The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No 13

June 2012
Diamond Jubilee Issue



Horse Chestnut in the gardens of The Grange in Horsington

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Please send all contributions for possible inclusion in the next issue to info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 11th June 2012

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 June 2012

Day/Date	Time	Event	Time	Event	Venue
Fri 1st	10.00am	Art			Village Hall
Sun 3rd	12.00 noon	Diamond Jubilee Street Party			Half Moon Inn
Mon 4th	2.00pm	Cricket (against the Tabard l	Pilgrims)	Cricket Grou	nd, Horsington
	6.00pm	Pilates			Village Hall
Tue 5th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	6.30pm	Bridge Night			Half Moon Inn
Wed 6th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			Village Hall
	8.45pm	Music Night			Half Moon Inn
Thu 7th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting			"
	7.30pm	WI - Skittles Evening			"
Fri 8th	10.00am	Art			"
Mon 11th	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group		Rose & Crov	vn at Longburton
	6.00pm	Pilates			Village Hall
Tue 12th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	6.00pm	North Cheriton Gardeners' So	ciety	Corto	n Denham House
ļ	6.30pm	Bridge Night			Half Moon Inn
Wed 13th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			Village Hall
Thu 14h	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	"
Fri 15th	10.00am	Art			"
Sat 16th	2.00pm	Village Fête			School Field
Mon 18th	6.00pm	Pilates			Village Hall
Tue 19th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	6.30pm	Bridge Night			Half Moon Inn
Wed 20th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			Village Hall
	7.00pm	Film Society AGM and Film			King Arthur's
Thu 21st	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	Village Hall
Fri 22nd	10.00am	Art			"
Mon 25th	6.00pm	Pilates			"
Tue 26th	10.30am	Upholstery			"
	6.30pm	Bridge Night			Half Moon Inn
Wed 27th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing			Village Hall
	2.30pm	Tea and Chat			St John's Church
Thu 28th	10.00am	Art	1.30pm	Art	Village Hall
Fri 29th	10.00am	Art	_		"

Remember the *Diamond Jubilee Party* takes place on 3rd June

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



Horse Chestnut Trees in Horsington

By John Vallins (By kind permission of the Editor of The Guardian)

Throughout the winter, when we look out of a south-facing, upstairs window, we see against the sky the intricate pattern of the upper branches of three towering horse chestnut trees. Now, in June, they are solid masses of leaf. The trees stand in the grounds of what was once the rectory, built by the Wickham family in 1686 for the first of a line of Wickham rectors that stretched to 1897.

Some years ago the then owner of the house took me on a tour. We admired the superb cedar across the lawn, seen in group photographs of the village Friendly Society with the squire and rector at the centre. Then we went to wonder at the enormous girth of the horse chestnuts and to speculate about their age. If you walk into the village, you can hardly fail to look up at their wonderful shapeliness and sheer size.

And now a phone call from an expert took me back for a second and more informed look at them and at a plane tree close by. The plane, he told me, is relatively uncommon in the countryside, though the London plane abounds in city squares. This fine specimen stands beside the stream that for centuries turned the mill wheel – plane trees like a water source close by. My guide reckoned the diameter of the horse chestnuts at chest height at about 1.5 metres, their height at about 35 metres, and their age 250 to 300 years.

The plane's diameter was greater, its height and age similar. I learned that the plane is venerated in some parts of the world. Xerxes is said to have halted his army in Lydia to admire the beauty of a plane and the welcome shade afforded by its great spread. The horse chestnut, though so common in England, is not native but was introduced from mountainous regions bordering Greece, Albania and Yugoslavia in the mid-17th century. Perhaps we owe the splendour of our local examples to an early Wickham rector with a fashionable enthusiasm for importing exotics.

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Garden Watch By Muddy Wellies

THE GARDEN IN JUNE

What fabulous weather we have had, despite some heavy rain latterly, something of a relief both to the garden and those gardeners, who have had to spend time watering in the very dry days. It was the warmest and driest March since records began. We can't seem to win in Britain, after the harsh winter we have now had a very dry, but welcome spring, you can never please a gardener!

