

The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 37

November 2014



Ploegsteert cemetery where men of the Somerset Light infantry are buried

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info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on Wednesday 12th November 2014

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 2014

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mon 3rd	Lunch 6.00pm	Ladies Lunch Group Pilates	Hunters Moon, Middlemarsh Village Hall
Tues 4th	10.30am 8.00pm	Upholstery Badminton	" "
Wed 5th	6.15pm 8.45pm	Adult Tap Dancing Music Night	" Half Moon Inn
Thu 6th	10.00am 7.30pm	Art WI – Christmas Customs	Village Hall "
Fri 7th	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 8th	7.00pm	Village Hall Dinner	"
Mon 10th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 11th	10.30am 7.30pm	Upholstery North Cheriton Gardeners' Society	" North Cheriton Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 12th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 13th	10.00am 7.30pm	Art Parish Council Meeting	" "
Fri 14th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 17th	6.00pm	Pilates	"
Tue 18th	10.30am 7.30pm	Upholstery Film: The Wolf of Wall Street	" King Arthurs
	8.00pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Wed 19th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 20th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 21st	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 22nd	10.00am	Home Farm Trust Annual Christmas Bazaar	Wincanton Memorial Hall
Mon 24th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 25th	10.30am 8.00pm	Upholstery Badminton	" "
Wed 26th	6.15pm	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 27th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 28th	10.00am	Art	"

Future Events:

- **Candlelit Carol Service – Christmas Eve**
- **Christmas Tea & Chat – 3rd December**

Cover page and page 4 photograph provided by John Vallins

The Western Front

by John Vallins

We have all been reminded this particular year that scarcely a family was untouched by loss during the First World War. And something of the scale of loss was brought home to us when we joined the packed crowd at the Menin Gate on a summer evening in Ypres, with many school parties from Britain and some from Germany, for the ceremony at which buglers sound Last Post and, after the silence, Reveille, and families of the fallen lay wreaths. The gate bears the names of 54,890 whose bodies were never found or identified, and whose memorial inscription is 'Known unto God'.

We were there because, by a series of chance connections with some folk in Chiswick and others in Australia, we had now, for the first time, got to know that one of our two families lost two sons on the Somme, and the other had a son in the Australian army who fought there, won a medal for bravery, and survived to die in 1942, apparently poor and alone, and was buried in an unmarked grave in Queensland. Neither of us had known anything of these three men but now we were to visit the place where all three of them had fought and two of them had died.

We were expertly guided by the archivist of King's School, Bruton, an old friend, who is researching the graves and histories of the Old Boys of that school and of the men named on Bruton town War Memorial who died on the Western front. We went through the channel tunnel and drove straight to 'The Silent Picket', a house in the village of Martinpuisch, where an English couple offer hospitality combined with expert and detailed knowledge of the battlefields. In the evening, I mentioned my great uncle, Lance Corporal Herbert Vallins of the 12th Australian infantry battalion, and what I knew of his brave action at Dernancourt. Overnight, our host researched the relevant action in Australian war diaries, and, almost unbelievably, next morning, took us on a short drive to the very scene, beside the railway embankment, where, with his Lewis Gun, Herbert was (to quote the citation for his award of the Military Medal) 'largely responsible for driving the enemy back off his sector.....and although very ill, refused to leave the line until wounded...' We just stood and marvelled.

Nearby we had looked down across miles of the now green and fertile valley of the Somme from the lookout where General Rawlinson, on the terrible first day of the battle, saw the horrors unfolding below. And at Delville wood, we saw 'the last tree', said to have been the only survivor when all the rest were blackened stumps.

The vast and imposing memorial designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens at Thiepval dominates the surrounding landscape from a high ridge, and bears 72,194 names of those 'to whom the fortunes of war denied the known and honoured graves given to their comrades in death', and it was high up on one of the beautifully inscribed stone panels there that we found the name of Private Frank Coombs, of the London Rifles, one of Sallie's two uncles who both died in July 1916. The people of St Michael's Church, Chiswick, have researched the names of all those listed on the war memorial there and they had contacted Sallie about these two uncles of hers of whose lives and deaths she had never heard before. Frank and his brother Leslie had been amongst the first from the parish to volunteer for service in 1914, Leslie in the 'Stockbrokers' battalion' of the Royal Fusiliers. And it was at the cemetery at Puchevillers, with rows of headstones shoulder to shoulder where great numbers had died at the casualty station there that we found his headstone. He had died of wounds on 12 July.

Later, we were shown the grave of the youngest soldier known to have been killed on the Western Front, Private Albert French, aged 16, and we walked to a cemetery in a lovely clearing made in the woods at Ploegsteert (familiarily called Plugstreet by the British), where many of the Somerset Light infantry, including Brutonians, are buried.

