

The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No. 23

June 2013



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

| Day/Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|-----------------|---------|--|-------------------------|
| Mon 3rd | 6.00pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| | Lunch | Ladies Lunch Group | Benett Arms, Semley |
| Tue 4th | 10.30am | Upholstery | Village Hall |
| Wed 5th | 6.15pm | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| | 8.45pm | Music Night | Half Moon Inn |
| Thu 6th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| | 3.30pm | School Academy Conversion Information Meeting | Horsington School |
| | 6.30pm | " " " " " | " |
| | 7.30pm | WI | Village Hall |
| Fri 7th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Mon 10th | 6.00pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 11th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 6.00pm | North Cheriton Gardeners' Society | Frith House, Stalbridge |
| Wed 12th | 6.15pm | Adult Tap Dancing | Village Hall |
| Thu 13th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| | 7.30pm | Parish Council Meeting | " |
| Fri 14th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Sat 15th | 2-5pm | Village Fete | Horsington School |
| Mon 17th | 6.00pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| Tue 18th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| Wed 19th | 6.15pm | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| | 7.00pm | AGM & Film: Flight (2012) | King Arthurs |
| Thu 20th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| Fri 21st | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Mon 24th | 6.00pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 25th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| Wed 26th | 6.15pm | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| | 2.30pm | Tea & Chat | St John's Church |
| Thu 27th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| Fri 28th | 10.00am | Art | " |



The Horsington Friday Morning Painting Group is holding an Exhibition of their recent work for five days (from 25th–29th) June, in the Butterfly Room at Castle Gardens, Sherborne. A wide range of subjects and media. Free Admission!

Magic and Gem
by Toni Salmonson

When our last old dog died we, being of a certain age, thought we should find a replacement that wouldn't need too much exercise and that wouldn't be likely to outlive us. The obvious choice? a rescued greyhound! If you're going to have one, you might as well have two and the warm satisfaction of giving a home to two poor, sad, abandoned creatures whose lives would otherwise almost certainly be prematurely ended.

GRWE – Greyhound Rescue West of England – ‘earmarked’ two for us and we went to their kennels to pick them up. Gem is a brindle dog, ex-racer, now 10 years old. Magic, a little younger, is a black bitch, history unknown. Earmarking, literally, shows where racing dogs were registered. Gem has the Irish number in one ear and the English one in the other. Magic has a similar green ink mark but it has been obscured. What was her illegal past, we wonder? She's very fast. Gem's pedigree and racing history are on the Web. He came to us in good condition and with a generally laid-back attitude to life, unless other dogs entered his new territory. Magic was nervous and depressed, thin and with nasty bare patches in her coat. It was a fortnight before she could look us in the eye.

Greyhounds are bred for speed and temperament. They race at over 40 m.p.h. but in short bursts. Very long and complete rest, Gem will tell you, is otherwise the order of the day. Also accustomed to being walked together on leads, they adapt their pace comfortably to that of the walker and don't usually pull. 30–40 minutes every morning seems to be enough, and 20–30 minutes most afternoons. Off-lead, they only chase animals that run away and only while they can see them, so deer, rabbits and foxes live on unharmed. And both dogs now accept neighbours' dogs, if properly introduced, and walk or play with them. Cats are a different matter but some greyhounds are cat-friendly. Temperamentally, they are sociable and affectionate. Magic now wants to greet everyone she meets and is an inveterate jumper-upper.

GRWE sends all its rescued dogs out neutered, microchipped and vaccinated and insists that, if you find yourself unable to keep the dog, you return it to them for re-homing. They check to ensure that you're likely to provide a suitable home and then again, when you've had the dog for a while, to make sure that everyone is happy. If you have any problems, you can always ring them for advice. Ours came house-trained and responding to 'No!' But our house is now his kennel and all the food in it is necessarily his so Gem, by our standard, is a terrible thief. Loaves, butter, things in polybags, things in packets or paper-bags are all his so we have to be very watchful and prepared. Magic was, at first, a Great Escaper and people in the neighbourhood would ring, our phone number being on her collar, to tell us she was safely with them. Now we can all trust each other most of the time (except in kitchen or dining-room) and we enjoy each other's company very much.

