The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

April 2020 Issue No.91



Watercolour of Horsington pond by John Vallins

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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to *info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk* by noon on 10th April 2020

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 <u>www.wincantonwindow.co.uk</u> and click on the 'Villages' link.

Events Diary - April 2020

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue	
Wed 1st	8.30pm	Music Night	Half Moon Inn	
Fri 3rd		Horsington School Easter break		
Mon 6th	Lunch	Ladies' Lunch Club	Bennett Arms, Semley	
Tue 7th	10.30am	Upholstery	Village Hall	
Thu 9th	7.00pm	Horsington Parish Annual Council Meetin	g "	
Tue 14th	10.30am	Upholstery	"	
Wed 15th	7.30pm	MPO The Arcadians	Milborne Port Village Hall	
Tue 21st	10.30am	Upholstery	Village Hall	
		Horsington School returns from Easter break		
Fri 24th	7.00pm	Moviola - Official Secrets	Milborne Port Village Hall	
	7.30pm	Wincanton History Society	Wincanton Memorial Hall	
Mon 27th	5.30pm	Pilates	Village Hall	
	6.45pm	Pilates	"	
Tue 28th	10.30am	Upholstery	"	

CHURCH NOTICE

Although we will not be having regular services for a while, the church will be open each day for individual meditation, prayer, or just to have some quiet time to reflect.

CANCELLATION OF EVENTS

The April **WI Speaker Meeting** at Village Hall has been cancelled **The Moon Ball** event in July has been cancelled The **VE Day Event** in May has been cancelled **MPO** have cancelled their April productions of 'The Arcadians' **Art** classes at the Village Hall have been cancelled until further notice. *Readers are advised to check whether planned gatherings have been postponed or cancelled*.

THANK YOU JOHN

The Villager magazine would like to pay tribute to John Cross who has been a senior stalwart of the Distribution team, delivering almost the largest number of magazines each month and doing this since the magazine started nine years ago in April 2011. We cannot let him step down without recording our gratitude for this service.

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Reflections on some watercolours

Bruton, St Mary's Church and the Packhorse bridge

Both the 102 foot tower of St Mary's Church and the singular packhorse bridge across the River Brue date from the 15th century and so are more or less unaltered relics of ancient Bruton. Pevsner's guide to the buildings of South Somerset describes the church as "one of the proudest of East Somerset."

We lived in Bruton between 1957 and 1965, initially in the top floor, two bedroom flat of number 42 High Street, with a lovely view across the Brue to the Dovecote, and for a rent of 25 shillings, or $\pounds 1.25$, per week, an amount which my modest salary from King's school could manage without too much strain.

That was a time long before Bruton boasted a one way traffic system, an internationally renowned art gallery, a boutique hotel, glittering shop window displays and a Michelin star chef.

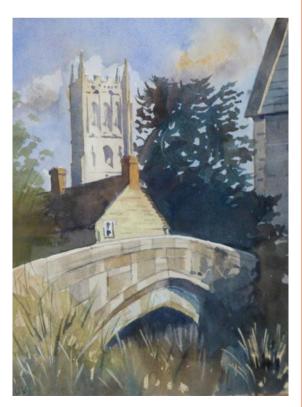
St Mary's Church was the place of worship for the school as well as the parish. So it was our church on both counts, and the rector, John Hayward, became, and remains today, a close friend, He and I used to play golf together and occasionally found ourselves in the same cricket team, most notably for the lovely old club called

"Somerset Stragglers", which was privileged to play some August two-day games on the county ground at Taunton. I still occasionally meet him there, though these days as spectator rather than player.

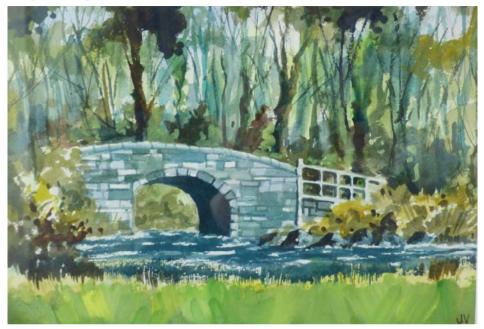
Over the years, we must have followed the footfall of numberless generations across the Packhorse bridge as we went between church, school, town and home.

