

The Horsington & South Cheriton *Villager*

Issue No. 6

October 2011



South Cheriton

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Please send all contributions for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 11th October 2011

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www.wincantonwindow.co.uk and click on the 'Villages' link

Events Diary October 2011

Day/Date	Time	Event	Time	Event	Venue
Mon 3rd	6.00pm	Pilates			Village Hall
	Lunch	St John's Ladies Lunch Group		Coppleridge Inn	Motcombe
Tue 4th	10.30am	Upholstery			Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton			"
Wed 5th	3.45pm	Children's Dance			"
	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			"
	8.45pm	Music Night			Half Moon
Thur 6th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	WI - The Magic of the Somerset Carnival - Mr J. Dando			"
Fri 7th	10.00am	Art	2.00pm	Mums/Tots	"
Mon 10th	6.00pm	Pilates			"
Tue 11th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	8.00pm	Badminton			"
Wed 12th	3.45pm	Children's Dance			"
	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			"
Thur 13th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	"
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting			"
Fri 14th	10.00am	Art	2.00pm	Mums/Tots	"
Sat 15th	7.00pm	Horsington Race Night			"
Mon 17th	6.00pm	Pilates			"
Tue 18th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	8.00pm	Badminton			"
Wed 19th	3.45pm	Children's Dance			"
	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			"
	7.45pm	Film: The Social Network 2010			King Arthurs
Thu 20th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	Village Hall
Fri 21st	10.00am	Art	2.00pm	Mums/Tots	"
Mon 24th	6.00pm	Pilates			"
Tue 25th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	8.00pm	Badminton			"
Wed 26th	3.45pm	Children's Dance			"
	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			"
Thur 27th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	"
Fri 28th	10.00am	Art	2.00pm	Mums/Tots	"
Mon 31st	6.00pm	Pilates			"

*Future events : A Talk by Colonel John Blashford Snell on 19th Century Darkest Africa
9th December in Horsington Church*

Cover photo by: Paul Quayle - www.paulquayle.co.uk

Truly 'Vintage' Motoring

By John Leaning

Returning from a recent exhilarating spin along nearby country lanes in a fabulous, and very rare, 1937 Jenson Duel Phaeton, I was prompted to pen this short article about its owner, local vintage car enthusiast Richard Harris.

Richard's interest in cars apparently began in his teens, when his Father, an enthusiast himself, taught him all he knew about panel beating and rebuilding engines. In his twenties he acquired and rebuilt a Triumph TR 4A, which he described as magnificent to drive and giving relatively trouble-free motoring for 10 years - except perhaps for the time he was forced to bind a leaking hose with his wife's tights in order to get them safely home!

Sourcing vehicles mainly in the UK (although occasionally western Europe and Scandinavia), and using auctions or recommendations from trusted contacts built up over the years, Richard's 'fleet' has at various times included a Rolls-Royce that came to a Paris auction from the collection of former Harrods owner Mohammad-al-Fayed, a 1917 Stutz Bearcat (pictured) originally owned in the USA by Henry Dupont, a much prized (if troublesome) 3 litre Lagonda, and, the oldest, a 1911 Daimler 6½ litre 35bhp saloon.

Although possessing many skills, Richard tells me that, while he delights in tackling electrical installations and exhaust systems himself, he often has to resort to specialist engineers to adapt or rebuild missing or defective parts, since, with the exception of Rolls-Royce, many parts for these early cars are no longer available.

Now approaching retirement, he hopes to find more time for indulging his favourite 'hobby', and is currently seeking a pre-1918 Rolls-Royce Ghost for European touring and a single or 2 cylinder car for the London to Brighton Run, (takes place next month) which he has not yet managed to enter. 20 years ago the cost of the latter vehicle was a few thousand pounds - today £40 to £80 000!

For anyone interested in buying a vintage car today, Richard recommends joining the Car Club of the vehicle you would like to own, discussing it with fellow members, and, when ready to purchase, taking along someone knowledgeable (preferably a specialist engineer) to evaluate the costs entailed in bringing the vehicle up to specification for every day use.