My variegated Pittosporum, having struggled through a second harsh winter, dropped some leaves, then sent out some young shoots, appearing to have made it through, to my delight. So it came as a nasty surprise to find overnight it had lost almost all its leaves. I reduced it in size a little and fed it, I am now taking my own advice, leaving it in peace and crossing my fingers for its survival.

June is another busy month, there are many tasks to complete, especially if you have grown your own bedding be it from seed or plug plants, by now you will probably have planted up your containers and they will have filled out and be ready to display in the garden. Being of the old school, I don't put my 'bedding' plants out until the end of May beginning of June to avoid any late frosts, however they still need a period of time to harden off. Putting them out during the day, out of harsh sun is preferable, and bringing them in overnight for a week to 10 days before they go out on a permanent basis. Keep dead heading throughout the summer as flowers fade, an ideal job for an evening wander round the garden and a great de-stresser.

Keep on top of weeds, having spent time in April clearing them, and on through May, when they took advantage of any rain to shoot up again as your back was turned, especially the pernicious ones like Dandelions, Nettles and the dreaded Ground Elder, don't let them reclaim your borders.

Early shrub roses will need dead heading this month, remove suckers, tearing them away rather than cutting, reducing the likelihood of strong re-growth. Cutback hardy perennials such as Hardy Geraniums and Alchemilla mollis just above ground level for a second flush of flowers later in the season. The late summer flowering Sedums that tend to flop can also benefit, cut them back, making re-growth stronger. Sweet Williams and Wallflowers can be sown outside to flower next year.

Maincrop Potatoes should be earthed up. Purple Sprouting Broccoli, Brussel sprouts, Winter Cabbage, self blanching Celery, Courgettes, Ridge Cucumbers, Marrows and Squashes can all be planted out, together with Leeks (puddled in). Tomatoes can go outdoors, in pots or the ground. Sow Spinach and Swedes together with further sowings of French Beans, Peas and salad crops. Thin out Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach and Gooseberries after the natural drop to get good sized fruit and reduce risk of disease, allowing good air circulation. Tie in cane fruit, cut back outdoor vines. Grow plants such as Campanulas, Comfrey (also good to make a liquid feed), Heathers, Lily of the Valley, Lungwort (Pulmonaria), Antirrhinum (Snapdragon), Sweet Woodruff, Thyme and Hardy Geraniums amongst others to attract bees to your garden. On the subject of bees, I will finish with a thought, flower colour is important to them, but they cannot see colours within the red spectrum, or so I am told.

Horsington Pond By Charles James

As long as I have known the pond it has always generated interest and comments. This article outlines the ongoing work and plans that the Parish Council have. After consultations with the pond conservation and various other necessary bodies I produced a proposal last August to the Parish Council for the repair and maintenance of the pond. The present sluice gates have served the pond well but with the weakening and rusting of the steel within the gates it was time to replace them before they gave way completely. Ably assisted by Phil Shrimpton, we removed the gates and set about the process of manufacturing replacements. Railway sleepers, kindly loaned by Chris Bailward, were put into place as a temporary dam so that we could keep water during the time it was going to take to make the gates; it has been pleasing to see the kingfisher feeding in the pond during this time, that alone was worth the effort.

It was the intentions of myself and Phil to make the gates but on approaching Kevin Wigley to supply us with the steel needed, he kindly offered his assistance. So the gates are presently at KTM Fabrications being manufactured. They will be galvanized before fitting.

Other areas I intend to address are the painting of the railings, the trimming of the vegetation around the pond and the general maintenance. A group of volunteers, namely Andrew Tarling, Phil Bennett and David and Tricia Blake, have swung into action wielding their chainsaws and paint brushes around the pond with good effect and their help is much appreciated

The silting of the pond is something that we just have to accept will always be an ongoing issue. The changing of some pasture land to ploughed fields and the various natural runs into the stream and, indeed, the lack of water flow into the pond nowadays, all add to the build up of the silt. If we remove the gates altogether to let the silt naturally disperse then we don't have a pond. If we fit sluice gates or just a natural weir, we will have a silt build up which we will have to dispose of every 5-7 years. It is just the way it is and we have to adjust our thinking and actions accordingly.