An excellent book is *Retired Greyhounds* by Carol Baby and GRWE has an informative website.

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Kilve Court Residential Trip

Through a Mother's Eyes – Sam Nancarrow, Parent Governor

Our very excited Year 5 and 6 are preparing to go to Kilve Court Outdoor Education Centre again at the end of the month. Parents have been given the list of clothes, towels and bedding to pack: wellies, old trainers for the stream walk, old clothes for the grass sledging, a sleeping bag, and a camera to capture the exciting adventures that they are going to have.

As a parent of a Year 6 child who is going, it is a very apprehensive time, even though I know he will not think twice about us whilst he is there – three nights being away from home, sleeping in the dorms amongst all their friends.

I have spent weeks teaching him how to put a flat-sheet on a mattress, how difficult can it be?!!, naming his clothes, each of his twenty black socks, making sure he watches them being placed into his bag to ensure that they come back again. Maybe he will find some clothes with his name clearly written in that he left behind last year!

Our children are very lucky to be able to have this experience and very fortunate that year after year the patient teachers and support teachers go back to Kilve with them, although I am sure they enjoy the activities too! Each child that goes will, in many years, still have precious memories from Kilve even though their parents count the days, minutes and hours that they are away.

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**Academy Conversion Information Meetings
Thursday 6 June 2013, 3.30pm and 6.30pm
Horsington Primary School**

In September 2012, the Governing Body at Horsington Primary School voted unanimously to convert to becoming an academy. Since this time, the Governing Body has been working hard investigating the best way for the school to convert. As a small school we do not believe it would be practical to convert alone, so other avenues for conversion have been explored.

On Tuesday 16 April 2013, the Governing Body voted to convert to an academy, as part of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Board of Education's Multi Academy Trust.

On Thursday 6 June 2013, the Governing Body will host two information meetings at Horsington Primary School for parents and members of the local community. They will take place at 3.30pm and 6.30pm (the meetings are being repeated to allow as many people as possible to attend, but there is no need to attend both). At the meetings the Governing Body will explain the reasons for converting to an academy and why they have decided to convert in this particular way.

If, in the meantime, you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email LJAllen1@educ.somerset.gov.uk. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you in June.

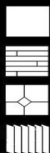


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Farm Watch

by Chris Bailward

FROM FARM TO FORK



Do you stop and think about the food that you buy? In 1957, three years after war-time rationing was lifted, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that the average British Household spent 33% of its disposable income on food and a further 3% on alcohol. The proportionate spend on alcohol today has not altered – still 3% of household income – but the proportion spent on food has more than halved to 15% and is still falling. You might say that this demonstration of Engels’ Law which states that, as income rises, the *proportion* of income spent on food falls, even if *actual* expenditure on food rises, is a statement of the bleeding obvious. After all we can only eat so much food; even if most of us eat far more than we need to, so as household income rises, less, proportionately, will be spent on food.

However let’s examine this a bit more deeply. Capitalism and free trade have ensured that prices are driven down to a level at which producers are barely able to make a profit for their labour and capital investment. The price at which they can sell their product, whether it is vegetables, grain or meat is squeezed by the buyers for the arch capitalist supermarkets of the western world who need to both compete for shoppers in their stores and provide a return to their shareholders. The net result is a lot of unhappy producers and, ultimately when some finally accept that they cannot continue to trade at a loss, fewer producers. Nowhere is this more visible than in the British pig industry where the national breeding herd has more than halved since 1996, the slack being taken up by imports, now, increasingly, from Eastern Europe where welfare standards are lower. I’ve personally decided it’s not worth continuing to produce pigs. The cost of feed which is about 85% of the cost of production has more than doubled in the last 5 years whilst the price of pork has only increased by about 60%, from a very low starting point. So the pigs are going, gradually, and we shall grow a bit more corn to sell and maybe expand the suckler cow herd. The children at the school will not be able to look over the wall and see our spotty pigs rooting around in all weathers and we shall lose the pleasures of pig-keeping

As a Nation we are only about 70% self-sufficient in food that we are *able* to produce in this country: in other words we import 30% of food that we *could* be growing here because it is more cost effective for buyers to bring it in from overseas with the consequent environmental cost of transport. Free marketeers say hooray, the market is working and our citizens have the cheapest food possible but there is a cost to our industry which leads to a gradual decline, as producers postpone investment that will allow them to flourish in the future.

