

The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No. 19

February 2013



Horsington Friendly Society Banner

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 12th February 2013

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 February 2013

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Fri 1st	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
Mon 4th	Lunch	Ladies Lunch Group	The Ship at West Stour
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 5th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 6th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
	8.45pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 7th	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	WI	"
Fri 8th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 11th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 12th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	7.30pm	North Cheriton Gardeners' Society	North Cheriton Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 13th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 14th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 15th	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 16th	10.30am	Grand Book Sale and Bric-a-Brac for Roof Appeal	"
Mon 18th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 19th	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 20th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
	7.30pm	Film: Of Gods and Men	King Arthurs
Thu 21st	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
Fri 22nd	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 25th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 26th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
Wed 27th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 28th	10.00am	Art	"

Future Events:

10th March **Church Roof Fundraiser** - Talk by Richard Mead on General Sir Richard McCreery

16th March - **Village Hall Fundraiser Dinner**

3rd-6th April - **Milborne Port Opera** production of Iolanthe by Gilbert & Sullivan

Horsington Provident and Friendly Society

by Bill Candy and Bob Jones

Friendly Societies, such as the one that was active in Horsington, first started in about 1800. They existed in most villages to encourage thrift and to provide insurance through savings schemes against sickness, unemployment and death. They were funded by monthly subscriptions from members for their common benefit. Some such clubs were the origins of insurance companies, whilst others formed the seeds of Trade Unions. The squire and parson normally took leading parts in the club's affairs, and this was the case in Horsington.



The Horsington "club", as it was known, was founded sometime before 1850, and was finally wound up in 1982. Like all such Societies, they had a banner, which was paraded through the village on May Day and then brought to the church for a celebratory service. For years the banner lay forgotten in a box in St Margaret's Hall. (It was probably put there for protection during the war, and John Cross told me that it was wrapped in a sheet bearing silhouettes of enemy aircraft, the sheet having been "liberated" from the Home Guard or Royal Ordnance Corps!) It was rescued by Bill Candy, who like his father had been a club member. With the help of John Cross and John Vallins, and the Parochial Church Council, the banner has been given a permanent home in St. John's Church where it is displayed for all to see.



Modern schoolchildren being given information on "The Horsington Friendly Society".
(Inset: How it was reported in the Western Gazette)

Horsington Church of England Primary School

Sport in School by Carly Markendale

2012 will enter the history books as the 'summer of sport' after Team GB triumphed at the Olympics. Athletes from all corners of the UK united the country as we revelled in medal table glory. The promise of London 2012 was to 'inspire a generation', but can three short weeks truly leave a legacy? Once the bunting came down, was there really an increased enthusiasm for sport and are there really opportunities for children to get involved?

The role of sport in Primary Schools had become somewhat controversial before London 2012 with some Head Teachers abolishing competitive sport entirely. Concerns had been raised about the effects of pressure and disappointment on the developing child, and non-competitive sports days were beginning to take hold. With no winners or losers, simply prizes and recognition for all, it was felt by some that this encouraged an enjoyment of sport for fun, rather than sport for glory. Horsington never quite aspired to this approach, preferring the more traditional sports day, with races for all and winners stickers to third place. Perhaps this is the day when the less academic can shine. It is certainly clear from the side lines that some children are naturally faster or more competitive than others but one can never forget that natural sporting ability doesn't necessarily guarantee success in the egg and spoon.

Do the children cope with the pressure? There is the very occasional tear, usually from the youngest participants when they run the wrong way or forget to run at all, but generally the feeling is upbeat. The children seem to enjoy the day and even those who limp in last go away smiling.

So are the children of Horsington made of stronger stuff than those elsewhere? How else do they cope with the stresses of a competitive sports day when others crumble? The answer is simple. Horsington's approach to sport in school has been relatively unaffected by London 2012. As a school, we have always been competitive and sport has always featured highly on the curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to try many different sports over the years and the school has an extremely impressive record when it comes to local tournaments. The trophy cabinet positively groans under the weight of football and cross country awards!