The Brue was notorious for its floods then, and we experienced one spectacular example when our ancient car was more or less afloat in the lane known as 'Lower Backway', its sump, as we later discovered, full of sludge rather than oil. Happily, an ambitious flood prevention scheme uphill and upstream has long since done its work.

This view is from the Lower Backway.



Fingle Bridge



Fingle Bridge crosses a lively stretch of the River Teign, near Drewsteignton, in Devon. It leads to Fingle Woods, below the dramatic pile of Castle Drogo.

The origin of this picture was a residential watercolour course. One day's work involved a minibus trip to paint Fingle Bridge. Some dozen of us set up our easels beside the river, supervised by our tutor.

Fingle Bridge is a notable beauty spot, and a steady stream of walkers passed our way, many of them peering over one's shoulder to make enquiries, offer helpful suggestions or make more or less complimentary observations on one's efforts so far... That evening, my only excuse for my own poor painting (we all had to display our work for mutual appraisal) was the amount of such unwelcome distraction I had suffered. The picture represented here was a second or third attempt done at home rather than on site.

Horsington Horsepond, sluice gates and Duck Lane (cover picture)

This view will be familiar to most 'Villager' readers. We have lived in Horsington since 1992, and when we first came, the horse pond was often mistakenly known as the duckpond: it had its own duck population, though every year's new family of ducklings was doomed to be soon lost to predators. We have seen no ducks there for a good many years now, but the pond has recently undergone a splendid renewal and is now not just a place where one may enjoy the peace and the changing reflections, but also a habitat adapted to the needs of local wildlife species.

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John Vallins

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

On Wednesday December 11th 2019 The Times newspaper published an article suggesting that Millenials and Generation Zers were having trouble telling the time from an analogue source, preferring instead to use digital readouts such as those found on computers, tablets, phones and smartwatches.

Mindful of the above, a group of thoughtful, innovative locals have got together to table a proposal to the Parish Council with a view to digitising the clock face on St John's Church. This proposal reads as follows;



- That the existing clock face be removed and replaced with a digital display. To this end, a Salisbury based lighting company has kindly offered to provide four, metre-high, red, LED readouts (one for each quadrant) free of charge. The display would be computer controlled and linked, via the internet, to the atomic clock at Greenwich, and would thus be error free. The obvious benefits thereof are that the young, and old, will be able to tell the time from the Church for a full 360 degrees around, and especially at night.
- 2) That, owing to compatibility problems, the bell chime mechanism be removed and replaced by a mosque style loudspeaker system. To cater for this, an audio company from Wareham has agreed to supply the necessary equipment, also free of charge, provided that it is allowed to broadcast a short advertising jingle once a month. Parishioners living in close proximity to the church are respectfully asked to exhibit patience while the loudspeaker volume is undergoing trials.
- 3) That all existing clock hardware be removed from the bell tower to make room for the proposed computer and amplification hardware. Although this equipment will be provided 'gratis', some local help will be required for its installation, and volunteers will be requested to come forward in due course.

This is not a wind-up, it's electronic! And it will relieve John Macdonald of his onerous weekly task of attending to the existing mechanism.

If you have any comments on the above, you are requested to make them in writing to the Parish Council Chair prior to the next meeting.

Finally, interested parishioners will be able to view an artist's impression of the new look belltower in the St John's Church porch from April 1st.



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HORSINGTON CHURCH

From the Rector

One of the great joys and privileges of my role is being with the children of our local school. So, when I found out that some year groups were doing a ramble from Charlton Horethorne back to school across the countryside, as part of their learning, I couldn't but help getting in on the action. Thank God, the weather was great, and the sun was shining. Playful and energetic children traipsing through mud and water, over stiles and past cows, learning about seasonal changes, teamwork, perseverance, respect, kindness and drawing a tree in the countryside.

