The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No. 59

February 2017



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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 2017

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Wed 1st	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	Village Hall
	8.45pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 2nd	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	WI - Talk by Mike Spencer	
Fri 3rd	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 4th	2.30pm	Blackmore Vale & Yeovil National Trust As	sociation Digby Hall
Mon 6th	Lunch	Ladies' Pub Lunch	Virginia Ash, Henstridge
	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 7th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 8th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 9th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 10th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Talk by Dan Bucknall on the TUSK TRUST	St Johns Church
Mon 13th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 14th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 15th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 16th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 17th	10.00am	Art	"
Sat 18th	7.00pm	Film: Girl on the Train	Milborne Port Village Hall
Mon 20th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 21st	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
		Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 23rd	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 24th	10.00am	Art	
16	7.30pm	Wincanton History Society	Wincanton Memorial Hall
Mon 27th	6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Tue 28th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	

Future Event:

The Womens' World Day of Prayer this year will be held in Henstridge Parish Church at 2.30 p.m. on Friday 3rd March. People from Templecombe and Horsington will be joining Henstridge for this Service, the contents of which have been prepared by the women of the Philippines. Do join us for this.

FROM HORSINGTON TO THE WORKHOUSE by Susan Maltin

Imagine that you are a gardener living and working happily in Horsington supporting your family, and then you find yourself in the workhouse in Wincanton. This is what happened to Charles Sharley. He was born in about 1817 in Horsington, and life seemed to be going quite well with his first wife Maria and their 5 children. In 1860, after the death of Maria, Charles married again, to Sarah Tufton, and they had another 7 children baptised in Horsington church.



But life for the family must have been very much on the edge, as on 1st February 1873 Charles applied to the Wincanton Workhouse for relief as he was ill, and was then admitted at his own request with his wife Sarah and all their young children. The youngest child, Theodore, was just a babe in arms. We have to imagine Charles trudging along the road to Wincanton with his family thinking that he had reached the end of his ability to care for them all, and wondering what the future held.

Families were separated in the Workhouse, so Charles joined the men and Sarah and all their children joined the women. Luckily Charles recovered fairly quickly and by 7th March the whole family left at their own request, however all was not well as baby Theodore died of consumption in 1874 aged just 3. A little more than a year later another daughter Rosina Theodora was born, however she only lived a year. In 1875 things took another turn for the worse and Charles died of tuberculosis. What happened to the family? Luckily they do not seem to have had a return visit to the Workhouse. Sarah married John Davy and she and the younger children continued to live in Horsington, the elder children finding employment in the area.

A workhouse had been in existence in Wincanton since 1694, and in 1835 the role was taken over by the Wincanton Poor Law Union to cater for the poor of Wincanton, Horsington and nearby parishes. It was designed to house 140 inmates, but life was deliberately hard in order to discourage people from coming. The official correspondence includes letters about John Gould, who claimed he had scrofula and a bad eye, and had fits but the medical officer considered him to be a great imposter. In consequence of his 'gross misbehaviour' the guardians decided to change his diet to a lower one, and so he left the workhouse!

The Sharley family were not the only Horsington people to be acquainted with the Workhouse. In 1872 on 18^{th} May Hannah Hinks, a glover in Horsington, was unmarried and pregnant when she was admitted to the Workhouse. She duly left on 8^{th} June with a son John James Hinks. In November 1872 Hannah and her son John James are back in the Workhouse, destitute, and stayed there until 22^{nd} January 1873, when she was again discharged at her own request. However the very next day she was readmitted still destitute. This pattern repeated itself and on 1^{st} August 1875 she had a baby daughter, Emma Jane, also born in the Workhouse.

This seems to have been a family trait, as her parents were both in the Workhouse at the time and her mother Charlotte died there of acute peritonitis on 12th February 1874. Robert her father had originally come to Horsington to work on the turnpike road. Life must have taken a turn for the better for Hannah herself, as by 1891 she had moved away from Horsington to Gloucestershire to work as a charwoman, taking a family of illegitimate children with her. Whilst we may all enjoy a comfortable life today, it is worth reflecting that life has not always been kind to the inhabitants of our villages.

