

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	Connie Hurt	07785 373388
PTFA	Terri Mills terrimills0@gmail.com	
Ladies' Lunch Group	Rosemarie Wigley	371478
	Susan Maltin	371400
MP	David Warburton	020 7219 5225
Parish Council		
Chair	Mark Tucker	370910
Clerk	David Chapman www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com	370527
St John's Church		
Rector	Rev. Kevin Rogers	363832
Wardens	Anne Jones & Stephen Miles	370626 370823
	Geoff Crabb	370623
Scouts		0845 345 9133
Social Services		01935 462462
South Somerset District Council		
U3A	Susan Kidd	362107
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
Football	Keith Norman	370332
Yoga	Emma Riley	0788 424 6550 370830

The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

April 2022 - Issue 111



The sting in Winter's tail - A tree fell across Horsington pond on Friday 18th February knocking down power lines and disrupting electricity supplies for two days. Photo by Stuart Jackson

Chair	Sally Packer	370376	Treasurer/Adverts	Chris McCairns	370049
Compiler	Deborah Pitchforth	370867	Articles	Sheila Leaning	370899
Compiler	Trent Nicholson	370738	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 April 2022

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 2022

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Tues 5th		Ladies' Lunch	The Ship, West Stour
	7.00pm	Yoga	Village Hall
Thu 7th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 8th	10.00am	Art	"
Tues 12th	7.00pm	Yoga	"
Wed 13th	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	"
Thu 14th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 15th	10.00am	Art	"
Tues 19th	7.00pm	Yoga	"
Wed 20th	7.30pm (<i>for 3 days</i>)	Milborne Port Opera	MP Village Hall
Thu 21st	10.00am	Art	Village Hall
Fri 22nd	10.00am	Art	"
Tues 26th	7.00pm	Yoga	"
Thu 28th	10.00am	Art	"
Fri 29th	10.00am	Art	"
	7.30pm	Wincanton History Society	Balsam Centre
	7.30pm	Film: Spencer	Milborne Port Village Hall

More Music – Focus on Sherborne

Sherborne has a new concert venue. Officially opened in June 2019, the Gransden Hall at Sherborne Girls School is a beautiful new hall with excellent acoustics and stunning interior design. The Sherborne Chamber Music Series currently has four concerts programmed there. See: www.https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/dorset/gransden-hall-sherborne-girls.

The Sherborne Abbey Festival is now open for booking for its successful May Day weekend events comprising 20 concerts over the 5 days Friday 29th April to Tuesday 3rd May. See: www.sherborneabbeyfestival.org. This is the highlight of music in our area and features both national and local musicians and singers and additionally pupils and teachers from Sherborne Boys, Sherborne Girls and Leweston.

Jazz at Cheap Street Church, off High Street Sherborne, is running 7 jazz concerts in 2022 featuring regional jazz musicians well known to jazz aficionados in our region. Contact for details and booking by email: raymondwood1949@gmail.com.

Jonathan Packer

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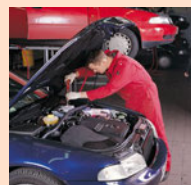
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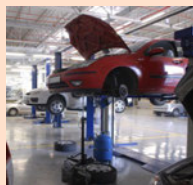
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Horsington & South Cheriton Street Party

in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Sunday 5th June 2022 - 12 noon to 3pm

Sunday Roast - Bar facilities within a marquee area outside the Half Moon pub

Entertainment by Sherborne Town Band

Tickets £15 per head - accompanied children under 12 free.

Tickets are available from John Sansom (07974 662145)

or Andrew Tarling (01963 370140)

Bobologism 34

OLIGARCH. That's a funny word, of which we're unfortunately hearing rather a lot these days. Whatever does it mean?

Well, as so often, there are two parts to the word, both coming from the Greek. "*OLIGO*" means a few, and "*ARCH*" means a ruler or leader. So an Oligarch is one of a few people who rule or influence leaders in an Oligarchy. Does it make you think of anyone famous? Or infamous?

