

The Horsington & South Cheriton

Villager

Issue No. 71

April 2018



Early 20th century picture of the Crossing Keepers Cottage at Broadmoor Lane

Chair	Sally Packer	370376	Treasurer/Adverts	Chris McCairns	370049
Compiler	Mary Lynn Walker	371731	Articles	Sheila Leaning	370899
Compiler	Deborah Pitchforth	370867	Articles	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
Distribution	Sue Morgan	370265			

Kindly printed by Thales UK

Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to
info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk by noon on 12th April 2018

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 April 2018

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Tue 3rd	10.30am	Upholstery	Village Hall
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 4th	7.30pm	MPO -Double Bill	Village Hall, Milborne Port
	8.30pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn
Thu 5th	7.30pm	MPO -Double Bill	Village Hall Milborne Port
	7.30pm	WI	Village Hall
Fri 6th	7.30pm	MPO - Double Bill	Village Hall, Milborne Port
Sat 7th	7.30pm	MPO - Double Bill	"
Mon 9th	Lunch	Ladies' Pub Lunch	Manor House, Ditcheat
	5.30pm	Pilates	Village Hall
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
Tue 10th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 11th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 12th	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting & Parish Council Meeting	"
Fri 13th	7.30pm	Film: The Mountain Between Us	Village Hall, Milborne Port
Mon 16th	5.30pm	Pilates	Village Hall
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
Tue 17th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 18th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Fri 20th	10.00am	Art	"
Mon 23rd	5.30pm	Pilates	"
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
Tue 24th	10.30am	Upholstery	"
	8.00pm	Badminton	"
Wed 25th	10.00am	Adult Tap Dancing	"
Thu 26th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 27th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Wincanton History Society Talk	Wincanton Memorial Hall
Mon 30th	5.30pm	Pilates	Village Hall
	6.45pm	Pilates	"

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held at St Margaret's Village Hall on Thursday 12th April at 7pm and will be followed by the April Parish Council meeting.

All residents of Horsington & South Cheriton are welcome.

Yarlington Plant Fair

Saturday May 12th, Yarlington House, BA9 9DY
10.00am-4.00pm

Photographs on cover page and page 4 provided by John Roake courtesy of Keith Barrett.

THE OLD RAILWAY LINE

by John Roake

The line across the Marsh was built by the Dorset Central Railway (DCR), which was promoted to run from a junction with the London & South Western Railway (LSWR) at Wimborne (where connections would be made for Poole, Bournemouth, etc.) to join head-on at Cole near Bruton with the line that was being built by the Somerset Central Railway (SCR) from there to Highbridge, via Evercreech and Wells. This was yet another proposal for a Coast-to-Coast line to avoid the passage around the Cornish peninsula but with a difference. Amongst the promoters were Ironmasters from Merthyr Tydfil in South Wales who foresaw that their finished products could come across the Bristol Channel and use the trains to the South Coast from where they could be shipped to the Continent. One of the movers behind the scheme were the Guest family who were well ensconced in Dorset (their firm eventually became part of GKN – Guest, Keen & Nettlefold).

Although the two lines were authorized by Parliament between 1852 and 1857, our part of the line did not open to traffic until February 1862. Lack of finance being raised to build the line caused the delays. In order to start some Income flow, the line from Wimborne to Blandford was opened first, in November 1860, followed by our stretch of line from Cole to Templecombe, another junction with the LSWR. The gap from Templecombe to Blandford was not opened to traffic until August 1863.

From 1st September 1862 the DCR and SCR were amalgamated to form the Somerset & Dorset Railway (SDR). When the section from Blandford to Templecombe became operational through trains were able to run from Highbridge to Poole.

Lack of money was to bedevil the railway for many years, there not being much traffic over a line passing through the more rural parts of Somerset and Dorset; certainly there was no industry to provide a regular source of income. Indeed, in 1866, being unable to pay the bills nor raise more Capital, a Receiver was appointed to run the company's affairs, which he did until 1870.