Bill Candy brought the possibilities of a grant from SSDC Community Development Officer to my attention. I promptly submitted two applications, one for the pond and one for the production of a Jubilee Commemorative Notice board. I am pleased to say that we were successful on both counts and a grant of £750 for each project was achieved. All being well it is our intention to have the new gates in place and the pond looking its best for the Jubilee weekend.... Watch this space, or more so, watch the pond.

A big thank you to all the above named and others who I have not named for their help and hard work, without them none of this would have been achievable.

The village extends a big thank you to Charles for his contribution to all of this work



Horsington Pond photo by: Paul Quayle - www.paulquayle.co.uk

School outing to Sherborne for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee visit By Jane Jones

Two coaches full of children with an adult escort for every 5 pupils set off for Sherborne on Tuesday 1st May to see the Queen. When we arrived we poured out onto the busy pavements and found a

vantage point on Station Road. There were crowds all around the Abbey and the Almshouse and the Abbey bells were ringing. The children were able to lean on the barrier right on the roadside. The policemen and women were friendly and humourful. Some cameramen and obvious security people were walking up the road which was lined with expectant crowds with flags and cameras at the ready. An elderly lady on a mobility scooter drove up the empty road to the cheers of the crowd

"How much longer? When will she come?" The young people asked. It was quite a long wait, probably an hour. Then



some outriders and a line of large cars drove slowly passed us. We saw a pink hat and the shoulder of a pink jacket through the window of a smart car. We cheered and clicked. The car stopped a hundred yards down the street for the Queen to alight and we followed, but a large car behind for her protection completely blocked our view! Well it was good to see her "walkabouts" on the telly later in the day and I'm glad we went and took the children. Sixty years as a monarch is historic and the children will remember and say "I was there and cheered the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee Tour".

Horsington Church of England Primary School

A great time had by all at Kilve Court

By Lorna Allen

A great time was had by all at the recent residential trip to Kilve Court Outdoor Education Centre. Children in year five and six at Horsington Primary School, together with the head teacher and other members of staff, enjoyed a fun-filled jam-packed few days away.

The trip began with lunch at Kilve Court followed by a walk to the beach where we used the natural materials to create our own group pieces of art, looked for life in the rock pools and then back to base.

Over the following few days the children went for a very wet and murky stream walk and had a go at various other activities including mountain biking, rifle shooting, compass work, archery, low ropes, the climbing wall and abseiling. Our Year 6 children tried clout archery which is similar to the techniques used for medieval warfare and also they climbed the high ropes course. There were also evening activities including games such as a quiz and orienteering in the dark.

Each morning the children's rooms were checked and points were awarded for cleanliness and tidiness. At the end of the trip the winning 'clean and tidy' room was awarded a prize.

Ian Rumbelow, Headteacher at Horsington, said, "Our annual trip to Kilve is always very enjoyable for all the children and the staff, although I think some of the parents find it hard as it can often be the longest time their children have stayed away from home. The children always have a great time taking part in the many exciting activities available to them and they enjoy sharing a room with their friends."

The weather this year was amazing, more like July than just before Easter.

Kilve Court is a georgian house situated in 25 acres of wooded grounds and gardens at the front of the Quantock Hills just one mile from the sea.







Parish Council Report

By Angela Clayton

Horsington Pond or the Horse Pond as it is also called – because it is still remembered by some parishioners as the watering hole for thirsty horses – is being regularly monitored and checked throughout the seasons by members of the Parish Council. Control of the level of water is managed by sets of sluice gates, in accordance with advice and legal guidelines from the Environment Agency. The sluices are in fact nearing the end of their life and Councillor Charles James is in the process of manufacturing some new ones which will be installed very shortly. We also carry out regular maintenance of the brook by culling back the vegetation when it becomes too overgrown.

The Telephone Boxes in Horsington and South Cheriton have now been purchased from BT and the Parish Council will be responsible for maintaining and managing their use(s). Offers received from volunteers to clean and help with the maintenance are very much appreciated.

The telephone equipment has been removed and so again we would welcome ideas for alternative uses. A popular suggestion has been to use the boxes for book and magazine swap centres and we hope to trial this idea very soon.