These children were, from start to finish, throughout the morning, a pure delight to be with. I was proud of the school, their families, and the children themselves. I began to ponder who they might become in the future. Could there be a Prime Minister amongst them, or an astronaut, a farmer, or scientist, a parent or an entrepreneur? One thing I was conscious of, was that these children are our next generation that would lead us through our twilight years. And I was thrilled at the quality of character I was seeing developing in these young people.

But they still need our guidance and wisdom. The school is doing extremely well on all fronts but needs Foundation Governors to help lead the school into the future for the sake of these children – and our village! If this is something God has been speaking to you about, please do contact me or the school. And let's together, play our part in shaping these young lives to become all God intended for them to become. In the Bible we read, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving" Yours in Christ.

Kevin

St John the Baptist, Horsington	
5th April (Palm Sunday)	9.15am Holy Communion
10th April (Good Friday)	2.00pm Last Hour at the Cross
12th April (Easter Sunday)	11.00am Holy Communion
19th April	9.15am Holy Contaction
26th April	8 30 Hory Communion (BCP)
St Nicholas, Hen rite	
5th, (ralm Sunday)	11 Pan Morning Work ip 6.30pt ening Heyer
h April (Maundy Thur day)	7.30am July Cummun in
1 h April (Good day)	7.30am Evening Worship
120 Ap 1 (Laste St. day	30 n Lory Communion
19 Ar 1	11.00am Holy Communication 0.30pm Choral Evensong
26t Ap	11.00am Holy Aution
St Mary The Virgin, Terman	loe
5th Aril (Passanday)	11.00am Morning Praise
10th April (Good Friday)	10.00am Morning Worship
12th April (Easter Sunday)	9.30am Holy Communion
19th April	11.00am Morning Praise
26th April	11.00am St George's Day Parade Service with Scout Group

Weinesda, 25 - Saturday 18 April, 7.30 pm (The week after Easter) Tickets £12.00 - Reserved seats - To book: **www.mpopera.co.uk** Concessions (Wednesday only) £10.00 Wheelchair spaces available (email gaunt@idnet.com)

An Edwardian manual comedy gem

Opera Presents "The Acadians"

This MPO production has been cancelled. People who booked on line will have received an email offering a refund. They should respond to this in order to obtain it. People who booked in Waynes in Milborne port should ask for their money back there. MPO apologises to everyone with many thanks for their support. We will back!

At the Somerset Fellowship of Drama's (SFD) David Beach awards for musical theatre, the MPO was nominated for five awards in various categories. At the awards dinner at the Somerset County cricket ground in Taunton, MPO won two awards: Best Made set – the Set of "Anything Goes", which transformed the Milborne Port Village Hall into an ocean liner – and Best Supporting male actor, which went to Matt Baker for his performance as Sir Evelyn Oakleigh in "Anything Goes".

Goes", which transformed the Milborne Port Village Hall into an ocean
liner – and Best Supporting male actor, which went to Matt Baker for his
performance as Sir Evelyn Oakleigh in "Anything Goes".
MPO was also nominated for the Challenge Shield (for overcoming
significant production challenges), The Adjudicators Award (for an
excellent scene in "Anything Goes") and the best Small Venue Award.
Sadly they did not carry off any of these, but is a great honour to be
nominated in this annual competition, which is rigorously adjudicated by a
team of experienced performers and producers.

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HORSINGTON VILLAGE VE DAY CELEBRATIONS



Bobologism No.17

by Bob Jones

The suffix "-oid" at the end of a word comes from the Greek and means "like". It is used a lot in Anatomy where we have the Scaphoid bone, an important little bone in the wrist which sometimes gets fractured. It was thought to resemble a boat, and the Greek for a boat was "*skaphos*".

In the base of the skull is the most complicated bone in the body, the Sphenoid, which is so-called as it is partly wedge-shaped and the Greek for a wedge is *sphenos*.