Attempting to raise the Company's fortunes by bringing further traffic (and income) to the SDR, the Directors promoted an extension of their line northwards from Evercreech through Shepton Mallet and Radstock to Bath, where it would meet up with the Midland Railway (MR) whose HQ was in Derby. This action was hoped to bring more traffic to the line by way of both tapping into the coal traffic from the Radstock area and through trains from the north.

Trains started running on the Bath Extension from July 1874 and did, as expected bring more revenue for SDR coffers. But the sheer cost of building their line and of having to haul trains over Mendip continued to strain SDR finances and the Directors had to look around for an answer. The GWR were approached in 1875 to take over the line, but terms could not be agreed. But the GWR made a mistake; as a courtesy they sent their managers to Waterloo to advise their position to LSWR .

The LSWR were alarmed by what they were being told (they did not want the GWR interloping into their territory) and they immediately sent a deputation to the General Manager of the MR and within eight days the Directors of the LSWR and the MR agreed to take a 999-year lease of the SDR. So from 1st November 1875, being worked by the two bigger railways, the SDR became the Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway (SDJR).

With additional traffic and funds available, the SDJR north of Templecombe had an additional set of rails laid over much of its length, turning it from a single-track line into one of double-track. This meant that the railway could carry more traffic. This also required making the bridges over the line wider and when one stands on the line across the Marsh and looks at the bridge, it

is possible to see where another arch of the bridge was built to accommodate the extra set of rails.

A view northwards from the railway bridge, with a Bath to Bournemouth train approaching, probably dating from the 1950s.



The SDJR continued to be a Joint line run by two Companies up until nationalization in 1948. In 1958 the SDJR line passed into the control of the Western Region of British Railways, therefore doing away with the incongruity of a line being jointly run by two different Regions of British Railways. Traffic by this time was drifting away, Continental Holidays, the increase in Motor Vehicles and the North Somerset Coalmines closing. And with alternative routes available for through traffic, such as Bristol-Taunton-Exeter or Reading-Basingstoke-Southampton, it was sensible to move trains away from the difficult route over Mendip.

And then came the dreaded (but probably much maligned) Dr. Beeching in 1963. With the rundown state of the SDJR closure was recommended to take effect from 4th October 1965. After many appeals against closure, the final date was decided, 3rd January 1966. But the SDJR would not go down easily. At the last moment, Wakes Coaches, one of the proposed operators of the alternative bus services, withdrew its application, so closure had to be postponed until other arrangements could be put in place. An "interim rail service" had to be provided in the meantime, but that service was actually worse than the proposed alternative bus services! Final closure came on 7th March 1966.

Front cover - The adjacent Templecombe Signal Box was taken out of use in 1933 and subsequently demolished.

Photo above - The small white building in the far distance is the Marsh Lane Crossing Keepers Cottage, the foundations of which were visible in the undergrowth until a few years ago.

HORSINGTON VILLAGE SCHOOL

Snow in the Suburbs

Earth Class took the poem Snow in the Suburbs by Thomas Hardy and converted it to a piece of prose. Here is a version by one of the children:

Snow in the Suburbs by Thomas Hardy

Every branch big with it,
Bent every twig with it;
Every fork like a white web-foot;
Every street and pavement mute:
Some flakes have lost their way, and grope back upward when
Meeting those meandering down they turn and descend again.
The palings are glued together like a wall,
And there is no waft of wind with the fleecy fall.

A sparrow enters the tree,
Whereon immediately
A snow-lump thrice his own slight size
Descends on him and showers his head and eye
And overturns him,
And near inturns him,
And lights on a nether twig, when its brush
Starts off a volley of other lodging lumps with a rush.



The steps are a blanched slope,
Up which, with feeble hope,
A black cat comes, wide-eyed and thin;
And we take him in.