The "-arch" bit is in common usage. Think of 'Monarch' from Mono- meaning 'one', so we get the One Ruler. Or *arch*bishop or *arch*angel.

All the horrendous news coming out of Ukraine strikes a bit of a chord with me as I've always had quite an interest in Russian history. In 1964 and -65 I had an interesting time as a sort of courier in the old Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. We were in Moscow and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) of course, and on the first trip I also went to Kiev, or Kyiv. In 1965 I was lucky to go on the Trans-Siberian Railway right across to the Pacific. All this was at the height of the Cold War of course, so it was quite exciting.

From Kiev we went to the then Czechoslovakia, crossing the border at a little town called Cop, pronounced "Chop". My contact in Prague was a chap called George Nossek. With his wife he visited London the next year, was eventually given permission to stay here (that's another interesting story) and ended up working for the BBC Czechoslovakian service, broadcasting in Czech to his homeland. I'm still in regular contact with him and spoke on the phone to him and his wife about Ukraine, last week. On the way home from Prague I was detained for a bit by the East German police in Berlin (another story!). I paid them the money -not a lot- that they were after and was permitted to go through to the West.

45 years later I re-visited St. Petersburg in a very different guise, working on a cruise-ship. Another article maybe.

Horsington/South Cheriton seems very peaceful in comparison, but I wouldn't want to live and have worked anywhere else. But I think I speak for all of us when I say that our thoughts and prayers are with the unfortunate people of the Ukraine.

Bob Jones

A Life in Family History

I remember looking at the family tree in my grandparents' attic where we slept as children when we went to stay – a rather terrifying experience as there was a tailor's dummy in the corner! I was hooked on the idea of family trees from that moment, and on leaving university decided to work as an apprentice to a succession of well established genealogists to learn about the sources that I would need to look at. This was long before the internet, or even microfilm, featured in any sort of research like this and entailed visits to freezing cold churches to look at the baptism and marriage registers.

My first employer was a Mormon in Edinburgh whose clients needed to trace their families back four generations so that these ancestors could be baptised into the Mormon church. This work was like a factory, we skipped through the work at great speed, did four generations and moved on to the next one. It was made more fun by the fact that my fellow assistant was the daughter of the doctor in Henstridge – I come from Kingston Magna and he was our family doctor – but we were now both in Edinburgh! My next employer was also in Edinburgh and he realised that I was soon tiring of the four generation sausage machine, and so introduced me to more interesting records and mainly taught me to read old handwriting. His patience and skill are with me today as I now teach old handwriting classes. Believe me the 16th century has the clearest handwriting, even if the alphabet appears to be quite different. Moving on to my third employer I moved back down south to Exeter where I was introduced to legal records which have become my favourite and the ones I teach and write about the most. My apprenticeship period over, I was asked to take over the business of employer number 2 who was retiring, so moved back to Edinburgh and concentrated on the difficult cases that no one else would take on. My clients were mostly American, and my favourite was the head of Coca Cola in Europe whose family came originally from north west Scotland. When on holiday in Milan I met him to deliver my latest report and was swept up in his drama of a shortage of glass bottles – what can Coca Cola do when there are no bottles? The clients are almost as interesting as the research itself! With a one year waiting list, two full time assistants and students to help in the summer, there was no shortage of work or clients.

After three years in Edinburgh I missed the south and came back and was then based in London for many years where I concentrated more on the legal records that I have come to love. Reading these records is like shining a torch back onto a small moment in a family's history several hundred years ago. Where else would we learn of a landowner puffing with a bright red face and getting angry as he tried to prevent his tenants taking back their cows which he had kidnapped, where else would we hear of people in Horwood just outside Wincanton being prevented from getting to the market or to church as savage dogs were loose on the footpath? And where else would I find a complete inventory of a shop in Kent on the Dover/London road that stocked every sort of spice you have heard of, and many you haven't, along with cambric shirts and fowling pieces, and all in the 1680s?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Including Births* Deaths* Birthdays* Weddings* Anniversaries* Congratulations

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info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk

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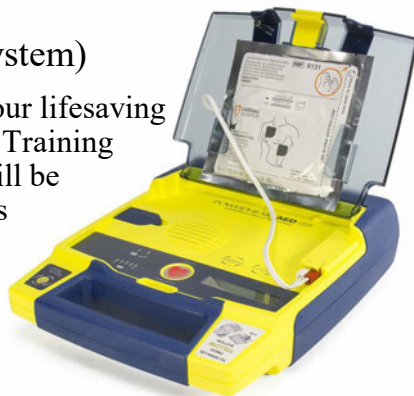
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After moving back home to the west country my work now varies from hunting ghosts – please identify the lady in grey who has been seen in our house (and yes I was able to work out who she might have been); to the man who left 5 wills and was bullied on his death bed into leaving everything to a friend in 1712 which led to 30 years of court disputes; to the young man who inherited a house but without any servants told his mother that he was reduced to eating potatoes and strawberries from the garden with a friend who came to join him. The personal lives of these people from the past are as exciting as anything you can find on tv today, such as the fight over the contents of a pub in Wimborne Minster when the widow left everything to her lover and excluded her sons. I have investigated smugglers on the Dorset coast, with long descriptions of how the local large land owner allowed them to use his cellar, even after he was appointed as the chief prosecutor! I may not be that interested in whether John is the son of James or William, but once I get to know these people from whichever century at a personal level, I really start to care. People are same in the 16th century as now, they lie, they cheat, they steal and yet they also love and suffer family disasters. One of the worst was a family in my early research in Scotland where all 9 children and the wife died within a few weeks. But I wouldn't change one minute of my life and I still get a real thrill from opening a new box of 16th century documents.

Susan Moore



Milborne Port Opera Bounces Back

Milborne Port Opera is back in action after a long lockdown. Rehearsals are well under way for Franz

Lehar's popular operetta "The Merry Widow", full of memorable songs, waltzes and the Can Can, performed by the company's delightful "Grisettes".

It's also very funny. It concerns the expatriate community living in Paris of a tiny republic called Pontevedro, somewhere in the mountains of Transylvania. The country's richest banker dies on his honeymoon in Paris, leaving his delightful young wife 20 millions of whatever currency they use. The pompous ambassador plots to ensure that only a Pontevdrian will marry the widow and get the money, but who can he find? Step forward Count Danilovitch, aka Danilo, who is determined not to fall in love with her. Come and see it to find out if he does!

The show is packed with romance, intrigue, confusion, humour and lots of memorable tunes.

All the usual MPO cast will be performing and are delighted to be back after a long absence. Horsington's Chris Bailward directs, aided and abetted by fellow resident Richard Gaunt (who, much to everyone's relief, has a non-singing part). Horsington's Janet Coles is playing in the orchestra. Caroline D'Cruz is directing the music. Don't miss.

The Merry Widow – From 20-23 April (the week after Easter), Milborne Port Village Hall 7.30. Tickets are £14.00 (Concessions on 1st night only) Book online at www.mpopera.co.uk or Wayne Pullen Butchers in Milborne Port.

You can keep up to date with the MPO by following them on Facebook.

Ultrafast broadband is coming to South Cheriton soon.

You may have already seen that Wessex Internet has been hard at work building their full fibre network in and around South Cheriton. They have completed their build in Lattiford and North Cheriton and will be connecting residents very soon. They have also recently started work in Stowell.

Wessex Internet is still planning to extend its full fibre network to South Cheriton. They've had approval to use government funding through the UK Gigabit Voucher programme which will help to provide everyone in the area with a completely FREE installation directly to their property. This means that every residence in South Cheriton is eligible to claim a £1500 (inc. VAT) voucher from the government to cover the cost of your installation. Businesses will also be able to claim £3,500 (exc. VAT).

Wessex Internet's planning team has been working to confirm the best route for the fibre network in South Cheriton. This has taken longer than originally anticipated, but has now been finalised. They have had to build considerable 'backbone' network in order to reach the area, and have therefore experienced a small number of delays along the way. However, the route is now confirmed for the first phase of build and this is likely to commence at the end of May.

