

The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No. 17

November 2012



Remembering Lieutenant Thomas Marriott-Dodington

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Please send all contributions for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 9th November 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 November 2012

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Thu 1st	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	WI - AGM	"
Fri 2nd	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 5th	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group	Fiddleford Inn
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 6th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 7th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
	8.45pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 8th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 9th	10.00am	Art	"
Sun 11th	10.55am	Remembrance Sunday	War Memorial
Mon 12th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 13th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.30pm	North Cheriton Gardeners' Society	North Cheriton Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 14th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 15th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 16th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 19th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 20th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.30pm	Film: In the Time of the Butterflies	King Arthurs
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 21st	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 22nd	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 23rd	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 24th	10.00am	hft Christmas Fair	Wincanton Memorial Hall
Sun 25th	6.00pm	Taizé Service	St John's Church
Mon 26th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 27th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 28th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 29th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 30th	10.00am	Art	"

Future Events: **Christmas Eve Candlelit Carol Service at Horsington Church**
&
School Christmas Fayre on Saturday December 1st

Cover photo supplied by Kathryn Dodington (niece of Lieutenant Marriott-Dodington)

Missing at the Somme

by Susan Maltin

The story of Lieutenant Thomas Marriott-Dodington, who is named on our war memorial, must be similar to that of so many soldiers. His parents received the dreaded news that he was reported missing on 2nd July 1916.

Thomas Dodington (he specifically asked the War Office not to use his double barrelled surname of Marriott-Dodington) had been educated at Marlborough College and was his parents' eldest son. From Marlborough he went to Sandhurst in 1913. He therefore always envisaged having a military career, probably encouraged by his father, a Lieutenant Colonel in the West Somerset Yeomanry.

When war broke out Thomas was only 19. He served in the 1st Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry and was wounded at Ypres on 13th May 1915 by 'a piece of shrapnel casing in his upper left thigh. Most of his muscle was torn away and one of his tendons chipped'. He was shipped back to England, landing at Dover on 17th May. He then spent the next few months at home in Horsington. Little did his family know what an idyllic period this was to be, as he was not to see his home again. His medical records show that even towards the end of July there was 'a good deal of stiffness and inability to use the limb as a result of thickening in the neighbourhood of the scar'. By 25th August he was practically recovered, but his leg still remained weak. A month later he could still not walk any distance. Finally on 13th December 1915 he was declared fit for general service, and this extra gift of life he had been offered was over. Living in Horsington as we do, we can easily visualise the peaceful views and sounds of the countryside that he would have enjoyed during this interlude, before returning to the Front.

Thomas Dodington was then immersed in a life of war, and his unit was one of those urged to attack during the Battle of the Somme. In July 1916 he was reported missing. Some nine months later, in April 1917, his father received a letter saying that the Army Council must now conclude that Thomas was dead as no further report of him had been received, and so his name would be removed from the Army List and his affairs would be wound up. His father still desperately hoped that he was alive and asked whether he would be reinstated in the army if it was discovered that he had been taken prisoner. A short time later his mother wrote to the Army Council saying that they were going to put a short notice about him in the papers, as she thought there was a 'fair chance of our son being still considered alive'.

The Army Council then replied on 8th May 1917 that they had concluded that he died on 2nd July 1916 and that they held out no hope for him. What they had failed to tell his parents is that on 5th October 1916 Private Fox of the Somerset Light Infantry who served with Thomas Dodington wrote from the Greenables Hospital in Harrow that "*on July 1st near Colincamps Lieutenant Dodington was leading our Platoon and I saw him fall at the enemy's 4th line trench. He fell on the parapet of the trench and was then shot through the head*". They also failed to pass on the report by Private Martin, who was from Sparkford, dated 23rd December 1916 who also served with Thomas Dodington and who had reported that "*on July 1st during an attack on Hamel I saw Mr Dodington lying wounded not far from the parapet perhaps 10 to 20 yards. I myself was wounded about 6 to 8 yards from the parapet and succeeded in crawling back into our trench. He was lying 10 yards to the left of me*".