"Delta" is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet, is written as a triangle, and because of its shape is used to describe a type of river mouth as it enters the sea. Hence the Mekong Delta etc. There is a muscle in the shoulder and upper arm which is shaped like a delta, so it is known as -yes, you've got it- the *Deltoid*. You may well have heard it talked about.

If you put your finger behind your ear-lobe you will find a hard roundish bone called the "Mastoid" process. Most people have heard of *Mastoiditis* which is when the mastoid becomes inflamed or infected. (Happily a much rarer occurrence since the advent of antibiotics) And the Mastoid is so called because it resembles a breast; "Mast-" in Greek, gives us words such as Mastitis and Mastectomy. The Amazons were a legendary tribe of fierce female archers. They allegedly removed their right breasts, the better to pull back their bow-string; the prefix "a-" meaning without, so A-mas or Amaz means without a breast.

Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington

At 8.30pm on Wed. 1st April



Please come and join us, play whilst enjoying a beer. Free, apart from drinks. Further details from **Anna** on **01963 370749**



Moviola - Milborne Port (Village Hall)

Date: Friday April 24th

Film: Official Secrets (15) (2019) 112 mins

Starring: Keira Knightly, Mathew Goode Ralph Fiennes and Matt Smith

Official Secrets is a 2019 British-American docudrama film based on the life of whistleblower Katharine Gun who leaked a memo detailing that the United States had eavesdropped on diplomats from countries tasked with passing a second United Nations resolution on the invasion of Iraq.

Milborne Port Parish Council has again financially supported the Village Hall for the 2019-2020 Moviola season. This has meant we are still able to offer tickets at our 2014 launch price



Tickets: £5.00 in advance - £5.50 at door

Advance tickets are exclusively available from Wayne Pullen, Butcher of Milborne Port from 1st November 2019. Doors open at 7.00pm, with the show starting at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall (located in Springfield Road, Milborne Port, DT9 5RE).



Wincanton Museum and History Society Talk

Friday 24th April at 7.30pm Wincanton Memorial Hall

Tales of Shepton Mallet Prison by Graham Miller

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

BE VIGILANT

Unfortunately this weekend we have had our chainsaw stolen from outside our house in Cheriton Street, approx 3.30pm on Saturday 29th Feb. We saw it happen and noted the registration number of the silver Mitsubishi YY54 ZCU. The police have been informed but thought it may also be useful to make people aware and to be vigilant about this vehicle. *Natasha Holden*



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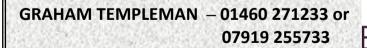
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Doctors' Surgeries Milborne I Wincanton French/Italian Conversation	Port (inc Templecombe) n Health Centre Jeanne Mortarotti	250334 435700 202265				
Horsington Church School Governor PTFA	Head/Secretary Connie Hurt Abby Spoors abzspoors@gmail.com	370358 07785 373388				
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley Susan Maltin	371478 371400 020 7210 5225				
MP	David Warburton	020 7219 5225				
Parish Council						
Chair	Jackie Pyne	370713				
Clerk	David Chapman	370527				
St. Jahr 'r Chranch	www.horsingtonpc@gn	nail.com				
St John's Church	Day Varin Dagang	262022				
Rector	Rev. Kevin Rogers	363832				
Wardens	Anne Jones &	370626				
Courdeou Calca al	Stephen Miles	370823				
Sunday School	Deirdre Loftus Geoff Crabb	370091				
Scouts Social Services	Geon Clabb	370623 0845 345 9133				
South Somerset District Counci	1	01935 462462				
U3A						
	Jean Lindley	251256 602500				
Village Emergency Telephone S Wincanton Town Council	System (VETS)	31693				
W.I.	Jackie Pyne	370713				
Village Hall	www.horsingtonvillage					
Chair	John Macdonald	370444				
Bookings	Emilie Gordon Gill Elston &	371396				
Art	Alison Clements	370236				
Football	Keith Norman	370866 370332				
Football Pilates	Carol Pirie	07885 798032				
Upholstery	Andrée MacLeod	351918				
Opholstery	Anute MacLeou	551710				