I am not advocating protecting our industry from outside influence, even if, with our membership of the EC, that was remotely possible. I am simply asking you to consider where your food comes from, whether you are in the supermarket or local shops, or sitting down to a meal in a restaurant or burger bar. If you altered your spending so that you bought local produce as much as possible, you would not only have the healthiest and tastiest food, you would also help to keep British producers in business for very little proportionate increase in your household budget. Please support local farmers’ markets, butchers and greengrocers and if you’re in the supermarket prefer seasonal British produce. If in doubt as to the origin, just *ask*.

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Parish Council Report by Angela Clayton

Horsington Telephone Box – Plans are underway to fit out the telephone box with shelving, in preparation for its use as a library/book exchange. Volunteers are needed to stock and manage the books, so if you can spare some time please contact Parish Clerk, David Chapman (370527), or Angela Clayton (371257) for more details.

Village Fete June 15th – Angela Clayton and Belinda Mann will be running a Home Produce Stall in aid of Barnardos. Any donations of locally grown fruit and vegetables, jams, chutneys, honey, elderflower cordial, plants etc would be gratefully received. We can collect – please call Angela (371257) or Belinda (371135). Many thanks.

The Villager Coffee Morning

The Villager hosted a Coffee Morning on Saturday 13th April. There was a good crowd and, in the spirit of the magazine, it helped to foster a community spirit and it was great to see the mixing and meeting of old acquaintances and new ones. The refreshments were appreciated and it seemed a good opportunity for anyone who wished to meet others informally. There was even a suggestion that it might become an annual event!



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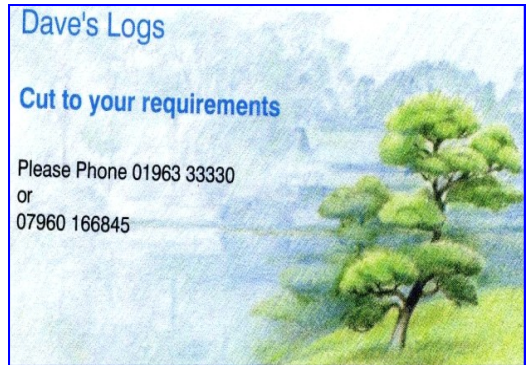
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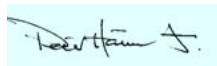
From the Rector

Bridget, my wife, always wanted to go and see the musical *Les Misérables*. I have to admit that I was never that keen – but she likes theatre, and I like film. The nearest we got was buying the DVD of the 25th Anniversary at the O2 Arena. I was a convert! I loved the story and the music. Not long after, I noticed that the film was available on one of the ‘On Demand’ Channels on the TV – so I watched. I was fascinated to discover that it was not a musical but a straight drama. This put some of the meat on the bones of the story as presented in the musical. As soon as it came out on film we were there – and it’s been pre-ordered from Amazon almost as soon as you could do that.

I had so enjoyed it that I thought I’d read the book and downloaded it on to my Kindle App. There it sat whilst I finished reading other things. In the meantime I read a fascinating review of a book about the Theology of *Les Misérables*. I must admit some puzzlement until I read the book. I say read – I am still in the midst of reading it – I am just over a third of the way through. Now I understand what the reviewer meant about the Theology of the story! There are chapters upon chapters of stuff which can only be called Theology, in which I find it difficult to see a direct relationship with the story.

At this point I have two impressions. First, the absolute admiration for the French guy who was able to distil this story into the musical which many of us enjoy. It was an amazing insight to see and adapt this story so brilliantly. Second, I stand in awe of the Bishop who barely gets a mention in the musical but is an essential foundation in the story: and the impact of the Bishop on the hero of the story, Jean Valjean – who is transformed by the Bishop. It reminded me of something I heard a long time ago: Christianity is not taught it is caught.