Anyone in the village who has already applied for a voucher, or registered their interest with Wessex Internet, will hear from the team shortly before the work starts. If you have a voucher that is due to expire, please do not worry as an extension will be applied for and if this is not possible then you may be asked to reapply for your voucher.

While the process of bringing ultrafast broadband to South Cheriton has taken longer than planned, Wessex Internet is pleased that the build will start soon, meaning that they can have you connected and up and running with world class broadband as soon as possible.

If you would like to find out more, please do get in touch with the Wessex Team using the contact details below.

Find out more
0333 240 7997
wessexinternet.com





Power line repairs begin at Horsington Pond . Photo by Jonathan Packer

Moviola - Milborne Port (Village Hall)

**Friday 29th April 2022 Showing on our new Big Screen is
Spencer (12A) 117 mins**

The marriage of Princess Diana (Kristen Stewart) and Prince Charles (Jack Farthing) has long since grown cold. Though rumours of affairs and a divorce abound, peace is ordained for the Christmas festivities at the Queen's Sandringham Estate. There's eating and drinking, shooting and hunting. Diana knows the game. But this year, things will be profoundly different. *Spencer* is an imagining of what might have happened during those few fateful days.

Exclusively available from Wayne Pullen, Butcher, High Street, Milborne Port, advance tickets are £5.00 each (no concessions). Tickets will be available on the door, priced at £6.00 each (no concessions). Doors open at 7.00pm, with the show starting at 7.30pm.

A limited alcoholic bar will be available selling beer and wines. **Martin (01963 251217)**



Charlton Horethorne & District Gardening Club

Weather patterns are changing. Red "stay-at-home, danger-to-life" alerts like that for Storm Eunice this February are currently so rare that they typically occur only once every three years or so. However, they are expected to become increasingly frequent and damaging in the coming years, as climate change increases the amount of rainfall storms contain and rising sea levels makes flooding more likely.

As a consequence, our perspectives on what a garden should be and what we might like to grow in it will have to change. We now have a clearer idea, thanks to climate science, of what our future weather and climate might be like. This means we can plan for the changes that we will need to introduce in our gardens. But climate change need not be an insurmountable problem for our gardens; it provides opportunities as well as challenges.

This was the topic that our most recent speaker, Professor Geoff Dixon, tackled at the March meeting of the Charlton Horethorne & District Gardening Club. If it is something that interests you, then you might like to read 'Gardening in a Changing Climate' report (2017), which is available as a free download on the RHS website (rhs.org.uk/climate-change).

Future events at the club include a members-only shopping evening at Castle Gardens in April and a talk open to non-members in May from Paula Carnell. Paula was born in Dorset and has spent much of her adult life living in Castle Cary. She is now a Master Beekeeper, managing the bees at The Newt in Somerset. Come along to hear the story of her personal journey into the beauty of the bee-world. With lots of interesting insights in a life of a bee-keeper, Paula is a living example of how nature can help us to change our behaviour towards life, to make the world a better place. The talk is on Tuesday, May 10, in Charlton Horethorne Village Hall, 6.45pm for 7.15pm start. Tickets on the door for non-members are £3.00. Members free.

New members are always welcome, so do contact me if you'd like to join or if you have any questions about benefits or future events.

Kate Hill, Chair

LLOYDS MOBILE BANK



Some readers may not be aware that Lloyds Bank, Gillingham resumed its mobile banking service to Wincanton back in December 2021.

Currently the service operates from its Memorial Hall car park site on a Wednesday every fortnight between 12.30 and 13.30. The published future dates are April 6th and 20th. Thereafter at fortnightly intervals. The status of this service can be ascertained by phoning 0345 601 6943 and listening to a recorded message.

Horsington Parish Council

As the country recovers from the Coronavirus pandemic, normality has also been restored to the Parish Council and it has been good to have been able to meet regularly in person again for the last few months. It's been largely business as usual, although perhaps with a higher than usual number of planning applications as projects delayed by Covid now pick up momentum.

