

# The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

July/August 2019 Issue No. 84



Michael Boulton, Potter

Chair	Sally Packer	370376	Treasurer/Adverts	Chris McCairns	370049
Compiler	Trent Nicholson	370738	Articles	Sheila Leaning	370899
Compiler	Deborah Pitchforth	370867	Articles	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
Distribution	Bob Jones	370562			

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to  
***info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk*** by noon on 12th August 2019

*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](http://www.wincantonwindow.co.uk) and click on the 'Villages' link.

## Events Diary July 2019

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>Mon 1st</b>	5.30pm	Pilates	Village Hall
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
	Lunch	<b>Ladies' Lunch Club</b>	Helyar Arms, East Coker
<b>Tue 2nd</b>	10.30am	Upholstery	Village Hall
<b>Wed 3rd</b>	8.30pm	<b>Music Night</b>	Half Moon Inn
<b>Thu 4th</b>	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
	7.30pm	<b>WI</b>	"
<b>Fri 5th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Mon 8th</b>	5.30pm	Pilates	"
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
<b>Tue 9th</b>	10.30am	Upholstery	"
<b>Thu 11th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	"
<b>Fri 12th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Mon 15th</b>	5.30pm	Pilates	"
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
<b>Tue 16th</b>	10.30am	Upholstery	"
<b>Thu 18th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Fri 19th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Mon 22nd</b>	5.30pm	Pilates	"
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
<b>Tue 23rd</b>	10.30am	Upholstery	"
<b>Thu 25th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Fri 26th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Mon 29th</b>	5.30pm	Pilates	"
	6.45pm	Pilates	"
<b>Tue 30th</b>	10.30am	Upholstery	"

## Events Diary August 2019

<b>Thu 1st</b>	7.30pm	<b>WI</b>	Village Hall
<b>Mon 5th</b>	Lunch	<b>Ladies' Lunch Club</b>	Chetnole Inn, Chetnole
<b>Wed 7th</b>	8.30pm	<b>Music Night</b>	Half Moon Inn
<b>Thu 8th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council meeting</b>	Village Hall



## **Interview with Michael Boulton, potter**

**by Sally Packer**

Michael has moved fairly recently into the heart of Horsington village, where he has encountered many practising artists. He is keen to develop this network, meet others and possibly join together to put on an exhibition locally.

### **What sparked your interest in making pots?**

I was visiting St Ives with a friend. She suggested we visit The Leach Pottery. I agreed though I knew nothing at all about Bernard Leach. While we were there. I saw someone throw a pot and I knew immediately that this was something I really wanted to do.

### **Tell me how your interest evolved.**

Some time after this first encounter, I took courses at Putney and Richmond which gave me a good grounding in the basics. My biggest influence was the tutor at West Dean College in Chichester, Kyra Cane, who was really critical and helped me to begin to develop a style which was recognisable as my work and didn't look like that of anyone else. Looking back over three years, I can see huge development as a result of her influence.



I find I am compelled to carry on, like the 98 year old potter who said he would not give up as he had not made a perfect pot yet. I also feel the need to sell my work: I can't live without doing pottery and my retail experience helps me to price appropriately and talk about my work. I am pleased that my work is on display at ACEarts in Somerton, the A2 Gallery in Wells, and, nearer home, in the window at Chavela Mora in Wincanton. In Somerset Arts Weeks this year we shall open my studio and that of Paul Griffin who specialises in botanical drawing, so local people will have the chance to see our work on their doorstep.

## **Is there a relationship between your professional work and your life as an artist?**

Yes, hairdressing, like pottery, is working in a three dimensional sphere. Hairdressing is very much involved with people, with talking and listening, while pottery is more meditative. However, living in Chiswick, we had an 'Artists At Home' event, much like Somerset Arts Weeks here, and I found inspiration through meeting people as well as seeing their work there.