A New Jubilee Notice Board – for Horsington, to replace the old one, is currently being designed and will be manufactured locally. We have been fortunate to have received a grant from South Somerset District Council to help fund part of the costs.

Villages around the country have been converting their old red phone boxes into miniature libraries.

We would need to install shelving (see photo) as well as running a rota of volunteers to check on stock so please do come forward if you are skilled in any of these areas.

> Contact Angela Clayton on 371257 or David Chapman on 370527



HORSINGTION SUMMER FETTE

Saturday 16th June
2pm – 5pm
Horsington Primary School

Ferret Racing, Raffle, Sumo wrestling, Tombola, Pony Rides, Face painting, Beer Tent, BBQ, Teas, Cakes, Skittles, Bouncy slide & much more!!





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Traditional Chinese Acupuncture for Women's Health and Well-being Franka Jannoe, MA BSc (Hons) Lic Ac MBAcC Harbour House, Horsington www.acupuncture-horsington.co.uk 078 15070 228 Dear Friends,

Greetings: By now you will be aware that we have launched an appeal to raise money to carry out essential repairs to the church roof. I would like to have been able to tell you something about how our appeal launch went - but I can't! The deadline for the Magazine is 11th May, and the Appeal Launch is on 18th May. So, I will have to wait until the July edition to let you know how things are going.

The church has been having fund raising events for quite a few years to raise money to be able to instal a toilet in the church - and to create a servery and social area - as well as carry out repairs to the south aisle floor. All this is highly desirable. But the repairs to the roof are essential.

We are busily applying for grants even as we raise this appeal. We can only raise the money needed - some £119,000 - with both grant aid, and support from the wider community. We have already been promised a grant of £40,000, and have raised £4,000, and so need to find a further £75,000. If we don't raise the money needed there are real questions about the future of the church. As a parish church the building belongs in a 'moral' sense, if not in a 'legal' sense, to the whole community. And it's at times like this that the whole community needs to pull together to save it. If you want to know more, especially to learn how you can help in a manageable and affordable way, please ask me or one of the churchwardens.

With all good wishes,

Peter Hallett - halatvic @btinternet.com

Levelan J.

St John the Baptist, Horsington

3rd June 9.15am Holy Communion with Sunday School

10th June 11am Morning Prayer 17th June 9.15am Holy Communion

24th June 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Horsington Churchwardens:

Mrs Anne Jones – 370626 Mrs Rosemarie Wigley - 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

3rd June	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
"	11am	Sing Glory! Worship for all ages
"	6.30pm	Celebration Evensong
10 th June	9.30am	Holy Communion
17 th June	11am	Morning Prayer
"	6.30pm	Evensong
24 th June	10.30am	Holy Communion

Templecombe St Mary The Virgin

3 rd June	11am	All Age Worship
"	6pm	Songs of Praise in the Churchyard
10 th June	9.30am	Holy Communion
17 th June	11am	Morning Praise
24th June	9.30am	Holy Communion

TEA AND CHAT

Join us for a cup of tea and a biscuit in St John's Church, Horsington

Bring and buy cake and produce stall, donations gratefully received.

Last Wednesday of the month during the summer from 2.30pm 27^{th} June, 24th July & 29^{th} August

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Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington at 8.45pm on Wednesday 6th June

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

AGM and The Descendants starring George Clooney (R15)

George Clooney gives the performance of his life as a man in search of a moral compass on a Hawaii that is no paradise

Wednesday 20th June - 7.45pm

.**For further information contact Les Graney on 01963 371668



June 7th - Skittles Evening - 7.30pm at the Village Hall Contact: Mrs Jackie Pvne: 01963 370713

5	3	9	1	7	2	4	6	8
7	1	8	4	6	9	5	3	2
6	4	2	3	8	5	1	9	7
8	7	4	6	2	1	3	5	9
9	6	5	7	3	4	2	8	1
1	2	3	9	5	8	7	4	6
3	8	1	5	9	7	6	2	4
4	9	6	2	1	3	8	7	5
2	5	7	8	4	6	9	1	3