Since our last update in The Villager, our contractors undertook the work to clear the silt trap at the Horsington Wildlife Pond. Whilst the trap continues to perform its function relatively well, it is clear that as a result of the heavy rains last winter that an amount of silt has spilled over into the main pond area. A larger project will be needed in the coming years both to clear the over spilled silt and to modify the silt trap to stop this happening again; this will require significant expenditure and grant funding will need to be obtained.

Sadly, since the last update, the pond has also suffered from contamination from an accidental spillage of heating oil. The Parish Council has been in contact with the environmental contractors dealing with the spillage; we are hopeful that the unsightly remediation measures, intended to prevent further contamination, will be able to be removed before too long.

The Parish Council is incredibly grateful to everyone who helped keep our roads and public areas clear and safe during the recent storms Eunice and Franklin and is helping with the subsequent clear up including at the pond and cemetery. We are all hopeful that we'll soon be able to put those winter storms behind us; it certainly feels like spring is just around the corner. The warmer weather means a return to regular grass cutting and pruning. Parishioners can really help us keep our villages tidy by ensuring that any clippings are properly disposed of in green bins or domestic compost heaps rather than field hedges, ditches or verges. It also helps enormously with the maintenance of the cemetery and churchyard if floral tributes and their containers are removed promptly once they are past their best.

On Thursday 5th May we will see local elections held around the country. Elections for the Parish Council will only be required if the number of nominations received by the deadline has exceeded the seven positions available. If seven or fewer nominations have been received, those candidates will be automatically elected unopposed.

Finally, we are sad to have been informed that our wonderful Clerk, David Chapman, intends to retire later this year. We are therefore keen to hear from any parishioner who may be interested in taking on the role. This paid, part-time position requires great organisational and communication skills, four to six hours per week, and attendance at our Parish Council meetings which currently take place on the second Wednesday evening of each month. No experience is necessary, although a background in finance or administration would be beneficial. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please contact either David or Mark Tucker.

Best wishes for a fantastic spring! - *Mark Tucker*

HORSINGTON CHURCH

From the Rector

Emerging from the devastating Covid Pandemic, confronted by the horrors of conflict, the tragedies of natural disasters, fiscal challenges, and an uncertain future, we might find ourselves echoing the cry Jesus made on the cross, 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?' We hear this same cry in many of our Psalms as people long to know that God is with us.

Easter reminds us that God is indeed with us, even when we lose sight of him, or our faith starts to wane. This cosmic event changed all of history, gives shape and meaning to our present, and offers a certain future for those who say 'Yes' to Jesus. What Jesus went through on our behalf on the cross fills us again with the reassurance that God's just and gentle rule will reach its fulfilment when he comes again as Lord and Judge.

In our Lent study this year, we are learning what it means to inhabit the Sabbath rest each day as we respond and confront the injustices, the pain, and the uncertainties of our time with a love and a compassion that comes from that place of rest, of trust, in God. May I encourage you to renew your faith and trust in the one who lived and died for you, this Easter. The one who has so much more for each of us if we would but only come to him, day by day, immersing ourselves in his living word, and responding to the Holy Spirit's leading as we seek to be Christ in and to our world.

April programme

<i>Monday to Friday</i>	<i>5.30pm</i>	Evening Prayer (except Bank Holidays)
<i>Sunday 3rd</i>	<i>10am</i>	Holy Communion (Horsington) & Morning Worship (Templecombe and Henstridge)
<i>Palm Sunday 10th</i>	<i>10am</i>	Holy Communion (Henstridge)
<i>Good Friday 15th</i>	<i>2pm</i>	Last Hour Before the Cross (Templecombe)
<i>Easter Sunday 17th</i>	<i>10am</i>	Holy Communion at (Templecombe and Henstridge) and <i>9am</i> (Horsington)
<i>Sunday 24th</i>	<i>10am</i>	Holy Communion (Horsington)

The peace of God keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be experienced by you, and those for whom you pray and care for, each day.

Rev Kevin
(Tel 01963 363832)