Our after-school sports clubs boast impressive numbers and the gender biases that were once common have long since been overcome. The netball club is as popular with boys as girls and girls can be found playing alongside the boys at football. The opportunities for children to take up sport as a hobby are certainly offered and are without question, accepted. But what of PE and compulsory sport and can it really be prioritised in the modern school? Government research identified that many primary teachers feel ill prepared to teach sport and find that other classroom pressures force PE to the bottom of the list. In the wake of 2012, David Cameron announced that 'ideally' schools should employ PE specialists to ensure top quality sports provision. This suggestion of course cannot be enforced as there is simply no extra money on offer to schools to make this possible. Horsington however, didn't need Seb Coe and his pals to bring this to our attention. The school has in fact been using local PE specialists E4S to provide top quality sports provision for some time and pupils even go off-site for some PE lessons at the local leisure centre to ensure maximum benefits. The children respond very well to their specialist coaching and this perhaps explains how such a small, state school can compete with larger and often privately funded schools in the area.

Our facilities may be modest, our budget limited and our curriculum busy, but it seems that we're doing a pretty good job of inspiring the next generation all on our own. The razzmatazz of the Olympics has without doubt opened our children's eyes to the world of professional sport but we must remember, 'It's not the winning, it's the taking part that counts'... Just remind me of that on the start line of the Mums' Race next year!

Horsington Christmas Fayre

by Samantha Nancarrow – Parent Governor

Horsington Primary School had a very special visit over the Christmas period at our School Fayre –“Snowflake” and “Cupid”, a male and female reindeer took a break from their busy schedule in the North Pole to come and allow our children to stroke and feed them. They were accompanied by Sara Sutton from Somerset Reindeer Hire, who had a wealth of knowledge to answer questions from our very excited children. The children’s faces were magical when they walked into the prepared reindeer shed for the first time! Cupid, the male reindeer, had large velvet antlers and he was very friendly and inquisitive, while Snowflake (the smaller antlered female reindeer) seemed content to stay in the background and allow Cupid to do all the entertaining. Sara had brought along some old antlers, which had fallen off one of the reindeers last year and the children were able to handle these.

Many of the families had their pictures taken with “Snowflake” and “Cupid” – even Father Christmas managed to take a break from handing out the gifts to have his picture taken with the beautiful animals.

I was given the task of trying to find something different for the Fayre this year and I felt it was very magical and successful for the children and adults alike, since it was the first time that many people had seen a real reindeer! I am not sure how we are going to top it next year – if you have any suggestions, let me know!



Father Christmas and his reindeer with the school children

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My Place

Written by Sue Howell (by kind permission of Colin Howell)

I came here as a bride...

Now, thirty- five years on, we are woven into each other's history, this place and I.

What have I given it?

As teacher, chorister, cricket-tea maker, football club secretary and WI member, I have given it service,

But, most of all, I have given it my heart.

And what has it given me?

A bundle of shared memories, intimate associations and watched-for seasonal signs.

It has told me its story,

Through the mouths of older folk,

Through the marks still written on its landscape.

The marsh, like a saucer, curved hills rimming it,

The lone tree on the horizon, secretly significant to me,

King Alfred's Tower, a distant punctuation on the skyline,

Are all part of our daily scene.

Remember the year the field erupted with mushrooms,

The lane was full of glow-worms,

The winter of the deep snow when we walked level with the hedge-tops.

Remember the stone-edged hole-in-the-wall that the children climbed through,

The raft-testing duck pond,

The churnstand for jumping off on the way home from school,

And the field where Lucy's boots came off in the mud.

Full of reminiscences of when and where,

This place is my place, our place.

We are so deeply engrained in it,

It owns our souls.

August 2004

Sue died in October 2012 and her obituary appeared in our last issue

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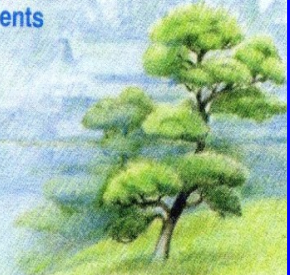
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Garden Watch - The February Garden

by Muddie Wellies

February shows the signs of spring just around the corner, crocus are up, narcissi and early daffodils are showing their bright, cheerful flowers, making us all feel more positive, even on those hopefully occasional dark winter days.