NORTH CHERITON & DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

GARDEN VISIT TO CORTON DENHAM HOUSE MEET AT THE HOUSE AT 6PM ON JUNE 12TH

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE SOCIETY CAN CONTACT JEAN HANDY CHAIRPERSON ON 01963 371720

Sudoku Answers By Ted Banks

Community Council for Somerset Community Oil Scheme - To request a membership form or to find out if joining the scheme would be of benefit, call 01823 33122 or apply via the CCS website www.somersetrcc.org.uk/oil

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If you have any announcements, articles for sale, baby sitting services etc. you would like included contact info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk

Paddy Hughes - Charity Hero

By John Vallins

The Western Gazette has recently held its second annual presentation of "Pride Awards". The motto of the pride award programme is "recognising inspirational people who make a significant difference," and awards are made in ten categories including, for example, *caring hero, sporting hero, public sector hero*, and *charity hero*.

The particular reason for noting this event in this edition of the Villager is that this year's *Charity Hero* is Paddy Hughes of Horsington, whose fund-raising achievements were celebrated in the Villager's pages. Indeed, it is the Villager's article that led to Paddy's nomination and selection. A reader put his name forward to the Western Gazette's selection committee, whose members were clearly as impressed as no doubt all Villager readers were by what Paddy has achieved in the field of fund-raising.

The Western Gazette's article (with a picture of Paddy receiving his award from Valerie Singleton, with whom, by co-incidence, he had once worked in broadcasting) called attention to the large sums he had raised for London Irish Rugby Club, as well as the Royal Marsden Hospital, as well as the remarkable tribute to his grandson, Alfie, who died at the age of five months of a brain tumour.

Congratulations from all at the Villager

Photo supplied courtesy of Len Copland at Western Gazette

Report on concert by HMS Heron Volunteer Band by Jane Jones

The HMS Heron Volunteer Band came to play in Horsington Church on Friday 27th April. They were a mixed band of wind instruments, brass of all sizes, and percussion. The Bandmaster, Colour Sgt. Tom Crane, conveyed his enthusiasm for this most talented and dedicated band and their varied repertoire as advertised from military music to Abba. The church was filled with their wonderful sound and we felt quite exhilarated. Thanks to all who supported this concert and after expenses £490.24 was raised. Plates of food were taken round....and round at the interval and the band voted us the top of their venues for refreshments!

CONTACT LIST
(all phone numbers start with 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME		CONTACT	TEL NO	
Bellringing		Anna Piechna	370749	
Bridge		Phil Bennett	370273	
Buses (local)			0871 2002233	
Citizens Advice E	Bureau, Yeov	il	01935 421167	
CATBUS Service			33864	
Doctors Surgerie	s Milbor	ne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334	
O		nton Health Centre	435700	
Horsington Prim	ary School	Head/Secretary	370358	
Governors	•	Vicky Franklin	370699	
PTFA		Sue Young	31915	
Marsh Meadows 1	Nursery	Mary Taylor	370607	
Mobile Library			0845 345 9177	
MP		David Heath CBE	01373 473618	
Mums & Tots		Carly Markendale	371068	
North Cheriton &	District	•		
Gardeners' Societ	y	Jean Handy	371720	
Parish Council		David Chapman	370527	
Police		·	0845 456 7000	
St John's Church	h			
Rector		Rev. Peter Hallett	362266	
Wardens		Anne Jones	370626	
		Rosemarie Wigley	371478	
Ladies' Lur	ich Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478	
		Susan Maltin	371400	
Sunday Sch	nool	Deidre Loftus	370091	
Scouts		Geoff Crabb	370623	
Social Services			0845 345 9133	
South Somerset D		il	01935 462462	
Wincanton Town	Council		435010	
W.I.		Jackie Pyne	370713	
Village Hall	Chair	John McDonald	370444	
	Bookings	Emilie Gordon Head	371396	
Art		Nick Andrew	07730 400784	
Badminton		Frank Beach	370767	
Dance		Louise Holliday	362689	
Football		Simon Howell	07730 314959	
Pilates		Carol Pirie	07885 798032	
Upholstery		Jean Powell	01747 841126	