Thomas's parents could therefore have been spared many months of waiting and hoping. On a brighter note we know that Thomas's younger brothers both survived the war.

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My Five Week Expedition in Namibia

by Amelie Jannoe

Spending five weeks in the Namibian Desert, with strangers and very basic resources, seemed daunting at first. However the departure day, the 21st of July, marked the beginning of the best adventure of my life thus far. The first week at Base Camp in the Numas Valley of the Brandberg Massif (Namibia's highest mountain) was spent acclimatising. It also allowed for the beginning of firm friendships to develop, as going through each others high and lows, exploring and sharing tents with them over the weeks, brought us unexpectedly close.

After health and safety training, we began our first venture to the Wetlands. Incredibly starry nights and the animals we saw gave rise to awe. Oryx, snakes, scorpions, baboons, lizards, hyena, jackals, zebra and meerkat were some, just to name a few. We had a few days back at Base Camp lugging hundreds of litres of water between us up to Advance Camp, to supply other groups in their Brandberg phase of the expedition. This was hard work, being the heaviest packs most of us had ever carried, and the rocky up-hill terrain did no favours.

Next came a seven day trek to the Skeleton coast. The landscape was simply fascinating. Walking on ground that is not likely to have been trodden upon by humans before, or at least Europeans like us, added to the feeling of achievement. Nights around the campfire, playing games and telling stories was a definite highlight for me. Though challenging, ripped trousers and feet overrun with blisters, were fortunately as serious as it got. Having a plunge in the shark infested sea amongst seal carcasses and shipwrecks was rewarding, as up to this 3.5 week mark, we were given only one 3 litre bowl of water to wash with. Otherwise wet wipes and hand sanitizer did the job. Finally we climbed to advance camps up the Brandberg to find, explore and catalogue ancient rock art by San Bushmen tribes, for the Trust of African Rock Art. One camera trap we set up, caught a Leopard 100 metres from our camp, which was not only a very lucky but breath-taking event.

Returning home was emotional, as I found it very hard to part from the beautiful environment itself, and especially from my new won friends. I have been challenged, whilst being inspired and taught in many areas, including about myself. In the meantime I have gained a Gold Duke of Edinburgh award and John Muir award for conservation. I am so thankful for the support I gained from individuals such as any of the locals who may have bought a Bolivian Bracelet from me at the Village Fete (the funds went towards this trip). Feel free to contact me on amelie.jannoe@web.de if you are interested to know more about British Schools Exploring Society (BSES) expeditions, or my experiences.



Horsington Church of England Primary School

The Many Faces of Horsington School

by Carly Markendale

Mrs Ham

September marked the beginning of the new school year and the arrival of many new families into the community. Our new children are beginning to settle and new friendships are forming. Staff are getting to know the characters in the class and the first building blocks of learning are being set in place.

Most of us have an idea of what the little ones will be learning in their first few years at school and of Ms Barker's role as class teacher, but many will be less familiar with the role of her Learning and Teaching Assistant (LTA) Mrs Ham. Ms Barker and Mrs Ham have been the combined face of Water Class for 15 years and yet one who is unfamiliar with the modern classroom may underestimate Mrs Ham's role.

Mrs Ham is qualified as a Higher Learning and Teaching Assistant and holds a formal diploma. She attends regular training courses to ensure she is up to date with best practices and also served two terms as a staff governor. While her principal role is to support Ms Barker in the classroom, she also takes sole charge from time to time while Ms Barker plans lessons.

She tells me that her role has changed over the years and that she definitely has more direct involvement with the children and more teaching responsibility than when she started. Mrs Ham loves her job at Horsington and finds working with the youngest children incredibly rewarding. She loves watching their characters develop and seeing them grow in ability and confidence.