A prose version by one pupil

Every glistening branch is swollen with snow and twigs are creaking with it. Every single fork looks like a frozen duck's foot. The streets and pavements are as silent as a grave. Lots of flakes seem to have lost any sense of direction they had and are going the wrong way, until they crash into more snowflakes and are shoved roughly back down to earth. All the palings have been filled in by snow and have disappeared in to a sparkling white wall. It feels as though all the life has been sucked out of the world. It is still. A late migrating sparrow alights on our tree, although he's very light an avalanche starts. Hurling towards him is a snowball, three times his own tiny size. It descends on him and shoves him off and almost buries him alive! Up he flies and lands again, but his fan-like tail, sets off another volley of cruel lumps, rushing down again.

Our steps are a clean white slide and up it labours a jet black cat, with wide and hopeful eyes.

WATER COLOURS

By Colin Gray



I have been painting for many years and my favourite medium is water colours.

Over this time I have enjoyed painting various themes including New York which has always fascinated me and seascapes.

Recently my main subjects have been Weymouth where we spend a lot of time in the warmer months and, of course, Horsington and South Cheriton.

The paintings in this article include The White Horse, a winter scene in Cabbage Lane, Horsington Pond and the Old Cheese House, Stowell.





Milborne Port Opera presents a hilarious double bill of
musical theatre

Gilbert & Sullivan's **"Trial by Jury"**, a wicked satire on the legal
profession and the judiciary

AND

MPO's "Coarse Acting" version of

"The Murder at Shakerley House", by Neil Edwards
winner of the Best Festival at the Questors Theatre, Ealing.

Wednesday 4th to 7th April 2018 7.30 pm.*

Tickets £12.00. *Concessions (Wednesday only) £10.00

Book now – www.thelittleboxoffice.com/mpo or via the MPO's Facebook page.

Milborne Port Village Hall, Springfield Rd, Milborne Port,
Sherborne DT9 5RE

SUN

by Paddy Hughes

The Sun

blurs

the burden of winter
and ice-spiked nights

stirs

a ferment of buds
and froth of blossom

spurs

little girl to primrose banks
and boys with sticks to streams

purrs

on the world with warmth
and makes it smile



Where West Begins April program:

- **Journey's End (2018)**, adapted from the play on World War I written by RC Sheriff. With Asa Butterfield, Sam Claflin, Paul Bettany. Screening followed by Q&A with the film producer Guy de Beaujeu, hosted by Andrew Warren (historian and drama teacher). **Saturday 21st April, 6.30-9pm. Westlands Leisure Centre, Yeovil.**
- **King Kong (1933)**. PG. With a stop animation workshop by Jim Parkyn (Aardman's animation studio). **Saturday 21st April, 3-5pm. Westlands Leisure Centre, Yeovil.**
- **What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?(1962)** With Joan Crawford and Bette Davis. Followed by a mentoring workshop with Lynne Franks. **26 April, 7-9.30pm. Wincanton Town Hall.**

For booking and info: call Penny Nagle 01963 370857 or go to www.wherewestbegins.org.uk

Dear Friends

YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS! The John McEnroe phrase has become legendary in our time – the tennis star who refused to believe the umpire's decisions at Wimbledon.

YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS! was much the same attitude of many to the early Christians. They told a story that seemed preposterous – of a body entombed, yet which had come back to life in three days! How could it possibly be true? Jesus the Teacher, publicly crucified, had come back to life? You cannot be serious!

Yet those who believed in this incredible story have not only survived criticism and ridicule, but the Christian church has grown across 2000 years – and is still growing rapidly in many parts of the world today. We proclaim a Risen Lord – Jesus the Saviour, who died to show just how much God loves us – but who rose again from the dead that we too might know life immortal. **YES WE ARE REALLY SERIOUS – BUT ALSO FULL OF JOY!**

This is a message which has changed the world over two millennia. The Church is far from perfect – it is after all made up of very imperfect human beings – but it has a gospel which is worth taking seriously, and brings a way of life which is full of hope and positivity.