For those interested in the Wincanton Workhouse, the Wincanton Museum has more information.

PAUL MANN

Richard Gaunt writes: I was honoured when Belinda asked me to speak at Paul's funeral on the 10th January. Here are some of the things I mentioned.

Paul Mann died on Boxing Day, just after his 62nd birthday. This tragedy sent a shockwave through the village, and we all send our condolences to Belinda and the family. The parish church was packed for his funeral, where family and friends paid tribute to this popular man and gave thanks for his life.

Paul would have been amazed, and probably embarrassed, by the crowd attending his funeral.

Paul was born in 1954 in Bridport and moved to Wincanton as a child. He went to Sexey's School in Bruton and by the time he left he was something of a hippy, with very long and wide (!) hair, and a group of similarly inclined close friends.



Paul studied biological science at the University of Sussex in 1973, gaining a BSc. Getting people to remember anything else from those days is difficult. In unison they've all recalled the old adage, that if you can remember the sixties and the early seventies then you weren't really there! Well, Paul and his hippy pals certainly were there!! Paul's university friends all attended the funeral.

Paul married Belinda in 1983, in Horsington, on the 3rd September. His 3 children Jemima, Huxley (Guy) and Charlie all gave moving tributes to their father. Apart from being an excellent and much loved father, he was a prolific builder, joiner, electrician and plumber (not to mention motor engineer), and the house in Cabbage Lane is a testament to his skill, expertise and energy.

Paul's friends describe him as a beautiful friendly guy, utterly laid back and unfazed by anything. But there was steel within Paul. He was never afraid to square up and defend his friends and family and fight for the causes he believed in.

After a career in food machinery manufacturing and sales, in 1995 he joined his father's business, selling food and packaging machinery worldwide. Paul was still working there a few days before his death, trying to secure orders to provide for his loved ones. But in truth, Paul never cared very much for position, power and wealth. He was a wonderful friend, a tireless striver for the people he loved, and was never heard to say a bad word about anyone.

His testament was the large number of people at the funeral, including people who have been constant and loyal friends since the day they met him and had travelled across continents and oceans to be there.

He was truly a gentle man.

Richard Gaunt

ROBERT JAMES 'BOB' McCREERY (1930-2016)

Bob and the McCreery family moved to Stowell Hill in 1945 following the death of their grandmother Minnie McCreery. Minnie, together with her mother Francis McAdam had decided to leave Greenhill House, Sherborne, and instructed Sir Edward Dawber RA (1861-1938), to build a new house in 1923 in a field off Stowell Lane. It had become a favourite spot for picnics, and had stunning views to the south across the Blackmore Vale to distant horizon hills, a large garden and a small attached farm.

After leaving school in 1948, Bob followed his elder brother to Oxford, but Bob's great passion was steeplechasing, and he found he was spending more and more time riding out for his father's great friend, Major Schreiber, who had a point to point yard near Salisbury and to where General McCreery had sent Jumbo, an Austrian steeplechaser, winner of many races there and in Italy. Bob won his first point to point on Jumbo by a long way at Larkhill, then his first race under Rules, aged 18 at Wolverhampton on a gallant 17 year old called Alacrity, by a short head. Bob never looked back, leaving Oxford and devoting the next 13 years to winter racing. In 1951 he won his first race at the Cheltenham Festival, the United Hunts Challenge Cup, on Coral Boy; that same year he rode in his first National on Stalbridge Rock; he came down with a dozen others in one of the biggest first race pile-ups ever seen at Liverpool. He had only one other ride in the National, on Cloncarrig in 1953; yet the horse fell again, the only one ever to have fallen in six consecutive Nationals! There were happier times ahead, when Stalbridge Rock won the Welsh Grand National in 1953, for local owner and trainer Harry Dufosee. Other notable winners were three on his father's 2 mile chaser, Granville, trained by the great horse master Ryan Price which included the King Henry VIII Novices' Chase at Hurst Park in 1961 in a course record time, his second Cheltenham Festival winner in 1957 on Ballyatom in the renewal of the Cotswold Chase-later the Arkle Chase, and on the Queen Mother's horse Young Rajah in 1962, trained by another post-war legend, Peter Cazalet, who so rated Bob's riding skills that he said that if Bob ever turned professional he'd give him a job as his stable jockey. Bob retired after thirteen seasons having ridden 131 winners, including in France, Spain, Sweden and USA, had twice been Champion Amateur Jockey, in 1955/56, when he shared the title with Danny Moralee and outright in 1956/57 with 23 winners.