I am afraid I can only dream.....

1917 Stutz Bearcat



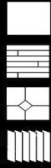


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Bird Watch

By Keith Davies

Variety is a key ingredient for enjoyable birding and our annual trip to the Scilly Isles provides a great opportunity to watch sea birds. The Islands provide breeding habitats for common species such as Puffins, Guillemots, Razorbills, Manx Shearwaters, Storm Petrels and Fulmars. These are all easy to see, but the main attraction is the special day long pelagic trips for birders that take you fifteen miles out into the Southwest Approaches of the English Channel. The aim is to find a trawler that is actively fishing as this can attract hundreds of sea birds including ones that you have little chance of seeing well from land. Prized targets include Sooty Shearwater, Great Shearwater, Pomarine Skua, Long-tailed Skua and Sabine's Gull. These are all moving between their breeding and wintering quarters that span the North and South Atlantic.



Great Shearwater



Fulmar

Local villager produces his first book

Wessex Diaries by John Vallins
Sketches from Life in Hardy Country

John Vallins was born at Bramley, Surrey, where his father was the curate. After National Service and reading English at Magdalene College, Cambridge, he came to Somerset in 1956 in response to an advertisement for 'an active bachelor to teach English and coach cricket' at King's School, Bruton. He married Sallie - well known in her own right as John Steinbeck's typist! They then moved to Surrey where John taught at Cranleigh School before becoming Headmaster of Chatham's School of Music in Manchester. John and Sallie moved back to the Blackmore Vale in 1992.



John has been contributing fortnightly for nearly twenty years to The Guardian's Country Diary column.

Included in his book there are 12 small gems of local village life preserved not in aspic but subtle prose.

Those interested in purchasing the book, see separate flyer with a copy of Villager.

Graham Wilkins 1963 -2011



A convoy of Royal Mail vans followed the family's progress through the village, and a guard of honour, members of Graham's team, proudly wearing South Cheriton football shirts, lined the path as family and friends entered the church, which was packed to capacity, the service also relayed to another two hundred people outside.

This was the funeral of a decent, hardworking gentle giant of a man whose life touched the lives of many local people in different ways. It was a measure of the respect and affection in which Graham was held that people from all walks of life attended his service. Young and old alike were visibly moved. Many, as requested, wore a touch of blue in honour of his beloved Chelsea football club.

And what a triumphant celebration of his life his brave wife and family made out of a tragedy. Personal tributes were paid by many, and his young son read a poem he had written for his dad. It was a magnificent funeral.

To some Graham will have been known as their friendly local postman, to others as 'the hog-roast chap', to yet others as simply a good man who was devoted to his family. We were privileged to know Graham as a friend, a work colleague and a stalwart of South Cheriton United football club. At one time manager of the first team, he was renowned for his insistence that everything should be done properly, and for his passion for the game, which also led to his position as chairman of the Blackmore Vale League.

For some inexplicable reason he was taken from us all too soon, his passing sending a shockwave through the local community. However, the stories through which we remember him will endure, the humorous tales gaining in the telling, our deep affection cherishing his memory always.

Life as a Hockey Umpire by Phil Bennett

I played Hockey for many years and switched to umpiring when my younger son and I joined Gillingham Hockey Club two years ago. I find the experience very rewarding and it helps me to remain reasonably fit.

Unlike Football there is little dissent from the players – even though I make the occasional mistake!! I do issue some cards, but they are rare.

Gillingham is a friendly and competitive Hockey Club. They run 3 men's teams and 1 ladies team matches on Saturday's. Last season all three men's teams achieved promotion in the Hampshire Leagues. Don't forget the ladies Sunday team matches!

The Club is looking for players of all ages and abilities.