On Easter Day we shall be celebrating Christ's Resurrection anew – come and join us and be seriously joyful!

A Happy Easter to you all.

Ian Coomber

St John the Baptist, Horsington

1st April	9.15am	Easter Sunday - Holy Communion with Sunday School	
8th April	11.00am	Morning Prayer	
15th April	9.15am	Holy Communion	Churchwardens
22nd April	8.30am	Holy Communion	Mrs Anne Jones 370626
29th April	10.30am	United Service - Holy Communion at Milborne Port	Mrs Rosemarie Wigley 371478

St Nicholas, Henstridge

1st April	11.00am	Easter Sunday - Holy Communion	
8th April	9.30am	Holy Communion	
15th April	11.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
22nd April	11.00am	Holy Communion	
29th April	10.30am	United Service - Holy Communion - at Milborne Port	

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

1st April	11.00am	Easter Sunday - Holy Communion	
8th April	9.30am	Holy Communion	
15th April	11.00am	Morning Praise	
22nd April	11.00am	St George's Day Service	
29th April	10.30am	United Service - Holy Communion - at Milborne Port	

Charlton Horethorne & District Gardening Club

In last month's magazine, Jane was heralding the start of spring. Little did she know that March was planning to come in like a polar bear! By the time you read this though, snow drifts will be a faint memory and we shall have started our gardening year. Our next event is at Castle Gardens in Sherborne on Monday, April 23rd (St George's Day). The talk starts at 6.45, after which you can shop 'til you drop', with 25% off everything in the garden centre. I hope to see you there.

Kate Hill
Chair,
01963 220044 or mchugh_hill@hotmail.com



Thursday 5th April @ 7.30pm

Donkeys, dolphins, foxes and fish by Kevin Little

Telephone Mrs Jackie Pyne for further information on **370713**

AIR AMBULANCE

Talk at St John's Church Horsington
on Saturday 19th May 2018 at 7.30pm

£8 to include refreshments

Proceeds to be divided between Air Ambulance and the Church

Wincanton Museum and History Society Talk

Friday April 27th @ 7.30pm - Wincanton Memorial Hall

Mothers, Mistresses, Wives and Queens.
Women of character and consequence in the 12th century
by **Brian Garton**

£5 for non-members or £2 for members.
Wincantonmuseum.org.uk



Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington at 8.30pm on Wednesday 4th April

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

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

PROPOSED NEW DWELLING, HORSINGTON BA8 0EG.

A planning application is being prepared for submission to South Somerset District Council by Mr and Mrs. R. Godson, in respect of the erection of a single-storey dwelling within the curtilage of their property at **Horsington House, Horsington, BA8 0EG**. Documents illustrating/describing their proposal in outline can be seen by residents and other members of the local community at HORSINGTON VILLAGE HALL, LOWER ROAD, TEMPLECOMBE, BA8 0EH., from 1pm until 5pm, Saturday 21st April 2018.

Children's Society

We shall be holding a coffee morning in the function room of the Half Moon Inn on Wednesday 2nd May from 10 a. m. to 12 p.m. There will be cakes, Bric-a-brac and plants for sale. Please come and join us if you can.

If box-holders could bring their boxes along for emptying, that would be most welcome.

Thanks,
Sallie Vallins

Moviola—Milborne Port

Friday 13th April - Doors Open 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm

Film: **The Mountain Between Us** (12A)

Stars: **Kate Winslet, Idris Elba**



Tickets: £5.00 in advance—£5.50 at door

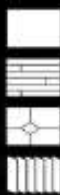
Exclusively available from Wayne the Butcher, High Street, Milborne Port
For more information phone Martin Lancaster on **01963 251858**



CRABB TAXIS

Local, friendly service for airports, stations,
shopping etc
Vehicles based at Templecombe, Henstridge &
Wincanton
07950 826962

Good value, professional & efficient service, supplied & fitted...