Then, not far away, we saw the Christmas Truce Cross. It marks the place where soldiers of both sides laid down their weapons, clambered out of their trenches, and went to meet in No Man's Land, greeting each other peaceably as fellow human beings.

Thiepval Memorial designed by Lutyens



PTFA
by Lucy Mackay

September 2014 saw some changes to the PTFA, Lucy White decided it was time to step down as Chairperson of the committee. Lucy White has been dedicated to the PTFA and organised many successful events as well as bringing new initiatives and fundraising ideas to the committee. Lucy Mackay now steps into the position of Chairperson, (hoping the same name will bring good fortune) with a strong committee of parents in place it is the committee's intention to continue working hard to raise funds for the school and have fun whilst doing so. The committee are currently planning a school disco for children on Friday 17th October which will take place in the village hall.

Planning is also well under way for this year's Christmas Fayre which will be held on **Saturday 6th December at Gartells Light Railway**, Yenston. The Christmas Fayre is set to offer lots of fun for children with a free train ride, lots of arts and crafts, Christmas grotto to meet Father Christmas, local trade stalls and merchandise for Christmas gifts all accompanied by refreshments and a festive atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you all on the day and will continue to work hard to ensure a great day for all.

www.horsingtonprimary.co.uk

www.facebook.com/HorsingtonSchool

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TEA AND CHAT

Wednesday 3rd December 2014 – 3pm at the Half Moon.

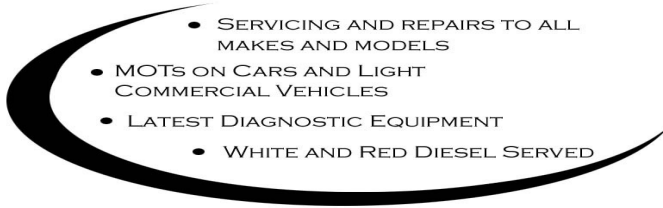
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In aid of a local charity chosen by popular consent.

All welcome. Jean Handy 371720

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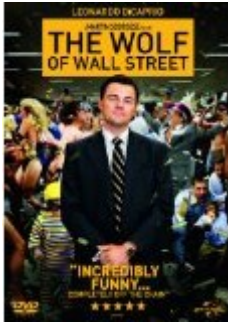
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You, your Dog and the Countryside

Neospora abortion is now the most commonly diagnosed cause of abortion in cattle and is a serious concern for UK farmers. It can be caused by cattle ingesting the protozoan parasite which may be carried by dogs and excreted in their faeces. With your help, the risk of cattle becoming infected can be significantly reduced by ensuring that all your dog's faeces are picked up when walking in the countryside. Please remember to carry a litter bag with you and take it to your nearest dog litter bin for disposal. Please adhere to 'The Countryside Code' and help protect the countryside and the animals that live in it. A new leaflet entitled 'Enjoy the countryside responsibly with your dog' is available to view on the NFU website. To view or download the leaflet visit:

www.nfuonline.com/back-british-farming/our-top-content/latest-you-your-dog-and-the-countryside/

Thank you from the farming community for your help in protecting our beautiful British countryside together with the health and wellbeing of our livestock.



The Wincanton Film Society Presents The Wolf of Wall Street Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 7.30pm

Director Martin Scorsese. Stars Leonardo DiCaprio,
Jonah Hill.
From the American dream to corruption and greed in the
American Stock Market in the 1980's.
For further information contact Les Graney on
371668

LIVE SCREENINGS AT CINEWORLD YEOVIL

Watch recordings of live events!

Date	Time	Production
1st Nov	16.55	Carmen (Met Opera) 12A
4th Nov	19.30	Frankenstien (National Theatre) 12A
6th Nov	13.00	Matise (Tate Modern) 12A
22nd Nov	17.55	Il Babarie Di Siviglia (Met Opera) 12A
26th Nov	19.15	L'elisir-d'-amore (Royal Opera House) 12A

For further information on times and bookings:

www.cineworld.co.uk/cinemas/yeovil

St John's Church Horsington

NOVEMBER SERVICES

St John the Baptist, Horsington

2nd (All Saints)	9.15am	Holy Communion with Sunday School
	3.00pm	A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the Departed in Henstridge Church
9th Remembrance Sunday	11.00am	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, followed by
	11.15am	Service of Remembrance in Church
16th	9.15am	Holy Communion
23rd	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
30th (Advent Sunday)	10.30am	United Benefice Service in Templecombe Church
	6.00pm	Taizé Evening Worship with the Pilgrim Singers

Horsington Churchwarden
Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

2nd (All Saints)	11.00am	Sing Glory! Worship for all ages
	3.00pm	A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the Departed
9th Remembrance Sunday	10.55am	Service of Remembrance
16th	11.00am	Morning Prayer
23rd	11.00am	Holy Communion
30th (Advent Sunday)	10.30am	United Benefice Service in Templecombe Church
	6.00pm	Taizé Evening Worship with the Pilgrim Singers at Horsington Church

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

2nd (All Saints)	11.00am	All Age Worship
	3.00pm	A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the Departed in Henstridge Church
9th Remembrance Sunday	10.00am	Service of Remembrance, followed by Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the Churchyard
16th	11.00am	Holy Communion
23rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
30th (Advent Sunday)	10.30am	United Benefice Service
	6.00pm	Taizé Evening Worship with the Pilgrim Singers at Horsington Church

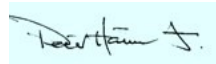
From the Rector, Greetings.