For further information contact Steve Way on: 07786 894586 sway.chestnuthouse@tiscali.co.uk

Training: Monday 6pm–7.30pm Junior Boys and 7.30pm–9pm Senior Mens
 Wednesday 6pm–7.30pm Girls & Boys year 2s–6s, Girls year 7s–9s & Boys year 7s–8s
 Wednesday 7.30pm – 9pm Year 10 Girls & Senior Ladies.

The juniors play a number of tournaments for most age groups throughout the season & receive coaching on the above nights of the week.

Horsington Church of England Primary School

Calling all parents and carers of Horsington!

By Carly Markendale

On launching the village playgroup I was warned of its history - low numbers and zero profits. After weeks of an empty hall I was wondering why there was so little interest. Horsington is a thriving village with a popular school, surely there must be families to enjoy the group? I started to consider 'What is The Playgroup...'

There are certain words which are synonymous with motherhood – loving, caring, exhausting! Powerful emotions; felt by mothers everywhere, regardless of age, class and ethnicity. Moments of motherhood can be shared through the briefest exchange. A reassuring smile from another Mum can speak a thousand words when your own child is throwing a trolley tantrum. But there is one word that will split any group of Mums – 'Playgroup'! Some mothers will tell you how wonderful they are. Those few hours can offer a break from chores and a chance to chat to other adults. Children have space, new toys and the chance to learn social skills. For others playgroups are hideous ordeals of cliquey mothers, screaming children and dirty toys. Other children can be badly behaved, there's often a biter or a snatcher and your own child seems to be learning fewer social skills and more self defence. Very often a child with conjunctivitis wants to share your child's comforter and you can't help but wish they'd go away. If you are a mother, father, child minder or grandparent, you will have an opinion. I'm hoping that local families will abandon any negative ideas they have of playgroups and give us a try. I can't guarantee no snot or snatching incidents but I can promise anyone who comes along that they will be incredibly welcome. The hall is open, the toys are ready. Just add children!

Parish Council

By Angela Clayton

We are lucky in the Parish to have ready access to an extensive network of public foot-paths however at this time of year vegetation can take over and obstruct the stiles and paths. So when you are next out rambling please remember to take some secateurs and trim off a few of the overhanging branches and brambles.

British Telecom (BT) have recently informed the Parish Council that due to minimal use of the public phone boxes in Horsington and South Cheriton that they propose to remove them. They have however suggested that we could buy the boxes for £1 each. BT would remove all of their equipment but if required the lighting could remain. If purchased the Parish Council would then be responsible for all maintenance and management costs. Early feedback has resulted in several volunteers offering to look after the boxes so future costs could be kept to a minimum. The consensus from the Parish Councillors is that the need for a telephone in a public place is now somewhat obsolete but on the other hand it would be a shame to lose such an iconic and possibly useful piece of village architecture. Your comments on whether the boxes should stay or go and ideas for possible new uses would be welcome (for example the Horsington box already provides dry storage for newspapers delivered to the village). Please contact David Chapman (Parish Clerk tel: 370257) with your views and for further information.

**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.45 pm on Wednesday 5th October**

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst
enjoying a beer; free apart from drinks
Further details from Anna 01963 370749

**The Wincanton Film Society Presents
"The Social Network 2010"**

*Wednesday 19th October 2011 - 7.45pm

Performance Centre, King Arthur's School, Dancing Lane, Wincanton
Drama Starring: Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield. Director David Fincher.

A chronicle of the founding of Facebook, the social-networking site

**For further information contact Les Graney on 371668



**October 6th: The Magic of the Somerset Carnival - Mr J. Dando
Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne: 01973 370713**

As the evenings draw in - what could be better than joining us at the above talk.
You are all very welcome!

Jackie reported that the sun shone for the annual WI Gollyon the first Thursday in
September allowing 24 WI members, hubbies and friends plus 6 assorted grand-
children to enjoy a lovely day out to Athelhampton House and Gardens.