Bob married Jeanette Wright in 1959 and after Bob's retirement from the saddle, they set up a successful breeding operation, first at Moreton Paddox Stud in Warwickshire, in 1963, then later at Stowell Hill from 1980. The foundation of this success was the purchase of Camanae for 1,500 guineas in 1966, the dam of High Top, winner of the 2,000 Guineas in 1972, beating that year's Derby winner Roberto; also, the granddam of Old Vic, dual winner of the French and Irish Derbys in 1989. Other successful progeny included: Electric, Dominica, Gale Force Ten, Middle Club and Piping Rock.

Bob was also involved in the administrative side of racing, helping to set up the European Breeders' Fund in 1984 – a major sponsor of racing. He was a longstanding trustee of the Injured Jockey's Fund, and helped set up JETS (Jockeys Education and Retraining Scheme). Bob's kindness and generosity to colleagues, friends and family were well known and well documented – as one of his loyal staff commented *'He was a good man'*.



1946 Bob 2nd left with siblings.

1923 Stowell Hill soon after completion at a cost of £7605



WHITE HORSE – SOUTH CHERITON by James Cole

It has been a great adventure fulfilling my dream of owning and running my own village pub after many years of training to become a chef, and working for others to help them establish their pubs and gain their reputations for fine food and ales.

Like most dreams, the reality of achieving your goals is always a lot more difficult than the dream itself. My start back in June 2014 was exciting and my aspirations were high. In the two and a half years at the White Horse as a raw recruit running my own pub, I have had to learn an awful lot very quickly. I have also tackled some daunting business challenges which were not in my dream, but it has been fun and a pleasure to have received so much support and encouragement from the local community.

Those of you who have visited the White Horse will have seen that over the two and a half years I have endeavoured to change the ales and beers at regular intervals in search of the finest brews. This has given the regulars an equal amount of fun, as they ride alongside me on this tasting rollercoaster as I probe what the brewers out there can produce. Some have been very well received and others not so, but the search goes on.

During my many years of training as a chef and my years of creating meals that are both tasty and affordable, I learned that the source of the food is of prime importance. Without the quality of the ingredients being the best available, how can a delicious meal be achieved? I therefore ensure that at the White Horse, wherever it is possible, I source the ingredients for my dishes from local suppliers despite the fact that there may be cheaper alternatives available on the open market.

My short time at the White Horse has taught me a lot. One thing that I found so important was that customer feedback cannot be ignored and that the customer is always right....well most of the time! I have therefore recently launched a new lunchtime menu which still serves good quality portions, but at a lower price of $\pounds 6.50$, from a choice of about 6 dishes. The choice will change periodically to bring variety to my regular lunchtime customers. It gives me great pleasure as a chef to hear the feedback that, whilst the normal full menu is still available, the new Monday to Saturday lunchtime menu is being appreciated by all who have ventured into the White Horse to try it.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the White Horse.

www.whitehorsecheriton.co.uk



Horsington Church School

BEDTIME STORY EVENING by members of the School's staff

As part of this school year's focus on Reading, the children of Horsington Primary School were invited to a very special and exciting event on the 6^{th} of December: a bedtime story evening. Formal invitations, drawn by year 5 and 6 children, were sent home. Children were requested to come at 6.30pm in their pyjamas and bring with them their favourite teddy.