As the classes grow in size each year and demands on teachers increase, it is imperative that there is a competent assistant on hand to support not just the teacher, but the children. As a mother of 3, I know only too well how difficult it can be to meet every child's needs. With my own daughter one of the 20 in Water Class, I certainly feel happy knowing that Ms Barker has support from Mrs Ham's more than competent hands!

Christmas Fayre at Horsington Primary School

Saturday 1st December - 10am—1pm

Santa's grotto, gifts, crafts, tombolas, raffle and much more!

If you have a spare bottle or tombola prize for our Christmas Fayre, we are collecting donations in the School Office. Thank you and we'd love to see you at the Fayre!

Lucy White, Chair, Horsington Primary School PTFA. 01963 33953

PILATES IN THE VILLAGE HALL

with Carol Pirie

HOW DOES PILATES WORK?

Based upon an anatomical understanding of the body's muscular and skeletal system, the Pilates teacher creates a comprehensive exercise programme for the client. Classes will focus on specific areas individually whilst using exercises that integrate the whole body to re-educate and restore to optimum muscular and skeletal function. It is this holistic approach that sets Pilates apart from other forms of exercise. Pilates is an invigorating form of exercise for your mind and body that will improve your strength, flexibility and overall mobility. It helps restore your body to balance. Osteopaths, physiotherapists and general practitioners recommend Pilates as one of the safest forms of exercise today. Pilates can be beneficial for just about everyone, regardless of age and fitness.

Pilates is beneficial for general fitness, specific health conditions and, of course, your overall well-being.

General Fitness

- Improves posture: Improves mobility and flexibility of the spine
- Delivers muscle tone and extensibility: Promotes a more efficient and supportive core
- Increases stability for the pelvis and shoulders
- Fosters the health of joints through improved mobility and support from the surrounding musculature
- Complements training for athletes and dancers: Integrates mind, body and spirit
- Improves quality of life

Health Conditions

- Addresses injury prevention and facilitates physical rehabilitation
- Builds better balance and co-ordination, particularly for the elderly
- Offers a safe and excellent form of exercise for ante- and postnatal women
- Alleviates aches and pains
- Helps maintain and improve bone density
- Develops the function and efficiency of the lungs with improvement in circulation
- Provides a safe and beneficial form of exercise for people with a wide range of medical conditions, including, scoliosis, osteoporosis, arthritis and multiple sclerosis

PILATES FOUNDATION

The Pilates Foundation is an international organisation for Pilates teachers and training. Founded in 1996, it brings together qualified Pilates teachers who are passionate about providing the highest standards of teaching and practice of Pilates and maintaining the principles and integrity of the work. To learn more, log on to our website www.pilatesfoundation.com

Carol was trained under the Pilates Foundation

Carol is trained in the full classical Pilates repertoire (Joseph Pilates' original series of exercises) and reflects current bio mechanical understanding of the body in her teaching. Having completed the one year Matwork training and a further two years learning to work with the apparatus, Carol now also teaches on the Matwork teacher training programme, working closely and mentoring future Matwork teachers. The Pilates Foundation is recognised by the NHS Trusts Association in its Directory of Health Service Providers.



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Bird Watch by Keith Davies

The Pied Wagtail is one of our most common local birds. It can be seen almost anywhere and is attracted to open areas such as lawns, roofs and roads where it can easily spot and catch insects. It nests both in the open countryside and in villages, often beneath roof tiles. Its constantly wagging tail and contrasting black and white plumage make it instantly recognizable. The British species has a much darker body than the one that breeds on the Continent. This has light grey upper parts and is often referred to as White Wagtail. It can be seen here on migration and its lighter tones are obvious when seen next to one of our resident birds. In winter large flocks of Pied Wagtails roost communally and often in towns as they are a couple of degrees warmer than the surrounding countryside. There is a well-known roost in the Morrison's car park in Wincanton. In October 1999 a count of 1,650 was made. It is appropriate that the new pub built nearby to support the new Travelodge hotel has been named The Wagtail.