**Horsington Race Night
Venue: Horsington Village Hall
Saturday 15th October at 7pm**

Sponsored by local businesses

2 Course meal & prize for the best dressed race go-ers

All proceeds to:- Horsington School PTFA & St John the
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Sue Young 01963 31915

Or the school office

Farm Watch

By Emma Carnell

The last few months have been spent watching the weather forecasts on the television and waiting for a short predicated spell of dry weather to allow us to make silage and hay - both fodder for our cows during the winter.



SILAGE is basically pickled grass. The grass is mown and allowed to wilt for a day or so, until the moisture content drops a little. The grass is then picked up by a forage harvester that chops it further and blows it into a large trailer to be transported to a silage pit, or suitable area, to make a large heap. The grass is rolled by a tractor to push out the air, before being covered in plastic and held down by tyres. (Some farmers bale the silage and wrap it in a plastic film, rather than putting it in a pit). *Bacteria then converts the sugar in the grass, preserving it, and this takes about two weeks.*



HAY is grass that has been cut, dried (preferably in the sun) and stored. The grass is cut and allowed to lie spread out in the field to dry. The drying period takes several days and the process is usually assisted by turning the cut hay over, using a tedder. Once dry the grass can be baled and stored in the dry. *Hay must be fully dried when baled, and stored carefully to prevent the risk of spontaneous combustion.*



STRAW is an agricultural by-product - it is the dry stalks of the cereal plants, after the grain and chaff have been removed. We are currently very busy baling the straw, which is used as bedding for the cows during the winter.

Being only a small farm, we do not have lots of large machinery and rely on local farmers helping us with contract work. John Franklin assists with silage making and numerous neighbours and friends help putting the tyres on the silage pit (Dave Clayton's favourite job), and with loading the trailers and stacking the hay and straw in the barn.



Despite being a busy and tiring time on the farm, it is also a sociable one - with numerous cans of beer being consumed at the end of long days.

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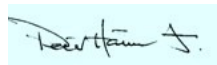
Dear friends,

Greetings: A long time ago I was taught that when you have completed some task you should give yourself a little reward. It may be as simple as getting a cup of tea. Sometime back I downloaded a package that has a whole range of card games. It is not uncommon that when I have done something I reward myself by having a game. Sometimes I look at a game and think that it can't be solved. But then I learned not to worry about what I can't do, but do the small things that I can. It is amazing how often what looks insoluble falls into place. Just as surprisingly though are those occasions when you look at a game and think, "easy, peasy". So you attack the game - find yourself in some cul-de-sac and what looked so easy has to be given up! I keep telling myself that what's true of these card games is true of much else in life as well. I have always loved a quote from Fritz Schumacher: '*We must do what we conceive to be the right thing and not bother our heads or burden our souls with whether we're going to be successful. Because if we don't do the right thing, we'll be doing the wrong thing and we'll be just part of the disease and not part of the cure*'.

Of course, part of the rich diversity of life is that what one person thinks is the right thing, another thinks is wrong! Though, to my mind, it is difficult if not impossible to disagree with a fundamental teaching of the Lord Jesus: '*Do unto others what you would have them do unto you*'.

Peter Hallett

halatvic@btinternet.com



St Mary, Abbas & Templecombe

2nd October

11am All Age Worship

9th October

9.30am Holy Communion

16th October — Harvest Festival

11am Harvest Thanksgiving

23rd October

9.30am Morning Praise

30th October

10.30am United Service @ Templecombe URC

St Nicholas, Henstridge

2nd October — Harvest Festival

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am All Creation Worship

6.30pm Harvest Thanksgiving

9th October

9.30am Holy Communion

16th October

11am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Evensong

23rd October

11am Holy Communion

30th October

10.30am United Service @ Templecombe URC

St John the Baptist, Horsington

2nd October — Harvest Festival

9.15am Harvest Thanksgiving

9th October

11am Morning Prayer

16th October

9.15am Holy Communion

23rd October

8.30am Holy Communion

30th October

10.30am United Service @ Templecombe URC

Templecombe

United Reformed Church

2nd October

11am Family Service

9th October

11am Family Service

16th October

11am Family Service

23rd October

11am Family Service

30th October

10.30am United Service @ Templecombe URC

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HOME FARM TRUST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday November 26th
Wincanton Memorial Hall
10am – 1.30pm

Stalls include Tombola, Bottle stall, Cakes, Plants, Trash & Treasure, Books, Delicatessen, Kitchen Ware, Art, Xmas Stall & more!
Please come and support their wonderful work!