Weather permitting, get yourself out into the garden, even if the first couple of times you just wander round your 'estate' deciding what needs to be done and prioritising your job list. Don't forget to put your secateurs in your pocket, and take a bucket with you, to trim those stray bits and tidy up that corner you keep meaning to sort. Somehow even twenty minutes in the garden makes you feel better and brighter.

Deadheading the winter pansies is another one of those jobs best done when wandering round, I find I always mean to do it when out in the garden, but get sidetracked by 'bigger' jobs that just need to be done now! Prune wisteria, shorten all the side shoots to about 5cms. Cutback stems of late flowering clematis near to the ground. Lift, divide and replant clumps of winter aconites. Shrubs that you want to move should be dealt with now giving them time to settle in before the growing season really gets under way. Cut down autumn fruiting raspberries. Firm soil around plants if there has been frosts or a lot of wind and rain. Renew compost to the top of any permanently planted containers - the recent continuous rain will have leached out any goodness previously in the soil.

Now is a good time to get your mower serviced, before you need it. Empty greenhouses should be thoroughly cleaned if you didn't get a chance before. Clear them out, wash down glass, frames and staging. Whilst you are cleaning, it would be a good idea to empty and wash out any water butts.

Check variegated shrubs for reversion (shoots that have grown a plain green) and remove the shoots at their base to reduce competition. Left to grow on, the plain green shoots, will soon outgrow the variegated stems and spoil the appearance of the plant. Use cloches to warm up areas of soil outdoors, for sowing and planting - fleece or plastic sheeting held down at the edges with pegs or bricks will do as good a job. Sow pots of annuals to create early flowers, and plant up pots and baskets with bright flowering primula and polyanthus to give colourful spring displays, and cheer you up as well. Start begonia tubers off for summer colour and seeds indoors as well as your seed potatoes (egg boxes or trays work well to hold potatoes) in good light and warmth.

February is a good month to make jam from all that lovely fruit you picked last summer and froze. I find I always seem to have a lot of blackberries in the freezer at the end of the winter, so I plan to make some blackberry and apple jelly - you only need about 1 cooking apple per pound of berries. I also plan to make some more Cassis with the great blackcurrants I have sitting in the bottom of my freezer. There is nothing like a glass of Kir Royale before your Easter lunch and to know you grew the ingredients, even if it was last year! Happy sowing, planting and enjoying the fruits of your labour on the days you don't get your hands dirty!

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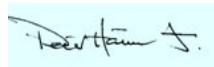
Dear Friends, Greetings. As this is the first edition of The Villager in 2013, let me begin by wishing you all a Happy New Year. I had an email the other day from a company I deal with – the essence of which was Christmas is over – now we can get back to normality! I was not sure whether they thought Christmas was a good thing, or a distraction.

But before Christmas completely disappears off the radar, let me correct one thing. Each year we produce a card advertising our Christmas Services. This year I was pleased to be able to do that using a picture of Horsington Church in the snow. I want to acknowledge that that picture was kindly given to us to use by Peter Gripper.

This month sees the beginning of Lent – a time when Christians prepare for the celebration of Easter by reflecting their faith and service of the God we serve. This year Rev'd Ian Coomber has organised a number of talks to take place on Sunday afternoons in Templecombe Church. Remarkably he has managed to get very significant people from the diocese, including Bishop Peter Maurice, to come and reflect on issues confronting Christians today. You should find a handbill with this magazine advertising these talks. I do commend them to you.

As we go into the unknown future I wish you every blessing.