Peter Hallett - halatvic@btinternet.com



St John the Baptist, Horsington

| | | |
|-----------|--------|--|
| June 2nd | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Sunday School |
| June 9th | 11am | Morning Prayer |
| June 16th | 9.15am | Holy Communion |
| June 23rd | 8.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| June 30th | 10am | Benefice United Service in Templecombe URC |

Horsington Churchwardens

Mrs Anne Jones 370626
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------|---|
| June 2 nd | 8am | Holy Communion (BCP) – 11am All Age Worship – 6.30pm Evensong |
| June 9th | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| June 16 th | 11am | Morning Prayer – 6.30pm Evensong |
| June 23 rd | 11am | Holy Communion |
| June 30th | 10am | Benefice United Service in Templecombe URC |

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

| | | |
|-----------|--------|--|
| June 2nd | 11am | All Age Worship |
| June 9th | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| June 16th | 11am | Holy Communion |
| June 23rd | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| June 30th | 10am | Benefice United Service in Templecombe URC |

The Unsuspecting Sky by Carolyn Fisher ©

In memory of a much loved Grandpa Wilfred Hasell 1901–1984

After Grandma died
and farm was sold, Grandpa came to live
with us, I was five.

He never touched a drop of milk,

legacy of years at an udder,
but enjoyed a spot of cheese
with his home-brewed beer. A regular
at the Half Moon, where once

a fortnight his friends carved
up a full fat moon cheddar.

After pocketing his quarter
he'd sail a tight tack home down

Somerset lanes in an ancient
Rover. He taught me to aim
at the unsuspecting sky just in front
of the pheasant, to lean hard

into the butt's backhander
so his double-barrelled duck-gun
didn't dislocate my ten year old shoulder.
He trained horses to plough,

could pluck a pigeon, had eaten badger,
rode to hounds before foxhunting
became a political agenda.
I remember how, as kids

we wound him up,
how he chimed: the time he woke to find
his phobia planted on his lap,
the cat ricocheting

round the room as he came after
us like a loaded semi-trailer.
A big man, and later
in life nearly blind, he'd sit for hours

in a darkened room
with hands resting on the arms
of his chair as if they were two children
he was blessing.

Carolyn Fisher, daughter of Sue and Lewis Morgan, was brought up in Cabbage Lane. She trained as a physiotherapist, married in St John's Church and emigrated to Tasmania where she became a physiotherapist in a nursing home. She was awarded the poetry prize of Australia two years running and was included in the "Book of the Best Australian Poems".

Garden Watch

by Muddy Wellies



The June Garden

After an improvement in weather over the spring, especially the first week in May, what does it have in store for us in the coming months, if only we knew! Let us hope we can enjoy our gardens, both working and admiring, in sunshine.

Feed border plants with a soluble feed, if weather dry, they need a boost after their spring flush of growth. Prune flowering shrubs to generate flowering shoots for next year. Divide bearded iris after flowering and replant the young rhizomes to provide more plants and encourage more flowers. Deadhead camellias and rhododendrons. Start to sow sweet william seed for planting out in autumn. Remove old flowers and leaves from hellebores. Remove blanket and duckweed from ponds and add new aquatic plants early this month.

Mow lawns regularly, raise the cutting height if weather hot and dry, lawns survive longer and stay greener this way in dry conditions. Apply a high nitrogen summer lawn feed if it is wet, but not in drought, unless you are prepared to water regularly.

Sweet peas are prone to slug attack, put soot or dry wood ash around young plants as a deterrent. Keep an eye out for powdery mildew if weather warmer. Damp down greenhouse floors to raise humidity and discourage red spider mite.

Tender vegetables should be planted out, peppers, courgettes, squash, sweetcorn, outdoor cucumbers, runner beans, french beans, tomatillos, cucamelons and inca berries. Pinch out developing side shoots on cordon grown tomatoes. When planting out thirsty plants, such as courgettes, plant into a dip so that the water runs down to the roots and collects.

