

The Horsington & South Cheriton *Villager*

Issue No. 16

October 2012



Bob's Bees

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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 2012

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 October 2012

Day/Date	Time	Event	Time	Venue
Mon 1st	6.00pm	Pilates		Village Hall
	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group		Stags Head Yarlington
Tue 2nd	10.30am	Upholstery		Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton		"
Wed 3rd	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing		"
	8.45pm	Music Night		Half Moon Inn
Thu 4th	10.00am	Art		Village Hall
	7.30pm	W.I. Making Christmas Crackers		"
Fri 5th	10.00am	Art		"
Sat 6th	7.00pm	Harvest Supper		"
Mon 8th	6.00pm	Pilates		"
Tue 9th	10.30am	Upholstery		"
	7.30pm	North Cheriton Gardeners' Society	North Cheriton	Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton		Village Hall
Wed 10th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing		"
Thu 11th	10.00am	Art		"
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting		"
Fri 12th	10.00am	Art		"
Sat 13th	7.00pm	Race Night		"
Mon 15th	6.00pm	Pilates		"
Tue 16th	10.30am	Upholstery		"
	8.00pm	Badminton		"
Wed 17th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing		"
Thu 18th	10.00am	Art		"
Fri 19th	10.00am	Art		"
Mon 22nd	6.00pm	Pilates		"
Tue 23rd	10.30am	Upholstery		"
	8.00pm	Badminton		"
Wed 24th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing		"
	7.30pm	Film: War Horse		King Arthurs
Thu 25th	10.00am	Art		Village Hall
Fri 26th	10.00am	Art		"
Mon 29th	6.00pm	Pilates		"
Tue 30th	10.30am	Upholstery		"
	8.00pm	Badminton		"
Wed 31st	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing		"

Future Event: Home Farm Trust Annual Christmas Fair 24th November

Cover photo by: Jane Jones

A Bit about Beekeeping

by Bob Jones

The honey has been gathered from our hives, and the hives prepared for winter. Having plundered what the poor bees were storing all summer to see them through the winter, we then needed to give them back enough food to live on until they can forage again in the Spring. This is given to them in the form of a dilute syrup, 1kg of sugar to a litre of water, administered through a special feeder which we put on the top of the hive. It is surprising how much of this syrup they take; it is usually in the region of at least 20kg of sugar per hive.



A hive comprises a **Broodchamber**, in which the queen bee lays her eggs, and the nurse bees rear and feed them until it is their turn to go and forage. On top of the broodchamber we place **Supers**, shallower boxes of frames, in which we hope the bees will store nectar which they convert to honey. A device called a **Queen Excluder** is placed between the brood chamber and the supers so that the queen cannot lay her eggs where the bees are storing honey on our behalf. As the name implies, this excludes the queen from the supers. As the honey-gathering season goes on, and the super hopefully fills up, we put further supers on top. Each super holds about 35lbs of honey when full.

For my first 3 years of beekeeping I had no honey at all. This was partly due to ignorance and poor management on my part. That was over 30 years ago, and I hope I have learned a bit since those days.

Beekeeping really is a most interesting and absorbing hobby. There is a thriving local beekeepers' association, which is affiliated to the Somerset Beekeepers Association. We are based around Wincanton–Bruton–Castle Cary, and our details can be found on the Somerset Beekeepers Association website www.somersetbeekeepers.org.uk. Or you can make contact, if you are interested in learning more about the craft, with one of the local beekeepers. There are quite a lot of us around! Or ask the writer of this article anytime; I'm always around (or nearly always).

Early this year a beehive was to be seen in among the prolific dandelions on the roundabout at Anchor Hill. It was there for just under a month. You might have seen it. Many people wondered who would just do a cheeky thing like that. Any guesses?



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Garden Watch

by Muddy Wellies



October Garden

At this time, ground beneath and around roses should be tidied, removing and burning diseased leaves if possible, but never composting them. Keep deadheading. Iris foliage can be cut back by half. Keep cutting back any unsightly top growth of perennial summer flowering plants to ground level, with the exception of penstemon, which should only have a light trim. They are pretty hardy plants, but really suffer from frost damage if cut down in the autumn – often failing to recover.

Plant red berried shrubs to provide food for the birds, other colour berries seem to be less favoured by our feathered friends. Keep mowing the lawn, raise your mower blades, don't cut too short, and apply autumn fertilizer if you haven't already done so.