Pied Wagtail - Stowell

The Yellow Wagtail is a summer visitor from Africa. It breeds near water on marshy pastures and waterlogged meadows. The Somerset Levels are ideal and Tealham Moor is the best place to see them. Or you might just be lucky enough to see one locally in Spring or Autumn on one of our fields as it stops off on its journey from or back to Africa. There are many subspecies but the one we see here has a bright yellow head and belly and is a striking sight.



Yellow Wagtail - Tealham Moor

Finally we have the Grey Wagtail and whilst scarce we do host a small number of them locally. They nest by water and usually less than two metres above it. There is at least one pair in Wincanton on the River Cale. Even closer to home they have been seen on the Bow Brook and, during May, there was a pair frequenting the stream running out of Horsington Pond. It was hoped this pair would breed, but they seem not to have found things to their liking and moved off. They are a very attractive bird with a grey body contrasting with black wings and bright yellow underneath. Like the Pied Wagtail they wag their long tail but in this case so strongly that the whole rear end rocks with it.



Grey Wagtail - Horsington

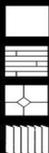


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Dear Friends, Greetings. This month the people of the United States will be going to the polls to elect a president. Why should we be interested in this election? We're barely interested in elections in our own country! Note the almost total ignorance and lack of interest in electing Police Commissioners, etc. History has shown that such apathy is the way that extremists gain power. They are not apathetic, and take advantage of ours.

As for the President of the USA - (s)he is often referred to as the most powerful person in the world. It is true that if America sneezes the world catches a cold. Indeed the last time they sneezed (financial crisis) the rest of the world got 'flu' big time! The foreign policy and actions of the USA can mean war or peace for the world.

When England had that place of influence in world affairs, an outcome was what we now call The Great War - World War I. I know that it's not as simple as that - but it is true, in my view, that how the USA acts in the world is for the harm or benefit of us all.

We don't have a vote - but we can pray to him who is King of kings, Ruler of rulers on earth. We can pray that whoever is elected that they exercise their 'rule' with God-given wisdom. That whoever holds this high office will make the world more secure and just. Surely in this month of all months such a prayer for the peace and welfare of the world is right.

Peter Hallett - halatvic @btinternet.com



St John the Baptist, Horsington

4th Nov	<i>All Saints</i> - 9.15am	Holy Communion with Sunday School
11th Nov	<i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	
	10.55am	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
	11.15pm	Service of Remembrance in Church
18th Nov	9.15am	Holy Communion
	12.30pm	Holy Baptism
25th Nov	<i>Advent Sunday</i> - 8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	6pm	Taizé Workshop

Horsington Church-wards:
Mrs Anne Jones – 370626
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley - 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

4th Nov	<i>All Saints</i> - 8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.00am	Sing Glory! Worship for all ages
	6.30pm	Evensong
11th Nov	10.55am	Service of Remembrance
18th Nov	11am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong
25th Nov	<i>Advent Sunday</i> - 11.00am	Holy Communion

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

4th Nov	<i>All Saints</i> - 11am	All Age Worship
11th Nov	10am	Service of Remembrance followed by Act of Remembrance at War Memorial
18th Nov	11am	Morning Praise
25th Nov	<i>Advent Sunday</i> - 9.30am	Holy Communion

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Trio Violetta and readings from Parson Woodforde's Diary

by Jane Jones

On Sunday afternoon September 16th a good company of people came to St. John's Church to be well entertained by Sylvie Barry (Violin), Frances Eustace (Viola) and Janet Coles (Cello). They played music by James Oswald, Joseph Haydn and Luigi Boccherini. We all appreciated this delightful music.