Wall trained cherry and plum trees need to be pruned, cut out crossing and weak shoots, if you prune now it will avoid silver leaf disease. Start to harvest first early 'new' potatoes, dig them up once the plants begin flowering.

Leafy vegetables, containers and newly planted ornamentals are priorities for water, should we be lucky enough to have a hot dry summer rather than the usual wet one. Use generous size containers and combine water retaining gel with compost, this swells up when soaked and slowly releases water. Group pots together, as this way they create a small humid micro-climate between them. Thus their leaves lose less moisture and in turn the plants need less water. Mulch the surface of containers with something decorative such as slate, or gravel, this both looks attractive and keeps the compost cool as well as cutting down soil evaporation.

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

This is a small, friendly gardening club that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the North Cheriton Village Hall. Throughout the year we have talks, garden visits and an annual show – plus other events, including discounts from seed companies and Castle Gardens in Sherborne. So, whether you are an experienced gardener or a complete beginner, I am sure there will be something of interest and it is a great way of meeting people, especially if you are new to the area. The first meeting is free, so why not come along and see if you like us!

Please call either **Jean Handy** (371720) or **Pat Holmes** (370017) for further information.

**Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington
at 8.45pm on Wednesday June 5th**

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



Thursday 6th June – 7.30pm at St Margaret's Hall

Ralph Jerram - "Incorrect Political Correctness"

Contact: Mrs Jackie Pyne – 370713

The Wincanton Film Society Presents

Flight (2012) PG-15

Wednesday June 19th at 7.30pm (preceded by AGM at 7.00pm)

Director Robert Zemeckis Starring Denzel Washington, John Goodman

An airline pilot saves almost all his passengers on his malfunctioning airliner which eventually crashes, but an investigation into the accident reveals something troubling.

For further information contact Les Graney on 371668

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Visit to Frith House Gardens in Stalbridge on Tuesday 11th June – 6pm

Please call Pat Holmes (370017) for further information.

TEA AND CHAT

Join us for a cup of tea and a biscuit in St John's Church,
Horsington on Wednesday 26th June – 2.30pm

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

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

INVITATION to BISHOP PETER'S RETIREMENT SERVICE and PARTY

on
Saturday 22nd June 2013, 2pm at Wells Cathedral and
Cathedral Green

An invitation to all parishioners.

As the Cathedral will most likely be full, the Service
may spill over onto the Cathedral Green.



Bring a picnic to join in after the Service on Cathedral Green

Horsington Village Fete

Saturday 15th June 2013 2-5pm

At Horsington Church of England Primary School

Traditional village fete stalls and games including ice creams, freshly made
candy floss and popcorn, teas, cake stall,
tombolas, skittles, pony rides, ferret racing, stocks,
bouncy slide, plant stall, produce, craft and jewellery stalls. BBQ and beer
& cider tent plus lots more to entertain you.

Raffle with £100 first prize sponsored by Blackacre Farm

All welcome

Volunteers needed to help with setting up the fete, please contact
Lucy White on 33953

WANTED: BOOKS and BRIC-A-BRAC FOR VILLAGE FETE STALL

We are hoping to completely re-stock the stall this year and would welcome donations of both books and items of bric-a-brac before Saturday 15th June.

We can collect.

For **Books** contact **John Cross** 370249

For **Bric-a-brac** contact **Rosemarie Wigley** 371478

CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

| NAME | CONTACT | TEL NO |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Bellringing | Anna Piechna | 370749 |
| 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 | Lucy White | 33953 |
| French/Italian Conversation | Jeanne Mortarotti | 370021 |
| 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 & | 370626 |
| | Rosemarie Wigley | 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 Macdonald |
| | Bookings | Emilie Gordon |
| Art | Gill Elston & | 371396 |
| | Toni Salmonson | 370236 |
| Badminton | Frank Beach | 370235 |
| Dance | Louise Holliday | 370767 |
| Football | Simon Howell | 362689 |
| Pilates | Carol Pirie | 07730 314959 |
| Upholstery | Jean Powell | 07885 798032 |
| | | 01747 841126 |