Towards the end of the month, start tidying up borders, adding compost or well rotted manure which will be taken down into the ground over the winter by the worms. Frost blackened dahlias should now be cut down and their tubers dug up, dried off and preserved from frost in boxes of fine grade bark, sand, or light dry compost. Lift and pot up tender fuchsias and pelargoniums (bedding geraniums) and bring indoors to overwinter away from cold and frost. Hyacinth and tulip bulbs can be planted from the end of October through to December, to flower outdoors in spring.

Dig over any vacant ground in the veg. plot, incorporate well rotted manure and leave the soil rough, to be broken down by frosts. Plant out early cabbages and make sowings of broad beans, plants are less susceptible to blackfly next year if sown now. Autumn planted garlic will give you an early crop next summer, but make sure you plant a hardy variety. Sow spinach to provide an early spring crop. Divide clumps of mint and chives, potting some up to bring in for winter use. Cut greenery of peas and beans down, leaving roots in the ground to fix nitrogen back into the soil. Lift and store beetroot and any remaining main crop potatoes.

Cut down this year's fruit bearing canes of blackberry, loganberry and summer fruiting raspberry (leave the autumn fruiting until February, then cut to a few inches above the ground), tie in all the long new shoots. Plant out strawberry runners. Tie grease bands round trunks of apple and cherry trees to trap egg-laying insects. Keep harvesting apples, pears and autumn fruiting raspberries.

Finish off cleaning used containers, so that they are ready to be planted up for winter and spring colour when the mood takes you. It can seem a real effort to get out and plant up, but you will appreciate it in the depths of winter and once you see the spring bulbs beginning to emerge on those dark dreary days.



RACE NIGHT

**Horsington Village Hall
Saturday 13th October 7.00pm**

Sponsored by local businesses

Tickets £6.00

Available from:

Jean Handy 01963 371720 & Sue Young 01963 31915

All proceeds to Horsington Primary School PTFA

&

St John the Baptist Church, Horsington.



HORSECHERINGTON

by Tony Webster

In Horsington the harvests in
The apples are ripe in Cheriton
In Cabbage Lane the grass is high
In Marsh lane a field of rye.

Behind Hayes a crop of maize.

In Lower Road the kids off load
Their school is best in the near South West
Off Duck Lane up a leafy track
Saint John the Baptist stands,
Its open to all , please heed the call
You will be welcomed by clasping hands

Cheriton has the White Horse Inn
That's opposite, Phil Franklyn
Horsington the Half Moon local
Sometimes music but always vocal

Of course there's more but that's in store
For another time perhaps a rhyme
So!!!

If this poem don't scan, it aint elocution
How about your own contribution?

HARVEST SUPPER IN HORSINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON

Saturday 6th October @ 7.00pm

Ploughman's and Puddings

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Anne Jones 370626 or
Rosemarie Wigley on 371478



At the start of the new school year ...
by Carly Markendale, Parent Governor

Horsington Primary School has welcomed a new group of children into Reception. Some rural schools struggle to attract new families and experience falling numbers, but Horsington remains a popular school with upwards of 20 new children starting in 2012.

New pupils enter Water Class where they are taught by Miss Barker and Teaching Assistant, Mrs Ham.

Not all of the children at Horsington live in the village. The school serves many small villages in the area including Holton, Stoke Trister, North and South Cheriton, Templecombe, Cucklington and Buckhorn Weston. Children also travel from Wincanton.

Some children will have joined older siblings who are already settled at school and so will be well known by staff and pupils. For others, it's an enormous step, and it's important to make the transition from preschool to 'big school' as easy as possible. Miss Barker visits all new pupils in their preschools in July and all are invited into school for a play session. Sometimes parents are more nervous than children so there is also an opportunity for parents to come in, meet staff and other parents and to ask questions.

Children will be part time for the first half term. School days are tiring for little ones and a gradual introduction gives them time to build up their stamina. By half term, all children will be full time. Families are then invited into school to see what their children have been up to.

Many families choose to travel to Horsington in pursuit of the village atmosphere. It is important that all feel part of the community. Children take regular walks around the village, use the church and village hall and also visit the park. PTFA meetings are often held in the Half Moon and some parents use the village hall for parties and the church at Christmas. All feel very lucky to be a part of this thriving little village.

Community Governor Vacancy

The Governing Body of Horsington Church of England Primary School is looking for a **Community Governor** to represent the interests of the local community.

We're looking for a dynamic, business-minded individual, who relishes the exciting opportunity of joining a forward-thinking governing body, in what are challenging and changing times within education.

If we've created an interest in this role and you would like to find out more, please call Maggie Chubb, Clerk to the Governing Body on 01963 370358 or email

mchubb@educ.somerset.gov.uk

www.horsingtonprimary.co.uk

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Farm Watch

by Chris Bailward

RAIN RAIN GO AWAY.....



