

# The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 7

November 2011



**War Memorial, Lower Road**

|           |                  |        |               |                |        |
|-----------|------------------|--------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| Editor    | Mary Lynn Walker | 371731 | Contributions | Mindy Lucas    | 371218 |
| Chairman  | Les Graney       | 371668 | Contributions | Sheila Leaning | 370899 |
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Please send all contributions for possible inclusion in the next issue to  
*info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk* by noon on 11th November 2011  
Please note the next issue will cover December and January

To view past and present copies of the Villager go to the Wincanton Window website  
[www.wincantonwindow.co.uk](http://www.wincantonwindow.co.uk) and click on the 'Villages' link

## Events Diary November 2011

| Day/Date              | Time    | Event                                      | Time   | Event     | Venue                   |
|-----------------------|---------|--|--------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Tue 1 <sup>st</sup>   | 10.30am | Upholstery                                 |        |           | Village Hall            |
|                       | 8.00pm  | Badminton                                  |        |           | "                       |
| Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | 3.45pm  | Children's Dance                           |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 6.15pm  | Adult Tap Dancing                          |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 8.45pm  | <b>Music Night</b>                         |        |           | Half Moon               |
| Thur 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 10.00am | Art  | 1.30pm | Art       | Village Hall            |
|                       | 7.30pm  | <b>WI AGM</b>                              |        |           | "                       |
| Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>   | 10.00am | Art  | 2.00pm | Mums/Tots | "                       |
| Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>   | 6.00pm  | Pilates                                    |        |           | "                       |
| Tue 8 <sup>th</sup>   | 10.30am | Upholstery                                 |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 8.00pm  | Badminton                                  |        |           | "                       |
| Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>   | 3.45pm  | Children's Dance                           |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 6.15pm  | Adult Tap Dancing                          |        |           | "                       |
| Thur 10 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am | Art  | 1.30pm | Art       | "                       |
|                       | Lunch   | <b>St John's Ladies Lunch Group</b>        |        |           | Half Moon               |
|                       | 7.30pm  | <b>Parish Council Meeting</b>              |        |           | Village Hall            |
| Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00am | Art  | 2.00pm | Mums/Tots | "                       |
| Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>  | 6.00pm  | Pilates                                    |        |           | "                       |
| Tue 15 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | Upholstery                                 |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 8.00pm  | Badminton                                  |        |           | "                       |
| Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>  | 3.45pm  | Children's Dance                           |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 6.15pm  | Adult Tap Dancing                          |        |           | "                       |
| Thu 17 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00am | Art  | 1.30pm | Art       | "                       |
| Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00am | Art  | 2.00pm | Mums/Tots | "                       |
| Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>  | 6.00pm  | Pilates                                    |        |           | "                       |
| Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup>  | 10.30am | Upholstery                                 |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 7.45pm  | <b>Film: To Kill A Mocking Bird (1962)</b> |        |           | King Arthurs            |
|                       | 8.00pm  | Badminton                                  |        |           | Village Hall            |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | 3.45pm  | Children's Dance                           |        |           | "                       |
|                       | 6.15pm  | Adult Tap Dancing                          |        |           | "                       |
| Thur 24 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am | Art  | 1.30pm | Art       | "                       |
| Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00am | Art  | 2.00pm | Mums/Tots | "                       |
| Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00am | hft Christmas Fair                         |        |           | Wincanton Memorial Hall |
| Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>  | 6.00pm  | Pilates                                    |        |           | Village Hall            |
| Tue 29 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | Upholstery                                 |        |           | "                       |
| Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>  | 3.45pm  | Children's Dance                           |        |           | "                       |

*Future events : A Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3rd December 10am—1pm at  
Horsington Primary School*

**The Somme to the Dardanelles**  
**Two men immortalised forever on our War Memorial**  
By Susan Maltin

The names on our War Memorial are more than just names. They were young men who probably joined the war full of enthusiasm, left their families in Horsington and headed abroad to fight for their country. Two of them show us their different experiences, however both of course ended in tragedy.