## **What attracted you to this part of the world?**

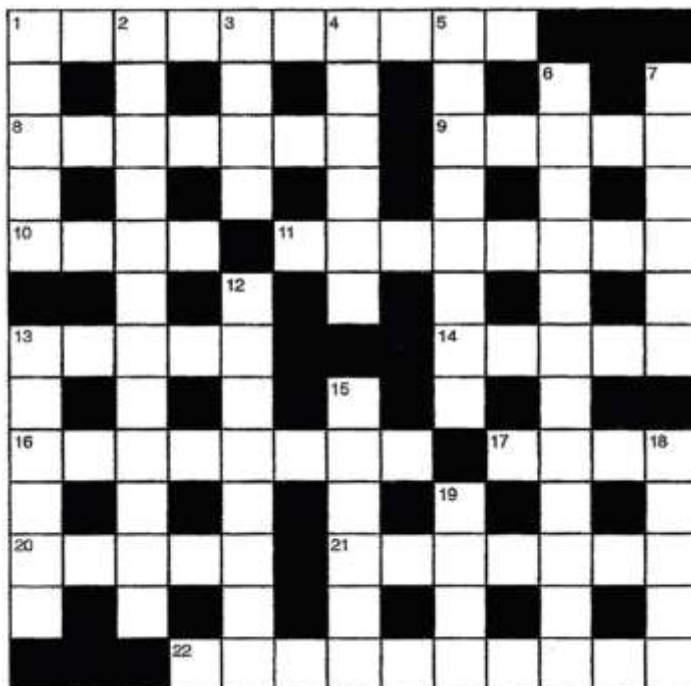
Immediately we were introduced to this village by friends. Taking the longer view, I had worked briefly in retail in Bath for Next and was later area manager in this part of the world, so I was always drawn to the West Country. When we had bought this house and were still working in London, I became really aware of how noisy London was, and the contrast with Horsington where a passing car or pedestrian is an event. It is an idyllic spot, with so many other artists close by. People speak when they meet in the morning, unlike life in London. We have good neighbours, and people are glad that the house is permanently occupied. We also feel a positive influence from the past occupants of the house. Life is enhanced by being here – the garden, the air. There's a very cosy feeling as if we have lived here a long time.

## **What impact has living here had on your work?**

I had a year off in which to digest all that I had learnt. Now I have a separate studio and find that this allows me to think more: not being in the house means less distraction. This is a wonderfully quiet place. It is easy to forget about thirty or thirty five years working in London. Although I am still first and foremost a hairdresser I enjoy not being in charge of a business seven days a week any longer. Now I am keen to meet and get to know more local artists and perhaps combine with them to display and market their work effectively.



# Crossword by Max



## Across.

1. Novelist follows monster cheese (10).
8. Legislated, politician inside – scruffy (7).
9. Crash into steak (1-4).
10. Sharpen instrument without beginning (4).
11. Fit equal half of breathing gas to St. Michael initially (8).
13. Average! No A's here on the edge. (5).
14. Warning! Beer on the radio (5).
16. Loot hair peculiar to seducer (8).
17. Dog food (4).
20. Flying in an attic (5).
21. Pub's top man going crazy (7).
22. US firm in printing machines for young royals (10).

## Down.

1. Saddle-strap for US soldier starting return to home (5).
2. Reward American band with one French portion (12).
3. Lubricates artistic medium (4).
4. Inflatable Cancer perhaps (6).
5. Tall trio wandering along shoreline (8).
6. Many industrial theories studied in these (12).
7. License licence (6).
12. Top performer with huge heavenly body (8).
13. Mr Spock a blacksmith? (6).
15. Sporting naughty-step is offence over container (6).
18. Pay drug-taking wives and girlfriends (5).
19. Audibly weird lake (4).

## Horsington Village Fete

by Joanne Wickstead

Butterflies, tree frogs, and four incredible macaws could be seen hiding out at Horsington Church School, on Saturday 15th June, as the school grounds were turned into a Rainforest for this year's Summer Fete, almost literally with the rain that came down during set-up!