As I stare out of the window at the rain lashing down at the end of August with scarcely any corn in the barn, I reflect upon what has been an extraordinary year for farming. Many older farmers are saying they cannot remember a more difficult year and the prospect of a poor harvest in Europe because of rain and an even worse one in the USA because of drought will add to the cost of winter food for their livestock. Much of the protein content of livestock rations is now derived from the soya bean, 95% of which is grown in USA, Brazil, Argentina, China and India. Soya beans will not thrive in most European countries although France and several of the south eastern European countries have sizeable areas. Efforts have been made to increase the amount of protein crops grown in Europe by means of subsidy but we are still almost entirely reliant on imports, in Britain mainly from South America, to produce milk and meat: the global weather suggests a bad winter for livestock producers.

Unless Europeans are prepared to evaluate Genetic Modification scientifically, and overcome the Frankenfood hysteria from the fringes of society, we will not be able to change this balance. Science has enabled us to put men on the Moon and a buggy on Mars: let us use it rationally to feed the world.

Because the weather has been so wet many farmers have had to house livestock to avoid poaching the fields, using precious stocks of fodder that was destined not to be fed until the winter months. Hay fields remain uncut with the grass dead in the base and losing its goodness by the day. Even if the autumn becomes dry enough to make this into hay the quality will be poor with little nutritious value. Grass crops have been bumper but very difficult to conserve as silage or hay, and fields have suffered from the increasingly heavy machinery used in the process. Contrarily prices being paid for cattle and sheep remain very strong with record prices being paid for young animals for further fattening, hopefully optimism that is not misplaced.

By the time you read this hopefully we shall have seen some summer. There is an old bit of weather lore that suggests that a dry day on 24th August (Saint Bartholomew's day) heralds a decent autumn. I was at Deauville races enjoying some welcome sunshine but I am told that it was fine and fair here as well. Fingers crossed.....!



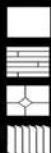
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Dear Friends, greetings: After a hiccup, I am pleased to tell you that we have been granted Planning Permission (with conditions) to go ahead with the roof repair. I am grateful to all those folk who wrote in support of our application. I understand that the parish council accepted the need for the roof to be repaired, but wanted us to look at alternative materials. Thankfully that has now been sorted out – and there were no objections.

We are extremely grateful to all those folk who have supported our Roof Appeal. We know that there are still folk who intend to support this appeal – all gifts, great and small, are welcome. In the event that we raise more than we need excess funds will be put into the Friends of St John's Fund where it can only be used for the upkeep, maintenance and improvement of the church fabric.

At this point, by borrowing from ourselves, we have enough money to proceed with the work. What do I mean by 'borrowing from ourselves'? The parish church has been fundraising for many years, for instance, to install a toilet, servery and repair the south aisle floor. This money is in a restricted fund and can only be used for that purpose. But we can 'borrow' it. In the future we will be still fundraising for the roof repair – even after the work has been finished! But it will be repaying those funds from which we have borrowed.

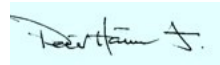
In the meantime we continue to apply for grants – and gratefully receive whatever donations people are able, and wish to give. The work will begin on 22nd October – but Services will continue as usual. Charities are very hot these days in asking folk to remember them in their Wills. This has often been an important source of income for parish churches. It would be good, if and when you update your Will, to remember St John's.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be on 7th October at 9.15am. We warmly invite you to join us. "All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love." Go with God.

Peter Hallett - halatvic @btinternet.com

St John the Baptist, Horsington

7th Oct	9.15am	Harvest Thanksgiving
14th Oct	11.00am	Morning Prayer
21st Oct	9.15am	Holy Communion
28th Oct	8.30am	Holy Communion



St Nicholas, Henstridge

7th Oct	Harvest Festival	
	8.00am	Holy Communion
"	11.00am	All Creation Worship
"	6.30pm	Harvest Thanksgiving
14th Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st Oct	11.00am	Morning Prayer
	6.30pm	Evensong
28th Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion

Horsington Churchwardens:

Mrs Anne Jones – 370626
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley -
371478

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

7th Oct	11am	All Age Worship
14th Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st Oct	11am	Harvest Thanksgiving
28th Oct	9.30am	Holy Communion

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Phone Boxes in South Cheriton and Horsington

by Tony Webster

The familiar red telephone kiosks have been a familiar sight in Horsington and South Cheriton for over 70 years and it would be interesting to hear if there is anybody still alive who can remember a time when they were not there. John and Sheila Cross, two of our oldest residents, moved to South Cheriton Street in the fifties, and the old red booth, a stone's throw from where they still live more than half a century later, has been renovated and fitted with shelves.