Before the war Henry Mason lived at home on Horsington Marsh with his parents James and Charlotte Mason and his brothers and sisters. He and his father were farm labourers and his sisters were domestic servants. His father was a native of Horsington, but his mother came from Gillingham. Born in 1893 he only lived to be 22. Henry enlisted in Sherborne into the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment. On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1915 they sailed on board the Aquitania from Liverpool to the Mediterranean and the Gallipoli campaign. They arrived at Mudros a small Greek port on the island of Lemnos and attempted to seize control of the Dardanelles Straits, some 30 miles away.

On the night of 6/7<sup>th</sup> August 1915 they landed at Suvla Bay and in the pitch black under cover of a moonless night they mounted a successful attack on Hill 10, despite it being heavily defended by the Turks. On 9<sup>th</sup> August they renewed their attack and tried to advance across the Kiretch Tepe Ridge. This however was Henry Mason's last action, and all that remained was for a telegram to be sent to Horsington announcing his death on 9th August. Henry's name is commemorated both in Horsington and on the Helles Memorial Cemetery.

John Henry Day had a very different war. He enlisted in Taunton into the Machine Gun Corps, Cavalry 9<sup>th</sup> Squadron. He was probably the son of William and Jane Day, and was born in 1884. His father came from Stowell and his mother from North Cheriton. Like his father he was a farm labourer before the war. He first went to France in May 1915, and survived for nearly 3 years.

The war diary tells us that on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918 his squadron was at Montigny Farm in the Somme area. In the very early morning, the horses and guns left the farm and headed for Bois du Croix. At 9am the enemy shelled the wood and adjacent fields vigorously, and the squadron held on until orders were received to make a detour and form up for a counter attack on the village of Herவில். During the counter attack almost the whole team were killed or wounded. John Henry Day was amongst those who were killed, and so another Horsington family received the dreaded telegram.

He is commemorated in the Pozieres Memorial Cemetery, created for the period in 1918 when the army were driven back in huge numbers across the Somme battlefields resulting in 14,000 casualties between 21<sup>st</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918. Dying on 22<sup>nd</sup> March John Henry Day was one of the first to fall.

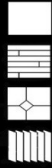


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## **Bird Watch**

By Keith Davies



**Waxwing**

November sees the start of the return of our winter visitors. Fieldfares and Redwings from northern Europe are attracted by the abundance of earthworms and insects in our fields and hawthorn berries in our hedgerows. When these food sources are exhausted they seek out windfall apples in gardens and orchards. They are members of the Thrush family. Last winter there were huge flocks, up to several hundred strong of these "Winter Thrushes", moving around the fields between Wincanton and Templecombe. Bramblings are similarly attracted here, but we see them only in small numbers because they prefer to seek out beech mast. The best place to see them is in the woodlands around Stourhead. In the conifers here you can also be lucky and see Crossbills.

Large numbers of continental Blackbirds and Starlings cross the Channel to winter here. They flee the colder weather in northern Europe. These Blackbirds tend to stay in the fields and leave the gardens to our resident Blackbirds. A high proportion of the European population of Starlings seek refuge in Britain over the winter. They roost at night in reed beds in large flocks for protection. The nature reserves at English Nature's Shapwick Heath and RSPB's Ham Wall have extensive reed beds and witness amazing aerial displays, known as a "murmuration of starlings", before they drop down to roost. In the winter of 1999/2000 an estimated 6 million Starlings roosted at Shapwick Heath, the largest roost ever reported in the country. It's a 50 minute drive to Shapwick, 5 miles west of Street, and it's well worth a visit to see this spectacle, although the numbers have been down in recent years. Choose a clear, calm evening and arrive at least an hour before sunset. English Nature's helpline (07866 554142) provides information on the latest whereabouts of the roost.

Some years we see a large influx of Waxwings from Scandinavia. This happens when there is a shortage of rowan berries, their favourite food. They spread southwards down the country and last winter they came as close to us as Yeovil in their wide ranging search for food. They are a striking bird and worth seeing if you can. If the birds are a bit elusive, a walk on one of the many footpaths across fields to the south of Horsington and South Cheriton this winter is bound to turn up one of our local Brown Hares!



**Brown Hare**

A pleasing sight at Horsington pond these last few weeks has been a Kingfisher spotted by Charles James

## The November Garden

By Muddy Wellies

The days are shortening, temperatures dropping, and leaves falling, you know there's lots of tidying in the garden yet to do...