On the night, it certainly felt extraordinary to arrive at school in the pitch dark and see all the children dressed in their night attire, some of them inaugurating their best Christmas night gown! But once inside the school, it felt even more exceptional: lights were kept to a minimum, with classrooms illuminated only by soft lamps and candles; and members of staff were all dressed like they were ready to go to bed or lounge in their own homes. The atmosphere was perfectly cosy and friendly. And there was for sure a lovely collection of teddies brought by the children, of all shapes and sizes.

Children were divided into small groups according to their age and directed to several locations across the school. Each group received the visit of two different readers who personally chose the book they wished to read. Readers were not only teachers, but all members of staff who volunteered to spend their evening among the children, to show how enjoyable and important reading is. Between stories, children were offered some hot chocolate and biscuits which certainly contributed to the success of the evening!

All the children looked like they very much enjoyed the evening. Maybe a bit too much, as watching them coming out of school laughing and chatting, it was hard imagining that they would quickly go to bed and fall asleep! But the school certainly reached its aim, as children had the chance to discover new stories and feel the pleasure of cuddling with friends around a good book.



PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES



Horsington and South Cheriton Parish Council currently have vacancies for **Parish Councillors**.

We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in Horsington Village Hall, so if you are interested in helping to manage and maintain the assets of both villages then please contact:

> Jackie Pyne (Chair) on 370713 or Charles James (Vice Chair) on 07770 923955 or email <u>horsingtonpc@hotmail.co.uk</u> for more information.

<u>Talk on the TUSK TRUST by Dan Bucknall</u> Friday February 10th St Johns Church at 7.30pm

Tusk is a pioneering organization with 25 years' experience initiating and funding conservation, community development and environmental education programs across Africa.



HRH the Duke of Cambridge became the charity's Royal Patron in 2005 and has been a proactive supporter of Tusk's work ever since highlighting wildlife crime and the plight of endangered species.

Dan Bucknall, Executive Director, will be giving a talk on the Trust's work. He has extensive experience working in Africa involving years of conservation work and campaigning to save the Asian Elephant as well as Gorilla conservation and research programs.

Suggested donation $\pounds 8$ (including refreshments) – All proceeds go to the Tusk Charity & Church.

Telephone for tickets -01963 371478

From the Rector, Greetings.

As this is the first edition of The Villager in 2017, let me begin by wishing you all A Happy New Year.

When I say "Happy" New Year — as well as truly wishing all of you a joyful and successful year to come, I am also conscious that for some this has not been a happy time. I was sad to hear, through the Horsington Blog, of the deaths of Bob McCreery, Elfriede Scharfe, and Paul Mann. Our hearts go out to those who lose loved ones at any time – but especially at a time which we think of as being a joyful family occasion.

Of course bereavement is not the only experience which compromises being 'happy'. This afternoon I was speaking to someone who said to me that they'd had the most miserable Christmas. They'd had this horrible cold that is doing the rounds; and they were on their own. Well, you might say, they'll get over the cold. And that's true, but interestingly, this year on the TV there's been quite a campaign to look out for and care for people who are lonely.

On Christmas morning, in Templecombe Church, I shared Tolstoy's story: Papa Panov's Special Christmas. If you don't know the story, look it up. And although it's a story which is really saturated with the joy of Christmas – it is a joy that comes through sorrow and loneliness.

Last July I shared with you my plan to retire at the end of this coming April. For various reasons I have had to put that plan on hold. For us the future is uncertain right now. I trust that the God who has been faithfully with us in the past will be with us into this unknown future.