Peter Hallett - halatvic@btinternet.com



St John the Baptist, Horsington

3rd Feb (Candlemas)	9.15am	Holy Communion with Sunday School
10th Feb	11.00am	Morning Prayer
13th Feb (Ash Wednesday)	7.30pm	Holy Communion at Templecombe
17th Feb	9.15am	Holy Communion
24th Feb	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

**Horsington
Churchwardens**
Mrs Anne Jones
370626
Mrs Rosemarie
Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

3rd Feb (Candlemas)	11.00am	Sing Glory! All Age Worship
	6.30pm	Evensong
10th Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion
13th Feb (Ash Wednesday)	7.30 pm	Holy Communion at T/combe
17th Feb	11.00am	Morning Prayer
	6.30pm	Evensong
24th Feb	11.00am	Holy Communion

Christmas Tea and Chat

Thank you to
Philippa and
Andrew for hosting
us and Thank you to
all who supported.
£70 was raised for
the "Live at Home
Scheme".

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

3rd Feb (Candlemas)	11.00am	All Age Worship
10th Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion
13th Feb (Ash Wednesday)	7.30pm	Holy Communion
17th Feb	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion

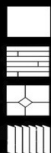


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In aid of St. John's Roof Appeal

GRAND COFFEE MORNING

with sale of Hundreds of books and Bric-a-Brac

in

The Village Hall

on

Saturday, 16th February

10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Everyone welcome



The Horsington & South Cheriton Jubilee Party **DVD** is still available. It includes bonus tracks on bell ringing and the 1953 coronation. **All proceeds** go to the **Roof Fund**.

Available from Richard Gaunt tel: 371572 and costs £10.

Sunday 10th March

at

4pm in St. John's Church Horsington

a talk on his book of the career of

General Sir Richard McCreery

late of Horsington

“The Last Great Cavalry Man”

by Richard Mead

This will be followed by a **cream tea**

Suggested donation for Church Roof Fund £8

For Tickets phone 01963 371478 or available at the door.

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

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



7th February 2013 - St Margaret's Hall - Speaker Aileen Hase
'Experiences in raising a family of 4 and teaching
in a Chinese School in Hong Kong'

Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne: 01963 370713

The Wincanton Film Society Presents

**OF GODS AND MEN (2010) PG-13
Wednesday February 20th at 7.30pm**

Lambert Wilson, Michael Lonsdale. Director Xavier Beauvois.

Eight monks live with their Muslim brothers in a monastery in North Africa in the 1990's
Islamic fundamentalists massacre a crew of foreign workers. Do the monks stay or leave?

For further information contact Les Graney on 01963 371668

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

*Talk – Alan Power, Garden and Estate Manager of Stourhead, joins us to talk about
how the garden was as much a visitor attraction in the 1700s as it is today*

Tuesday February 12th at 7.30pm in North Cheriton Village Hall

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was
cited for littering.



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



CALLING ALL VILLAGERS YOUNG AND OLD THE VILLAGER NEEDS YOU

We are sure that many of you must have interesting stories to tell of your lives, careers, hobbies or even travels. If you feel that you would like to share your memories with us through the pages of the Villager Magazine, please call 371668 and we can chat about it.

French and/or Italian Conversation

Do you want to learn a new language, get some practice or improve your oral/writing, or learn about France or Italian cultures?

Having recently moved into Horsington, I will be happy to create a French and/or Italian class. Being French and married to an Italian, I could teach one or the other, or even both at different times if requested. To do so, I need to understand first if there is any interest for it, and if so the level of the participants and their availabilities.

Please let me know your expectations/comments/suggestions.

07894 470 402 or jmortalotti@email.com.

Au revoir, ci vediamo presto! Jeanne Mortarotti

SAVE THE DATE

St Margaret's Hall Committee will be holding its popular Village Hall fundraiser Dinner on the evening of 16th March 2013. **St Patrick's Day** will be the theme. A Golden opportunity to meet new people in the villages of Horsington and South Cheriton or reacquaint yourself with old friends.

Book your seat at the table with **John Macdonald** on **370444**. Tickets will be available from mid February.

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

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Bridge	Phil Bennett	370273
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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	Lucy White	33953
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Marsh Meadows Nursery	Mary Taylor	370607
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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	Deirdre 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 Macdonald
	Bookings	Emilie Gordon
Art	Gill Elston & Toni Salmonson	371396 370236 370235
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126