Clear leaves from paths, borders and lawns, put in compost bins, or layer in black rubbish bags with a sprinkling of granular fertilizer (I use Growmore), dampen if leaves are dry, tie up bag. Leaves break down more quickly if chopped/mulched before bagging, and should be ready to use next winter, whole leaves may take longer to break down. Sadly they don't go far on the border, so save for woodland and ericaceous plants like azalea, rhododendron, hellebores. Lawns can be mown if weather mild, but keep blades high, this is also a good way to clear leaves from grass. Early in the month aerate your lawn, finish sowing grass seed and turf laying. Your mower should be cleaned and any fuel emptied from the tank before winter.

Complete planting hardy perennials, Hyacinths and Tulips (late planting of Tulips reduces the chance of diseased bulbs) plant bulbs in pots for a good display if your soil remains damp in winter like mine. I lift my Gladioli for this reason and replant in spring. Pot up any seedlings and move forced bulbs with sufficient top growth indoors to a cool well-lit position. Clear up rockeries, move potted Bay trees and other potted shrubs susceptible to frost damage undercover to a greenhouse or even a carport, where they will still get plenty of light. Those that are too large to move can have their pots wrapped in bubble wrap or straw and sacking.

Firm in newly planted trees and shrubs. Plant bare-rooted deciduous trees and shrubs (potted plants can be planted at any time of year if soil workable). Roses need planting in a mixture of garden compost and bonemeal and should not be planted where roses have recently been removed. Planting of heathers and new hedges should be completed by now, continue to take hardwood cuttings of both evergreen and deciduous plants. Cut-back large and cluster-flowered (hybrid tea and floribunda) roses by about half after flowering.

Finish cutting back fruited canes, blackberries, summer raspberries (not autumn fruiting yet), loganberries etc and tying in young shoots. Prune established blackcurrants removing old shoots from the centre, shorten leading shoots on redcurrants by half and side shoots to 5cms(2"), as with gooseberries. Inspect potatoes and other stored crops, removing any with signs of disease or rot. Lift chicory and put in boxes of moist compost and force in the greenhouse. Protect overwintering crops in the ground with straw, making sure you keep it securely in place. Soil conditions permitting, outdoor sowing of lettuce and early peas can be made under cloches. Broadbeans can be sown outdoors and garlic planted. All this sowing should make even the most downhearted feel more positive!



# Horsington Church of England Primary School

## Five Years In Governance

By Helen Smith

It's hard to believe that I have been a Parent Governor at Horsington for five years. I can remember clearly the day I put myself forward for the role. My eldest daughter was in Year 1 in Water Class, she is now ½ a term into Year 6 and speeding her way towards the end of her primary career. The role has been challenging, very interesting and rewarding. For the first year, I sat quietly (hard to believe) at Full Governing Body meetings, in awe of the knowledge of the staff and more experienced Governors at the school. There was so much to learn: budgets, educational jargon, policies, the annual calendar of work, school values and principles. Now I am Vice Chair and have a much firmer grip on my role, even though the complexities of education and the changes a new Government brings continue to keep me on my toes! Each term brings new challenges for our Head and all of the teaching staff. The staff are strong in their beliefs and work very hard to achieve the aims of our school. They have a fantastic ability to sift through the swathes of bureaucracy to establish what is important to the ethos of our school and what will ultimately benefit the children.

The role of a Governor is seen as being strategic, a "critical friend" and being accountable. It is hard to define in less than a thousand words what this means, but in short we ensure that the school has policies in place to cover all aspects of school life. We review assessment results, monitor the curriculum (partly through visits to the school) and ensure that the school works within its budget. We keep abreast of changes in legislation, review the Head's performance and are accountable to Ofsted – to name but a few! Although I am a parent Governor, elected by parents to represent them, I do not answer to the parents with regards to the day-to-day 'running of the school'; this is very much the job of the Head and the senior management.

Sometimes I ask myself why am I doing this, as it is a big commitment of energy and time, especially in my role as Vice Chair and Chair of the Human Resources Committee, but the answer lies within the fantastic school our children are privileged to attend. I never cease to be amazed at the commitment of the staff, their belief in the value of the children's primary years, the way they know their pupils as individuals and encourage them every step of the way. If in any way I can help the school to keep running as successfully as it is now, then that is why I am a Governor.

