undertaken extensive research which has uncovered the very large number of houses, churches and other buildings on which Ireson worked. Peter FitzGerald's patient research has unearthed evidence of at least forty other houses that Ireson designed, many of them in the Provincial Baroque style that was his hallmark. One of the book's strengths is the detailed appendix listing the buildings on which Ireson worked. Ireson made his home in Wincanton, where he set up a delft pottery. He carved church monuments and played a crucial role in the rebuilding of Blandford Forum after the Great Fire of 1731. By the time of his death in 1769, he was a highly regarded architect, whose legacy lives on throughout the West Country.



Peter makes a strong case for the importance of this neglected architect-builder-entrepreneur, who became Wincanton's biggest employer and principal citizen.

It is sad that his name is no longer known outside the town, but Peter FitzGerald's fascinating new book – Nathaniel Ireson of Wincanton, Architect, Master Builder and Potter – should redress that situation (and raise money to restore the imposing Ireson statue in Wincanton churchyard).

Cost: £5 Non Members, £2 Members

wincantonmuseum.org.uk



**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.30pm on Wednesday 7th September**

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer. Free, apart from drinks.

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



Thursday 1st September

Tea and Chat at Marsh Barn Farm

Telephone Mrs Jackie Pyne for further information on **370713**



**The Wincanton Film Society Presents
SUFFRAGETTE (2015) (12A)**

on

Tuesday 20th September 2016 at 7.30pm

Foot soldiers of the early feminist movement, women who were forced underground to pursue a dangerous game of cat and mouse with an increasingly brutal State.

Stars: Carey Mulligan, Ann-Marie Duff, Helena Bonham Carter

Dir: Sarah Gavron.

For further information contact Les Graney on **371668**



**Blackmore Vale U3A
OPEN DAY - Free entry**



Join us for a glass of wine and a chat with our members about what we do.
Tuesday 6th September at Henstridge Village Hall 2.30pm

Free membership for three months if you join in September

For more information call 01963 371544 or visit our website
www.u3a.org.uk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk

ADVANCE NOTICE.

A BEER AND CHEESE EVENING WILL BE HELD
IN THE ORANGERY AT THE GRANGE



ON WEDNESDAY 26TH OCTOBER
7pm for 8pm

There will be a talk on Brewing by Mark Woodhouse of Hall and Woodhouse

Sponsorship: Hall & Woodhouse (Brewers) Blandford
Wyke Farms
Dike & Son of Stalbridge

Tickets £5.00 available from John Sansom **0797 466 2145**
In aid of the Defibrillator (H.A.D.A.)

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW — 17TH SEPTEMBER AT 2.30PM IN NORTH CHERITON VILLAGE HALL

This is an open show – all classes are open to members and non-members of the society. Classes in the following sections: Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, Cookery, Handicraft, Photography and there is also a children's section.

If anyone would like to enter, please contact Pat Holmes **on 370017** for further information.



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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, Wincanton		0344 88 9623
CAT Bus Ring and Ride Service		33864
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
French/Italian Conversation	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
Horsington Church School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Lucy Mackay	824866
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177
MP	David Warburton	0207 219 5225
North Cheriton & District		
Gardeners Society	Pat Holmes	370017
Parish Council	Jackie Pyne &	370713
	Charles James	07770 923955
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266
Wardens	Anne Jones &	370626
	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
Sunday School	Deirdre Loftus	370091
Scouts	Geoff Crabb	370623
Social Services		0845 345 9133
South Somerset District Council		01935 462462
U3A	Jean Lindley	251256
Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)		602500
Wincanton Town Council		31693
W.I.	Jackie Pyne	370713
Village Hall	www.horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk	
Chair	John Macdonald	370444
Bookings	Emilie Gordon	371396
Art	Gill Elston &	370236
	Alison Clements	370866
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Keith Norman	370332
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Andre MacLeod	351918