This will be the 34th Christmas Fair held locally in aid of hft but do you know what this vital national charity does?

Winner of the prestigious national 2011 Laing & Buisson Independent Specialist Care Award for Supported Living hft prides itself on being staffed and supported by creative thinkers who want to help people with learning disabilities, and their families, to live the life they want to live. hft provides local support services for people with learning disabilities throughout England.

“Whatever you need, whether you’d like support for a couple of hours a week, or 24 hours a day, our local teams will be happy to work with you.” The charity helps people to live as independently as possible and also runs a family carer support service and helps with job seeking and community integration.’

After visiting a hft house in the West Country, Sarah Wiseman wrote of her impressions “Graham has a job washing up in a pub. He has an avid interest in old buildings and is a member of the National Trust. He also loves cooking and gardening and has vegetables growing in the garden. One of his ambitions was to go to The Chelsea Flower Show. I need hardly tell you hft made it happen. They don’t believe in letting dreams lie fallow!”

All contributions will be most welcome.
Please contact local supporters who are collecting!
Gilly Waddington 01963-371662
Christine Pratt 01963-371215

Acknowledgement and thanks to Sarah Wiseman for permitting her article to be quoted in The Villager.

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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

We are pleased to announce that you can now view or download copies of the Villager in PDF format via the Wincanton Window website. Go to the following web address www.wincantonwindow.co.uk then click on the 'Villages' link.

FEEDBACK

Toni Salmonson (ex English teacher) spotted a mistake in last month's edition and sent us the following comment:

'The notice about the film, 'The King's Speech,' entertained us last month. We saw the King suddenly, without rehearsal and clutching his crown, rise into the air to where the throne of England hovered, surrounded by winged clerics. His *unexpected accession* to the throne would have been much less interesting than his *impromptu ascension*.'

Weddings at the Grange by Su Illingworth

The penultimate wedding reception to be held in the grounds of the Grange took place on 10th September. The last reception, which has been booked since last year, is to take place on Saturday 15th October. We have put any similar bookings for the future on hold and certainly until or unless there is a change in the Council's view they will remain on hold.

In order to minimise the impact on the village we shall again be using an acoustic system to control the sound of music on the dance floor, and all music will stop by midnight. To avoid traffic disturbance to our neighbours we shall ensure that cars are directed up the main drive of the house with as little traffic as possible using Rectory Lane. There will be someone positioned at the exit of the drive onto the A357 at the end of the evening to manage traffic flow.

As this is our last wedding reception we hope very much that our neighbours will be sympathetic to the young couple who have planned their celebration for so long and with every hope of it being a joyous occasion.

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start with 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO
Bellringing	Anna Piechna	370749
Buses (local)		0871 2002233
Citizens Advice Bureau, Yeovil		01935 421167
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
Horsington Primary School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Sue Young	31915
Marsh Meadows Nursery	Mary Taylor	370607
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177
MP	David Heath CBE	01373 473618
Parish Council	David Chapman	370527
Police		0845 456 7000
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266
Wardens	Anne Jones	370626
	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
Ladies Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Sunday School	Anne Jones	370626
Scouts	Geoff Crabb	370623
Social Services		0845 345 9133
South Somerset District Council		01935 462462
Wincanton Town Council		435010
W.I.	Jackie Pyne	370713
Village Hall	Chair	Julie Gripper
	Bookings	Emilie Gordon Head
		370282
		371396
Art	Nick Andrew	07730 400784
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Children's dance	Claire Else	07590 777440
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959
Mums & Tots	Carly Markendale	371068
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126