Carpets, Carpet Tiles
Vinyl, Wood, Laminate,
Natural Flooring
Ceramic Wall & Floor Tiles
Vertical Roller
and Venetian Blinds

Stockists of Amtico and Karndean

SJH Carpets, Tythings Commercial Centre, Wincanton
T: 01963 824418 • Open: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sat, 9am-1pm
Also at High Street, Tisbury • T: 01747 871178 (closed Wednesday)

Harbour House Clinic

Holistic, Natural & Efficient



Traditional Chinese Acupuncture

Call **Franka Janoe** BSc (Hons) Lic Ac MBACc
to book an appointment on **07815 070228**

or visit www.acupuncture-horsington.co.uk
Harbour House Clinic, Horsington, Somerset, BA8 0DA

SOUTH CHERITON GARAGE LTD.

EST. SINCE 1983



TEL: 01963 370179

Mark Pearson Electrical Services

NAPIT registered

5 Houndsmill, Horsington

07875 081103

Computer Maintenance & Repairs

Purchase Advice, Virus Removal, New PC Setup/Installation, Internet Connection, Upgrades, Computer/Software Tuition

Call Gregg on 01963 370713

GRAHAM TEMPLEMAN – 01963 370398

Your local Everest Sales Consultant based in Horsington covering South Somerset & Dorset. Special discounts for residents of our local community.



Free Estimates – Double and Triple Glazed Windows & Doors in Wood, PVC, Composite and Aluminium. Guttering & Fascias. Garage Doors. Driveways. Conservatories. Orangeries.

C & G PLUMBING & HEATING

South Cheriton

All types of plumbing work undertaken

No job too small

Experienced, reliable and professional service at reasonable prices

Call Colin on

07766 186704 or 01963 371209

**K. SANSON
CHIMNEY SWEEP**

**Brush & Vacuum
Woodburners etc.**

**Also
Mini-marquee hire with
furnishings, flooring etc.**

01963 370178

DALES CAR REPAIRS LTD

Established in 2000

LARGE STOCK OF TYRES

Modern workshop to carry out all your repairs and servicing to a high standard at a competitive price.

Free collection and delivery services from your home or place of work.

01963 31122 or 07767 201919

**Unit 21/22 Lawrence Hill, Business Centre,
Wincanton,
Somerset BA9 9RT**

ROBERT NEAVE LTD

Fireplace & Stove Specialists



DESIGN - SUPPLY - INSTALLATION

*Open Fireplaces - Flue Lining - Wood Burning - Multi Fuel Stoves
Stonemasons - Chimney Sweep*



01963 31384 or 07976 747820
neave.ray@yahoo.com

The Decorator

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR • PAINTING & DECORATING

01963 31513

07864 829987

City &
Guilds

thedecoratorsomerset@gmail.com



hair here & everywhere

Julie 07966 264621

Mobile Hair-stylist

For more information & full price list please visit our website;

<http://hairhereandeverwhere.yolasite.com>

www.facebook.com/mobilehairdressermorthdorset

or call & ask for a full price list to be delivered to your door

E.C. SERVICES

Decorating, Tiling & Property Maintenance

07966 932 869

Call for Advice and Free Estimate

The New Barn, Popes Farm, Marnhull

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, Wincanton		0344 88 9623
CAT Bus Ring and Ride Service		33864
Doctors Surgeries	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
French/Italian Conversation	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
Horsington Church School	Head/Secretary	370358
Governor	Jean Boyd-Lee	371137
PTFA	Abby Spoons abzspoors@gmail.com	
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
MP	David Warburton	020 7219 5225
Parish Council		
Chair	Jackie Pyne	370713
Clerk	David Chapman www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com	370527
St John's Church		
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
U3A	Jean Lindley	251256
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 & Alison Clements	370236 370866
Badminton	Frank Beach	370767
Dance	Louise Holliday	362689
Football	Keith Norman	370332
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Andrée MacLeod	351918