Craft stalls, cake stalls, skittles, and a coconut shy, were all there to entice visitors. There was a wonderful local honey stall, that had brought some bees with them, which visitors were fascinated by. Over in one corner of the field was an assortment of fun Rainforest themed games, including 'hook-a-frog', and a very popular game of 'snake vines' whereby children stood underneath dangling snakes and tried to bite into them.

There was a hubbub of excitement by one particular tent that was housing a collection of exotic wildlife - the WorldLife tent. The WorldLife staff were really impressed with all the children who came to visit them, and chatted to them all about the animals and let them hold some of them. Ben, from Air Class, came back to the tent several times to hold an array of animals from a giant millipede "with very grippy legs", to the bearded dragon which "likes eating raspberries, and had sharp claws".

At quarter-past-one visitors gathered around the main field for a special treat - the school Samba Band. Lead by Mrs Alexander, the group of Earth Class pupils, entertained the crowds with a wonderful samba beat - a great way to encourage the sun to shine.

Lawrence O'Gorman did an amazing job of comparing the whole event and got large groups of children involved in the much loved tug-of-war competitions.

The day came to a close with the raffle draw, obstacle course winners (some very speedy times there), and a never-seen-before 'skittle-off' as scores were tied in many of the skittles age categories. The Under 5s were so close that the two winners even tied scores in the 'skittle-off' so both were announced winners.

The Horsington Church School's PTFA would like to say a very large **THANK YOU** to everyone who came and supported the fete, volunteered on a stall, and helped in the set-up and take-down.

So, as we say goodbye to this year's fete and tidy away the last of the giant macaws, we can take a little breather, reflect on what was a great coming together of the community, before getting the teas and coffees back out for Sports Day on Friday!!!!





## **Feltham's Farm Cheese Barn : Latest Developments**

by Penny Nagle

When we moved to Horsington five years ago we never imagined that we would become multi award-winning cheesemakers\*. Marcus and I were still working in London, and we moved here because we loved the village school and the people we met.

Our career move into cheese making is best described as a mid-life crisis that has gone OK (so far). Luckily we landed in this "silicon valley of cheese", and Marcus is a very talented cheesemaker so we've won a host of awards for our soft blue rind washed Renegade Monk. Described by The Daily Telegraph in 2017 as "a vicious little cheese", we realised that if we were to appeal to a wider audience of cheese lovers (and have a holiday as a family) we needed to grow the business, employ other people and develop different cheeses.

Our existing cheese room (one half of the old Marsh Meadows Nursery some of you may remember) could only make one type of cheese (cross contamination of cheese cultures is not good) and up to 200 a week. We were selling 40 a week to Rosie at the Bristol Cheesemonger alone so we also knew we had growing demand. We decided to convert our old tractor shed into a cheese barn. How hard could it be?

So started a learning curve, the equivalent of going to university and starting a first job in terms of impact. In order to keep costs down, we decided to be principal contractors. This meant we had to have additional insurance and hire in suppliers directly. We feel very lucky to have found some great local people. At the risk of never being able to get them to work for us again as they will be so busy, we cannot recommend village ground-workers Dan Tytheridge and Ben Rendell highly enough. They are responsive, have great ideas, and put up with our shilly-shallying with good humour. Similarly, fantastic plumbers Matadawe from Blandford have done us proud, and excellent electrical work from Stuart Hutchins and his team from Gillingham. Bioheat from Shaftesbury, and Simon Hawkins in particular, have been great at installing our ground source heat. David and Charlie Delve, Michael Vacher and their crew from next to the Marsh Lane chicken barns did sterling work in getting the Mole Valley steels painted with intumescent paint (a requirement post-Grenfell Tower), before cladding.

We were lucky enough to secure a LEADER grant before that EU funding finished. This funds the majority of the specialist cheese equipment we have had to install. It will give us some advantage in the long term. For example, by buying a milk pasteuriser we will be able to reduce our organic milk costs by buying raw milk. Part of the conditions of the grant is that we will employ three additional people within three years of the Cheese Barn being built. We have already started with excellent cheesemaker Mark Lewis from Gillingham who is about to go full time (he previously worked at Keen's Cheddar and Wykes). I have some fair experience of applying for public funds but this application was by far the hardest I have undertaken, albeit with the superb support of Sarah Dyke and Emma Curtis at Heart of Wessex.