Today with mobile phones being as much part of normal dress as a purse or wallet the old public phone is an anachronism and our Parish Council purchased this booth and the one in Horsington for £1 each as part of the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme. It has been converted into a library or book exchange and one and all are free to help themselves at any time, the only requirement being that when taking out a book, another is left in its place. Any books to spare would be appreciated, and they should just be added to the shelves. It is also hoped that magazines can have an extended life via the old red box.



The K6 box was introduced in 1936 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the coronation of George V and the Jubilee box as it is known became the first standard box installed all over the UK and even abroad. By the end of 1968 there were nearly 70 000 in Britain alone and it is likely that ours go back 75 years or there about. Interestingly, two of these boxes were installed in France during 1995 for the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings. The K6 is made of cast iron with a teak door and weighs over three quarters of a ton [750 kgs]. The old red K6 box has become a British icon but the colour was originally considered too strident for many, with requests for something less visible. However, red won the day and like the red post box it is a symbol of British life that must be preserved.

**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.45pm on Wednesday 3rd October**

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

Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from Anna 01963 370749



Thursday 4th October at 7.30pm

Making Christmas Crackers - Mrs S Hammond

Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne: 01963 370713

The Wincanton Film Society Presents

War Horse (PG-13) - 2.26 min.

Wednesday 24th October 2012 at 7.30pm

Jeremy Irvine, Emily Watson.

Drama: Young Albert enlists to serve in World War 1 after his beloved horse is sold to the cavalry. Albert's hopeful journey takes him out of England and across Europe as the war rages on.

**For further information contact Les Graney on 01963 371668

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Derek Aldred and his panel of experts return to discuss New varieties of vegetables

On

Tuesday 9th of October at 7.30pm in North Cheriton Village Hall

hft (HOME FARM TRUST) ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 24th November in Wincanton Memorial Hall 10.30am-1.30pm

Come and shop at our wonderful stalls including our famous *DELICATESSEN*, *CAKES* and *CHILDREN'S TOYS*, *CLOTHES*, *CHRISTMAS THINGS*, *ART STALL*, *JEWELLERY*, *RAFFLES* and more. Refreshments available all morning.

For more information visit <http://www.hft.org.uk/>

If you can supply anything that could be sold on a stall or can help in any way, please contact:

Gilly Waddington 01963 371662

Christine Pratt 01963 371215

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

Phyllis Williams 9th April 1920 – 28th August 2012 by Rosemary Kerry, Phyllis' daughter and Jane Jones

Phyllis was the eldest of 4 children. She was born near Wylve in Wiltshire, but at the age of 3 the family moved to South Cheriton and she lived in the village (in three different, but nearby, houses) for the next 83 years before moving to live with her daughter only a few years ago.

At 14 she went into service locally. She was up at 6am working 6½ days a week for the princely pay of 52p a week!

Phyllis returned home at the age of 19 to look after the family as her mother was taken ill with rheumatoid arthritis. During the war she worked for the Co-op shop in Templecombe as a delivery driver. She married Tom at the end of the war who was also Wiltshire born and bred.

Phyllis' interests were the Congregational Church in South Cheriton, being a Parish Councillor for 18 years and a School Governor for 30 years at Horsington Primary School. She was also a collector for the Red Cross for 40 years.

Phyllis loved her garden and spent many happy hours in it. Those of you who passed by her house in the spring and summer would have seen a very colourful display.

Phyllis was a gentle and kind lady. She was a good source of local knowledge, past and present and was invaluable in compiling the booklet of "Memories of Horsington School" in 2005. For all these reasons she will be missed, but we will remember her with a smile.



Feedback: Apologies to Mr Jess Eastwood for using the wrong surname in last month's article on Fishing.

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers star 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO
Bellringing	Anna Piechna	370749
Bridge	Phil Bennett	370273
Buses (local)		0871 2002233
Citizens Advice Bureau, Yeovil		01935 421167
CAT Bus Ring and Ride Service		33864
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
Horsington Primary School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Sue Young	31915
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Marsh Meadows Nursery	Mary Taylor	370607
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177
MP	David Heath CBE	01373 473618
Mums & Tots	Carly Markendale	371068
North Cheriton & District		
Gardeners' Society	Jean Handy	371720
Parish Council	David Chapman	370527
Police		0845 456 7000
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266
Wardens	Anne Jones & Rosemarie Wigley	370626 371478
Sunday School	Deidre Loftus	370091
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	John McDonald
	Bookings	Emilie Gordon Head
Art		Toni Salmonson & Gill Elston
		370235 380236
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126