Peter Hallett – halatvic@gmail.com

St John the Baptist, Horsington 5th Feb 9.15am Holy Communion with Sunday School 12th Feb 11.00am Morning Prayer Churchwardens 19th Feb 9.15am Holy Communion Mrs Anne Jones 370626 26th Feb 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

5th Feb	
12th Feb	
19th Feb	
26th Feb	

11.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am Morning Worship Holy Communion Holy Communion Holly Communion

6.30pm Evensong

S. Man -

6.30pm Evensong

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

5th Feb	11.00am	Morning Praise
12th Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion
19th Feb	11.00am	Morning Praise
26th Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion
		-



Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington at 8.30pm on Wednesday 1st February

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer. Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from Anna on 370749



Thursday 2nd February 7.30pm at the Village Hall Talk on "**Vietnam Adventures** " **Speaker: Mike Spencer**

Telephone Mrs Jackie Pyne for further information on 370713

MOVIOLA AT MILBORNE PORT VILLAGE HALL

Film:Girl on the TrainStarring:Emily Blunt, Luke Evans, Justine TherouxDirector:Tate Taylor

Saturday 18th February doors open 7.00 for 7.30pm showing. **Tickets** available from Wayne the Butcher and Crackmore Garage £5.00 when purchased in advance. £5.50 when purchased at the door.

Info: www.moviola.org/milborne-port or telephone Martin on 251858

"LIVE" SCREENINGS AT CINEWORLD YEOVIL

Cineworld in Yeovil is one of a nationwide chain of cinemas now screening live theatrical productions and other events. February highlights include:

2 Feb	Amadeus
5 Feb	Swan Lake
8 Feb	Wolf Works
16 Feb	St Joan
21 Feb	Claude Monet

National Theatre Bolshoi Ballet Royal Ballet National Theatre Exhibition on Screen

For times and further details: https://www.cineworld.co.uk/cinemas/yeovil

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

It is with great sadness we announce the death in December of Elfriede Scharfe. The funeral took place on the 11th of January.

Toni Salmonson will be writing an obituary which will appear in the March edition of the magazine.

WINCANTON MUSEUM AND HISTORY SOCIETY

February 24th @ 7.30pm—Wincanton Memorial Hall

Talk: "Preparing for the worst world war" by Terry Stanford

The usual cost will apply which is £5 for non-members or £2 for members.

wincantonmuseum.org.uk

<u>National Trust Association Meeting</u> Saturday 4th February @ 2.30pm in Digby Hall, Sherborne

Montacute House: filming, funding and future – Grahame Meaden

Grahame will share with us his experience of seeing Montacute House used as the setting for a considerable range of TV programmes and films. These have included The Antiques Roadshow, Flog It, Escape to the Country, The History of Britain with Simon Schama, Wolf Hall, and the film The Libertine with Johnny Depp. Grahame will take us behind the scenes and reveal the perks and pitfalls of letting the cameras in! He will also deal with fundraising for Montacute.

Grahame has worked for the local National Trust for over 25 years, originally at Stourhead and now at Montacute where he is House Manager.





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NAME	CONTACT	TEL NO
Bellringing	Anna Piechna	370749
Buses (local)		0871 2002233
Citizens Advice Bureau, Winc	anton	0344 88 9623
CAT Bus Ring and Ride Servi		33864
Doctors Surgeries Milborne		
	on Health Centre	435700
French/Italian Conversation	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
Horsington Church School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governors	Vicky Franklin	370699
PTFA	Lucy Mackay	824866
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
Mobile Library		0845 345 9177
MP	David Warburton	0207 219 5225
North Cheriton & District		
Gardeners Society	Pat Holmes	370017
Parish Council	Jackie Pyne &	370713
	Charles James	07770 923955
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Peter Hallett	362266
Wardens	Anne Jones &	370626
	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
Sunday School	Deirdre Loftus	370091
Scouts	Geoff Crabb	370623
Social Services	.1	0845 345 9133
South Somerset District Cound		01935 462462
U3A Ville og Engennen Telenhene	Jean Lindley	251256
Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) Wincanton Town Council		602500 31693
W.I.	Jactric Drmo	370713
	Jackie Pyne www.horsingtonvillageł	
Village Hall Chair	John Macdonald	370444
Bookings	Emilie Gordon	371396
Art	Gill Elston &	370236
Alt	Alison Clements	370866
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Keith Norman	370332
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Andrée MacLeod	351918
- Price of J		221/10