We knew from the start that we wanted to build the Cheese Barn to be 100% sustainable, not use fossil fuels, and employ the very best environmental practices. This proved trickier than we anticipated. There was no cheese consultant who was also expert in sustainable energy use (there is now!). We were six months into the build before we and



our cheese consultant had a damascene moment that determined we needed to have 40KW of solar PV panels to power ground source heat pumps providing heating and hot water, the pasteuriser, cheese vat, and commercial dishwasher. That meant quickly sourcing an additional 22 KW, which we managed just before the final Feed In Tariff ended. We are now measuring our energy use before investing in batteries to use our solar energy at night. We've planted 1200 trees across our land, and feed all our whey to our Oxford Sandy & Black pigs in the next door barn, rather than paying for it to be removed from the site.



Government systems need to catch up and reflect where we are heading environmentally. Our Environmental Health Officer at South Somerset still wishes us to pack our clean kitchen whites in single use plastic bags. We are pushing back, asking for Tupperware boxes as storage for clean clothes. This will take time and energy we could otherwise be putting into developing new cheeses but we are convinced that this is the right thing to do.

We are about to launch our new website at [www.felthamsfarm.com](http://www.felthamsfarm.com) where you can follow the cheese, and our growing farmstay business. We will be collaborating with other local businesses shortly to develop the "cheese experience" by offering cheese tastings and tours in 2020. You may see us around delivering cheese in our 100% electric van, powered by our solar panels. In the meantime, we are happy to offer farmgate sales during office hours and we may yet install an honesty fridge. So if you would like to buy our particularly "grown up cheese" (according to The Sherborne Times) then please do visit and we will happily show you around. Just ask for either Marcus or Penny.

#### \*Renegade Monk Cheese

Silver - Best Washed-Rind Cheese - British Cheese Awards 2019

Winner - Best Food Producer - WDP Food & Farming Awards 2019

Gold - Taste of the West Awards 2019

Silver - Best Washed-Rind Cheese - Artisan Cheese Awards 2019

Runner up - Best New Cheese Producer - Great British Cheese Awards 2018

Two Stars - Great Taste Awards 2018

Gold - Best Artisan Soft Cheese - Global Cheese Awards 2017

Silver - Best Washed-Rind Cheese - World Cheese Awards 2017

Runner up - Best Soft Cheese - Great British Cheese Awards 2017

### **HENSTRIDGE SUMMER FESTIVAL**

JULY 27th 11am – 11.30pm

Dog show, skateboarding and bmx stars

Retro games, vintage teas

DJ workshops - And much more

## July Services

### St John the Baptist, Horsington

7th July	9.15am	Holy Communion
14th July	11.00am	Morning Prayer
21st July	9.15am	Holy Communion
28th July	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

### St Nicholas, Henstridge

7th July	11.00am	Morning Worship	6.30pm Evensong
14th July	9.30am	Holy Communion	
21st July	11.00am	Morning Prayer	6.30pm Evensong
28th July	11.00am	Holy Communion	

### St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

7th July	11.00am	Morning Praise
14th July	9.30am	Holy Communion
21st July	11.00am	Holy Communion
28th July	9.30am	Holy Communion

## August Services

### St John the Baptist, Horsington

4th Aug	9.15am	Holy Communion
11th Aug	11.00am	Morning Prayer
18th Aug	9.15am	Holy Communion
25th Aug	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

### St Nicholas, Henstridge

4th Aug	11.00am	Morning Worship	6.30pm Evensong
11th Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion	
18th Aug	11.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
25th Aug	11.00am	Holy Communion	

### St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

4th Aug	11.00am	Morning Praise
11th Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion
18th Aug	11.00am	Morning Praise
25th Aug	9.30am	Holy Communion

From the Rector

When we are getting along with each other and we are accomplishing things and having fun doing it, life seems good and wholesome. We enjoy being together and doing things together, whether in the family, at work, on the sports field, at school, at the club, or at the gym. There is a buzz and a sense of excitement and purpose.