**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington  
at 8.45 pm on Wednesday 2nd November**

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer; free apart from drinks

Further details from **Anna 370749**

**The Wincanton Film Society Presents  
"To Kill a Mocking Bird (1962)"**

**\*Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011 - 7.45pm**

Performance Centre, King Arthur's School, Dancing Lane, Wincanton

Drama Starring: Gregory Peck, John Megna. Director Robert Mulligan.

Atticus Finch, a lawyer in a racially divided town in Alabama, defends a young black man against an undeserved rape charge, and his children against prejudice.

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



**Thursday November 3rd 7.30pm, Village Hall : AGM**

**Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne: 370713**

**The Wincanton Choral Society Concert  
Sunday 11th December 7.30pm Wincanton Sports Centre.**

Works will include Karl Jenkins' 'A Celebration of Christmas', Morten Lauridsen's beautiful 'Magnum Mysterium' and excerpts from Handel's 'Messiah'

For information & tickets please contact :  
Bob Jones 370562 [bobjanejones@hotmail.com](mailto:bobjanejones@hotmail.com)



*Christmas Fayre*  
*Horsington Primary School*  
*Saturday 3rd December*  
*10am–1pm*  
*Santa's grotto, gifts, crafts,*  
*tombolas, raffle and much more!*

**HOME FARM TRUST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR**  
**Sat Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, Wincanton Memorial Hall, 10am – 1.30pm**

Tombola, Bottle stall, Cakes, Plants, Trash & Treasure, Books, Deli,  
 Kitchen Ware, Art, Xmas Stalls...  
 Please come and support their wonderful work!

**Colonel JOHN BLASHFORD-SNELL**  
 will give a talk on  
*19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY DARKEST AFRICA*  
 in St John's Church, Horsington on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm  
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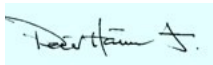
*Dear friends,*

Greetings: The beginning of November is in some ways fogged by Halloween. November 1st is the celebration of All Hallows (hence Halloween), or as usually said in the church - All Saints. Strangely enough, this is not intended as a celebration of the great superheroes of the faith. Rather it is an acknowledgement of that great number of 'ordinary' folk who pass by almost unnoticed by the world at large - but by their lives of service they made their communities better places. These unknown characters inspire us to know that no good deed is too small to make a difference.

If these folk are unknown - then one of the points of Remembrance Sunday is to keep people's names alive. Each year we read the Rolls of Honour remembering individuals who sacrificed their lives for our country and liberty. Sometimes I think that we should have a similar roll to remember not those who were killed, but those who were injured. These had the greater struggle - and oftentimes were the folk we didn't want to know about. This was powerfully portrayed in the movie *Born on the 4th July*. If that tells the story from an American perspective, I would be surprised if the British Legion couldn't match it.

We finish the month on the celebratory note of Christ the King which points us to Advent and the anticipation of God's final action to put all things right. We have a God-given dream of a time when swords are beaten to ploughshares, and spears to pruning hooks and peace shall reign. And we have a God-given task to make it real now.

*Peter Hallett*  
*halatvic@btinternet.com*



**Horsington Churchwardens:** Mrs Anne Jones – 370626 Mrs Rosemarie Wigley - 371478

**St Mary, Abbas & Templecombe**

***6th November***

11am All Age Worship

***13th November***

10am Service of Remembrance followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

***20th November***

11am Morning Praise with Gospel Gang

***27th November***

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas, Henstridge**

***6th November***

8am Holy Communion

11am Sing Glory! Worship for all ages

6.30pm Evensong

***13th November***

10.55am Service of Remembrance

***20th November***

11am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

***27th November***

11am Holy Communion

**St John the Baptist, Horsington**

***6th November***

9.15am Holy Communion with Sunday School

***13th November***

11am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial followed at 11.15am by a Service of Remembrance in St John's Church

***20th November***

9.15am Holy Communion

***27th November***

8.30am Holy Communion

**Templecombe URC:**

Family Service usually at 11am each Sunday

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## St Margaret's Village Hall Annual Dinner

By Jonathan and Sally Packer

This year's event was billed as a 'Patriotic Olympic-themed Dinner', so the village has put itself well ahead of the game in celebration of the 2012 London Olympics. The hall looked invitingly festive as we gathered at the beginning of the evening: flags of the nations on the bunting above our heads, the tables glittering with gold ribbon and gold plates and the Olympic Rings displayed on the wall. Even the water jugs were transformed with gold streamers and orange slices as reminders of our Olympic hopes.