In the Church's calendar November is sometimes referred to as Remembrance-tide. It begins with *All Saints* day when we celebrate that great company of people who over the centuries have shared God's love with their neighbours. This is immediately followed by *All Souls* day when we remember loved ones who have died. For the first time, last year we marked that with a special Service in Templecombe Church. We will be holding a similar Service in Henstridge Church at 3pm on 2nd November. We invite all those who would like to come to a Service to remember with love and thanks loved ones who have died. As part of the Service those present are invited to light a candle as a way of remembering.

Then there is Remembrance Sunday and/or Armistice Day. Earlier in the year we commemorated the beginning of World War One. Armistice Day originally commemorated the end of that terrible war. Now it gives us an opportunity to remember all those who have given their lives in the service of their country in all the wars that have happened since the end of the 'war to end all wars'. It is a remembering that goes hand-in-hand with a commitment to work for peace in our time.

Right at the end of the month we come to the Season of Advent. Then we remember the promised time when swords are beaten to ploughshares, and spears to pruning hooks. It is in the light of that promise, that hope, that Christians are called to be instruments of God's peace now.

Peter Hallett – halatvic@gmail.com



Upgrade your Christmas – amaze the family – find the solution to life, the universe and everything. How to achieve this?? By joining our choir to sing at the celebrated **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE** at **Horsington Church on Christmas Eve.**



For more information, contact John or Sheila Cross on 370249

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Saturday 22nd November 10 am – 1.30pm
Wincanton Memorial Hall
ENTRANCE 50p

Come early to get the wonderful bargains on our Delicatessen Stall, Christmas & other cakes, Trash & Treasure, the Kitchen Stall and Men's and Women's Wardrobes.

We sell Pictures, fantastic Handbags, Jewellery, Children's Clothes & Books, Christmas Decorations, Cards & Plants and better Books than are on Amazon! All making for great Christmas shopping.

Visit our Tombola and, when you have finished shopping, collapse into a chair with our delicious refreshments.

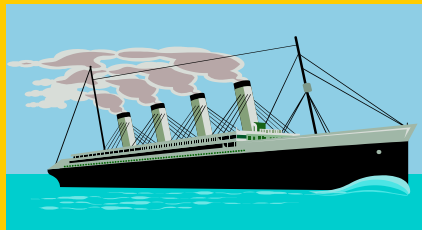
Please contact Gilly Waddington 01963 371662, or Christine Pratt 01963 371215 if you would like to donate any items for these stalls.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

TUESDAY 4th NOV. 2.30 pm HENSTRIDGE VILLAGE HALL
THE TITANIC AND A WILTSHIRE FAMILY

A talk by Lieutenant Commander Carr



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

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Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from **Anna** on **370749**



Thursday November 6th
Brian Wright - CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

Contact Mrs Jackie Pyne on 370713

NORTH CHERITON AND DISTRICT GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Talk by Penny Snowden, formally of Wisley, now at Stourhead.
Penny will talk to us about wildflower meadows based on her vast experience
in this area.

Tuesday November 11th at 7.30pm at North Cheriton Village Hall.

Please call Pat Holmes on 370017 for further information.

THE WINTER CONCERT 2014

The Wincanton Choral Society are performing

Handel's Messiah

on Sunday 14th December – 7.30pm

at the Sports Hall of the Wincanton Leisure Centre.

(Ticket information will be published in the next issue)



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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

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CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO
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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 Church School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Lucy Mackay	824866
French/Italian Conversation	Jeanne Mortarotti	370021
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177
MP	David Heath CBE	01373 473618
North Cheriton & District		
Gardeners' Society	Jean Handy	371720
Parish Council	David Chapman	370527
Police		101
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266
Warden	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
Sunday School	Deirdre Loftus	370091
Scouts	Geoff Crabb	370623
Social Services		0845 345 9133
South Somerset District Council		01935 462462
Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)		602500
Wincanton Town Council		31693
W.I.	Jackie Pyne	370713
Village Hall	www.horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk	
Chair	John Macdonald	370444
Bookings	Emilie Gordon	371396
Art	Gill Elston &	370236
	Toni Salmonson	370235
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Simon Howell	07730 314959
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Jean Powell	01747 841126