Between each musical item was a well chosen and amusing reading from Parson Woodforde's Diary. The music and the diary were both of the mid-eighteenth century and this gave us a good flavour of the era. Parson Woodforde was resident in Somerset for some years and is still remembered by a society which meets regularly at a "Frolic" to celebrate an insight into the everyday life of that period which he recorded in his diary for a period of 45 years. Richard Gaunt stood in the pulpit to declaim from this book with an excellent portrayal of the character of the diarist. Some readings amazed us by their descriptions of the quantity of food cooked for a dinner with friends. Others amused us by their coy references to his likes and dislikes, in particular of some young ladies whom he met in the course of his pastoral visits. After this delightful entertainment everyone had their fill of a traditional cream tea.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

by Sue Morgan

It is that time of year again and we can be pleasantly surprised that we have been able to harvest a great deal from our gardens and fields in spite of a spectacularly poor summer, though maybe we got a bit damp in the process. Each year we rotate hosting the joint harvest celebration within our benefice, and this year it was our call. On Saturday night, the 6th October 60 of us came to the village hall and enjoyed a delicious supper, organised by the faithful team from St. John's, after which we played Call My Bluff.

This proved to be a huge success. Three people from Stalbridge, raising funds for the Hospice in Dorchester, came to give us an entertaining evening with their amazing old tools. They showed us a tool, then each in turn gave a totally convincing description of it, we then by table or in groups wrote down which we credited with speaking the truth. There were 15 tools from another age and collected over many years. For instance what looked like long handled tongs with a hole on one side and a corresponding knob on the other was either, a shoe stretcher; a tool used to pull hides from a vat in the old tannery in Milborne Port or a restrainer for bulls without a ring in their nose. It turned out to be a shoe stretcher to accommodate bunions! Why no longer made I wonder? Nobody got more than nine correct!

**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.45pm on Wednesday 7th November**

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer.
Free, apart from drinks.
Further details from **Anna - 01963 370749**



**Thursday November 1st at 7.30pm
AGM - members only**

Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne: 01963 370713

The Wincanton Film Society Presents

**IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES (2000) PG-13
Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 7.30pm**

Drama: Starring Salma Hayek, Marc Anthony. Director Mariano Barroso.

Based on the book by Julia Alvaras, this fact based drama tells the story of a woman, who along with her family, found the courage to defy a corrupt dictator – the despotic Rafael Laonidas Trujillo of the Dominican Republic.

For further information contact Les Graney on 01963 371668

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Talk on *Winter Baskets* and *Containers* from Castle Gardens

Tuesday November 13th at 7.30pm in North Cheriton Village Hall

A surprise party held for Paddy Hughes in August at the Gartell Railway has raised the tremendous amount of £1,380. **Thank you** to everyone who generously donated in lieu of presents to the 2 charities, The Brain Tumour Trust, formerly the Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust (Alfie Morland supporter group) and The Children's Hospice Southwest.

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



HOME FARM TRUST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR Saturday November 24th Wincanton Memorial Hall 10am – 1.30pm

hft aims to work closely with adults with learning difficulties and their families and friends – whether it is education, health-care, housing, work requirements, or taking them on affordable holidays and short breaks.

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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

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Sunday 25th November at 6pm in St. John's Church, Horsington

The Taizé service is a quiet service of contemplation with Music led by The Pilgrim Singers from Wincanton. The music is very repetitive and everyone is encouraged to join in. Everyone, of all denominations, is welcome.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT HORSINGTON

On Christmas Eve at Horsington, the ***Candlelit Carol Service*** has been a popular event for many years. You could have a ringside seat by joining our choir for the occasion! Strangely enough, for such a fantastic role, you do not have to be a world-class singer. Breathing and willingness are the only two requirements - tuneful music and pleasurable satisfaction are supplied and guaranteed.



If you would like to join us phone ***John or Sheila Cross*** on **370249**

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 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
	PTFA	Sue Young
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
	Wardens	Anne Jones &
		Rosemarie Wigley
	Sunday School	Deidre Loftus
Scouts		Geoff Crabb
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
	Art	Gill Elston &
		Toni Salmonson
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126