But when we stop getting along with each other, when we fall out, or become selfish, the fun seems to dissipate, and life becomes a bit drabber and more fragmented. We no longer look forward to meeting up. We become disgruntled and a sense of accomplishment and purpose goes.

That is one of the reasons the Bible tells us “how very good and pleasant it is when people live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore”. These are wonderful images of abundance and contentment.

Let us thank God for our Summer, when we have so many opportunities to pull together in the village, and between villages, in all the pageants, fetes, fairs, festivals and fundraising events that are put on. It is a time to meet neighbours and share stories; to reconnect with others as we find ourselves on the organising teams, working together in unity for the common good.

We are each so very different with our experiences and gifts, yet so very similar in finding fulfilment in being and doing together. May this Summer enable us all to find our neighbour and enjoy the unity in our diversity as we come together in all that is put on around us, whether we are part of the organising team or part of the consumption team!

And when the week is over, and Sunday dawns, with the satisfaction of united effort at its highest, let's gather in the Parish Church and give thanks to God for the blessing we experience in working together for the common good.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev'd Kevin

# Horsington Church School Open Afternoon for Pre- School Children

Come and join us on Wednesday  
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10th July from 2-3pm for a play  
afternoon



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## Charlton Horethorne & District Gardening Club

Our garden visit in July is to Forest Lodge, Penselwood, a 3-acre, mature garden, with lovely views across Blackmore Vale. There is a lake, formal gardens, a rose garden and much more besides. The owner has arranged for her gardeners to guide us around and serve us tea and homemade cakes after the tour, at a cost of £8.50 per person. Please meet at Forest Lodge, Penselwood, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 8LL at 2pm on Tuesday, July 9th. This is a car-share visit, so do please contact Judy Easdale ([judy.easdale@gmail.com](mailto:judy.easdale@gmail.com)) if you need a lift.

On Saturday, 10th August, we have the Summer Show. This is not limited to club members; everyone is welcome to enter. Schedules (£1) are in the Charlton Horethorne Village Shop from the beginning of July and contain an entry form. It's only £1 for adults and free for children to enter as many classes as you want – and the more classes you enter, the better chance you have of winning a prize! Remember to put your entry form, plus £1, through my letter box by 7pm on Wednesday, 7th August (address details are on the entry form). Bring your Art and Photography entries to the Charlton Horethorne Village Hall on Friday 9th, between 3-5pm and bring all other entries on Saturday 10th, between 9-10am. No late entries will be accepted. Please return cups awarded last year (polished and in their bag), by 30 July at the latest, to Jo Slade at The Old Orchard, North Road, Charlton Horethorne. I look forward to seeing you all at the Show!

P.S. looking ahead to September, we have an exciting joint event with Milborne Port Gardening Club on the 17th – Alan Power, Head Gardener at Stourhead, is coming to talk to us. More details nearer the time.

Kate Hill  
Chairman

Tel: (01963) 220044 or [mchugh\\_hill@hotmail.com](mailto:mchugh_hill@hotmail.com)



Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019  
Blackmore Vale U3A

a talk by  
The Cats Protection Society at Henstridge Village Hall 2.30pm

Members £1.50 Visitors £2.50 refreshments included  
A donation of a sachet, tin or packet of cat food would be welcome



## Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington

At 8.30pm on Wednesday 3rd July & 7th August

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

Further details from Anna on 01963 370749

## Horsington Open blasts off on September 7<sup>th</sup>

The “Horsington Open” is back in September. This annual fun golf tournament in aid of local charities will be played at [Henstridge Golf Club](#) on Saturday September 7th 2019. Last year they raised over £1000 for St Margaret’s Hospice and Wincanton Live at Home. Can they do better this year?

The 9-hole competition is open to all comers. Ladies and non-handicappers are welcome. Individuals and teams of 4 can enter.