Over 60 people sat down to eat and talk, unfolding our Union Jack napkins. The dinner gives a splendid opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new links. We were glad that there was plenty of time to swop news and add new names to the village map. Noise levels were high as conversations grew livelier.



The evening's menu continued the Olympic theme, with the Starter 'On your marks – Greek salad' as a reminder of the origins of the Games. We should have guessed that the delicious 'Gold Chicken Blades' would be accompanied by Runner Beans! Proceedings were enlivened by the half time sport of bowling coins down the length of the floor with a wine bottle as the distant target. We reached the 'Finishing Line' with what was indeed a 'Winning Trophy Table' featuring a huge array of homemade puddings.

Good food and company made the evening flash by. The Dinner is a key event in binding together a geographically scattered community, and thanks are due to everyone who worked so hard to make this year's meal another winner, from the busy cooks in the kitchen to the charming and unobtrusive waitresses and the all important car park attendants. It was good to see many new faces this year, showing our village as a growing and evolving community. We shall remember the 2011 Dinner as an Olympian feast!

# Ottery Antiques

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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](mailto:info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk)



Saturday 12th November 2011, 10.45am to 4pm  
for youngsters aged 8 to 18 in Charlton Horethorne Village Hall

Organised by Charlton Horethorne Youth Theatre but is open to all youngsters in the area. The day's activities will be led by Mark Freestone, an experienced and lively drama teacher.

Cost £10, to include morning and afternoon refreshments and lunch.  
*A few free places available for young people aged 16-18 who can help on the day.*

Further information and tickets (places limited) from Bill Closs on 220640.

### **St John's Ladies Lunch Group**

Lunch on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November at the Half Moon pub, Horsington.  
The group will be joined by the Rt Revd Peter Maurice, Bishop of Taunton  
as part of his tour of the Deanery.

Please ring Rosemarie Wigley 371478 or Susan Maltin 371400 if you would like to join us

**The Yeovil Night Shelter** continues to do sterling work in helping the homeless of the area.

A hot meal is provided by volunteers at the centre 7 nights a week.

There is a need for more volunteers so if anyone can spare a regular or occasional evening from 7 - 9 pm to help with this rewarding activity please contact :

Bob Jones 01963 370562 [bobjanejones@hotmail.com](mailto:bobjanejones@hotmail.com) or :

Chris Gibbons 01935 412052 [chris@yeovilnightshelter.com](mailto:chris@yeovilnightshelter.com)

### FEEDBACK

'I attended the village dinner for the first time this year and I would like to congratulate and thank everyone who provided us with such a lovely meal and a very enjoyable evening.' Jean Handy



What do fish say when they hit a concrete wall?.....Dam!

## 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       |
| <b>Doctors Surgeries</b>         | Milborne Port (inc Templecombe) | 250334             |
|                                  | Wincanton Health Centre         | 435700             |
| <b>Horsington Primary School</b> | 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      |
| <b>St John's Church</b>          |                                 |                    |
| 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             |
| <b>Village Hall</b>              | Chair                           | Julie Gripper      |
|                                  | Bookings                        | Emilie Gordon Head |
|                                  |                                 | 370282             |
|                                  |                                 | 371396             |
| Art                              | Nick Andrew                     | 07730 400784       |
| Badminton                        | Frank Beach                     | 370767             |
| Children's dance                 | Claire Else                     | 01935 814214       |
| Dance                            | Louise Holliday                 | 362689             |
| Football                         | Simon Howell                    | 07730 314959       |
| Mums & Tots                      | Carly Markendale                | 371068             |
| Pilates                          | Carol Pirie                     | 07885 798032       |
| Upholstery                       | Jean Powell                     | 01747 841126       |