The prize (as befits an “Open”) is a claret jug, plus team prizes and many others generously donated by local businesses.

The field normally includes some really good golfers, some desperately bad golfers, many ladies and several beginners. The result is normally a cliff-hanger, and it’s always fun.

The easiest way to enter is to book on line via Facebook or the Horsington Blog (Google it). Pay on the day.

Or you can get an entry form and more information from the Half Moon, the White Horse, or Henstridge Golf Club, ALL WELCOME!

The competition is organised by Horsington’s David and Tricia Blake and Richard Gaunt





**Strawberry Meeting with Stavordale Group Guests**  
**Anything Goes by Jan McNeill**  
**Thursday July 4th**

**Food For Thought by Brian Wright**  
**Thursday August 1st**

Telephone Mrs Jackie Pyne for further information on  
**01963 370713**

## **Bobologism No 12**

by Bob Jones

### Dutch Courage

We use the phrase to suggest that alcohol in some form makes one more courageous, but why *DUTCH*?

Apparently the Dutch soldiers in the Anglo-Dutch wars of 1652-74 were noted for their bravery, and their capacity for alcohol.

When William of Orange became William III of England, having married the Roman Catholic King James's daughter Mary, he plainly felt a need to put a Dutch, Protestant, stamp onto English society. Until then the favoured alcoholic drink in Britain was wine, sometimes fortified in the form of Port or Sherry. These all came from southern Europe, which was predominantly Roman Catholic. William introduced the Dutch drink extracted from Juniper berries, called jenever, which the English called Gin. This in a way asserted the new Protestant way of drinking, at the same as competing with the Catholic south for the alcohol trade.

The English found that a good slug of this new drink did indeed relax them before battle, and made them braver in the field. Hence "Dutch Courage".

The label "Dutch" was once rather uncomplimentary, probably without good reason, except as a jibe against our naval rivals across the North Sea. A *Dutch Uncle* was unpleasant and stern, *Dutch Comfort* is no comfort at all, *Dutch Reckoning* is a fraudulent price that was raised if you argued about it, and a *Dutch Widow* was a prostitute. In 1934 the Dutch government finally noticed all this and made it a rule that their ambassadors in English-speaking countries only used the term The Netherlands. And Holland is only part of the Netherlands, being but two of the twelve provinces.

## **Crossword Answers**

**Across**  
 1. Gorgonzola. 8. Rumpiled. 9. T-bone. 10. Hone. 11. Paroxysm. 13. Verge. 14. Alert. 16. Lothario. 17. Chow. 20. Aloft. 21. Barking. 22. Princesses.

**Down**  
 1. Girth. 2. Remuneration. 3. Oils. 4. Zodiac. 5. Littoral. 6. Polytechnics. 7. Permit. 12. Megastar. 13. Vulcan. 15. Sinbin. 18. Wages. 19. Erie.



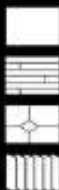
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## CONTACT LIST

(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
<b>Doctors' Surgeries</b>	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
	Wincanton Health Centre	435700
French/Italian Conversation	Jeanne Mortarotti	202265
<b>Horsington Church School</b>	Head/Secretary	370358
Governor	Jean Boyd-Lee	371137
PTFA	Abby Spoors	
	<a href="mailto:abzspoors@gmail.com">abzspoors@gmail.com</a>	
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
MP	David Warburton	020 7219 5225
<b>Parish Council</b>		
Chair	Jackie Pyne	370713
Clerk	David Chapman	370527
	<a href="mailto:www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com">www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com</a>	
<b>St John's Church</b>		
Rector	Rev. Kevin Rogers	363832
Wardens	Anne Jones &	370626
	Stephen Miles	371823
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
<b>Village Hall</b>	<a href="http://www.horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk">www.horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk</a>	
Chair	John Macdonald	370444
Bookings	Emilie Gordon	371396
Art	Gill Elston &	370236
	Alison Clements	370866
Football	Keith Norman	370332
Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032
Upholstery	Andrée MacLeod	351918