

# The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

June 2022 - Issue 113



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Please send all articles for possible inclusion in the next issue to  
[info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk) by noon on 12th June 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](http://www.wincantonwindow.co.uk) and click on the 'Villages' link.

## Events Diary - June 2022

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>Fri 3rd</b>		<b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee</b>	
<b>Sun 5th</b>	12.00pm	<b>Village Street Party</b>	Outside Half Moon
<b>Tues 7th</b>		<b>Ladies' Lunch</b>	Beckford Arms, Fonthill Gifford
	7.00pm	Yoga	Village Hall
<b>Wed 8th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council meeting</b>	"
<b>Thu 9th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Fri 10th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Tues 14th</b>	7.00pm	Yoga	"
<b>Thu 16th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Fri 17th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Sat 18th</b>	12.00pm	<b>School Summer Fete</b>	
<b>Tues 21st</b>	7.00pm	Yoga	Village Hall
<b>Thu 23rd</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Fri 24th</b>	10.00am	Art	"
<b>Tues 28th</b>	7.00pm	Yoga	"
<b>Thu 30th</b>	10.00am	Art	"

## 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)

HORSINGTON CHURCH SCHOOL PTA

# SUMMER FETE

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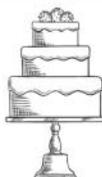
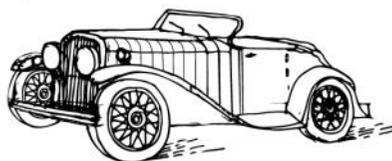
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# Milborne Port Opera

In 1990 a group of friends and work colleagues living in Milborne Port got together to perform Gilbert and Sullivan's **Trial by Jury** to raise funds to equip the newly built Village Hall. The show, performed on the floor of the Hall with minimal scenery and costume, was such a success that it was decided to continue and form a company, grandly christened **Milborne Port Opera** (MPO), which, over the last 32 years has become increasingly professional in its approach to performing not only the entire published works of Gilbert and Sullivan but several others, including three world premieres written by MPO member Neil Edwards.

In 1905 Franz Lehar, a Hungarian musician based in Vienna collaborated with Viktor Leon, one of the most important and successful librettists of the Viennese operetta scene, to produce *Die Lustige Witwe*, better known to the English speaking world as **The Merry Widow** and, in 2004, Horsington resident Chris Bailward directed the version adapted for amateur companies by Phil Park and Ronald Hanmer, bringing, in the words of one reviewer "poignant romance to this vivacious, fast moving and colourful show, while capturing the spirit of Paris and of the folksy, if imaginary, eastern European principality of Pontevedro".

Fast forward to 2019 when MPO had just completed a sell-out production of **Anything Goes** by Cole Porter and decided that their next performance would be the lesser known **The Arcadians** by Lionel Monkton and Howard Talbot. The show was in full rehearsal for performance the week after Easter 2020 when we all know what happened: Covid 19 caused the world to seize up and, with heavy heart, **MPO**, along with all other companies, both amateur and professional, went into hibernation, not knowing when, or if, they would ever perform again.

But C19 was not enough to destroy more than 30 years of history and a concert performance of **The Arcadians**, with minimal costume and no scenery, apart from an imaginative video, made by Horsington's own Richard Gaunt, projected onto Milborne Port Village Hall's newly fitted cinema screen, to transport the small, socially distanced but highly appreciative audience to Arcadia, was staged at the end of September 2021.

Normal practice for **MPO** is to decide on a production in May and then rehearse once a week from the beginning of September until performance the week after Easter. Having entrusted Chris Bailward with a new production of **The Merry Widow** for performance in 2022, the Group was faced with, not only reduced rehearsal time, but a lack of rehearsal space because the normal venue, Milborne Port Primary School, was unwilling to allow us to use their hall because of C19 concerns. However we started to learn the music in **Church House** Milborne Port on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 before moving to **Leweston School** at the end of November to set movement and dialogue. Although the space was far from ideal and we were disrupted by the need for several of the cast and production team to self-isolate during rehearsals, we were able to set Naomi Booth's imaginative choreography, with waltzing assistance from Allison Gosney to great effect and **The Merry Widow** was performed from 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022.

The set, designed by Chris Bailward, was beautifully realised by Neil Harrison-Shaw, Trevor John and Naomi Booth who all played their respective parts on stage as well, and transported the audience firstly to the Pontevedrian Embassy, complete with grand staircase, and then to a garden with a view over the Paris skyline.

**The Merry Widow** stands or falls on a charismatic central performance and Jessie Stones, who first appeared for MPO aged 17 as Phyllis in **Iolanthe**, provided just the right balance of confidence and romantic allure, as the eponymous Widow, her beautiful soprano voice filling the Hall. Anthony White provided an excellent foil as Danilo, the lazy, sybaritic Pontevedrian Attaché, more at home with the “ladies” of the demi-monde, than with high society and James Crow and Rachel Milestone-McAdorey fulfilled their roles as the hopeful lover and the Ambassador’s wife to great effect. The bumbling Ambassador played by long-serving MPO member and former Horsington resident Andrew Armstrong, brought his beautiful singing voice and strong stage presence to the role and the principals were supported by a well characterised 28 strong cast of singers and actors, including Horsington’s Richard Gaunt as the scheming Factotum to the Ambassador.



A reviewer opined that “ably directed by Chris Bailward with musical director Caroline D’Cruz, it’s as frothy as a shaken bottle of Bolly” and the smaller than usual audiences, possibly still concerned about C19, were highly appreciative of the performance both of the actors and the 12-piece band who sounded better than ever before.



Of the cast who performed **The Merry Widow** in 2004 only 7 remained to perform in 2022 and, although we have many loyal members both on stage and behind the scenes, we are always looking for new recruits to continue the high standards we have attained. If you’re interested drop Chris Bailward (07801960175) a line.

*Chris Bailward*



St John's Church  
Horsington

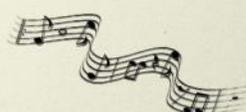
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## Bobologism 36

Summer seems to be more or less here, and hopefully we can enjoy our gardens, getting out a bit, and maybe enjoying the sound of willow on leather, the supremely English sound of cricket.

Being totally hopeless, to my family's amusement, at catching, hitting or kicking any ball, cricket is a bit of a closed book to me, but I do enjoy the jargon used. I have learnt that in the Victorian days any bowler who bowled out three batsmen with successive balls was entitled to a new hat at the expense of his cricket club. Thus three successes, be it in cricket, football, or any other sport, became known as: --yes, you've guessed it – a **Hat-trick!** Nothing that I expect to aspire to, I'm afraid. Pity, as with my lack of hair-style I have developed a bit of an interest in hats.

Another funny word is Slapstick, which has come to mean some simple, silly, form of humour. Knocking people about for "comedy" dates back as far as Greco-Roman theatre, where clowns pretended to attack each other on-stage, often with a stick. For added effect these sticks had two parts which by coming together loudly made a noise when the stick hit a target –such as a stage-opponent. Hence a **Slapstick** sense of humour.

Enjoy the Spring, and keep well. (PS I heard a Cuckoo early on May 11<sup>th</sup>. We're lucky to have a few around the village.)

*Bob Jones*



Midweek Music at St Mary's,  
Sturminster Newton

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June at noon

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*Janet Coles - 'cello*



*Lucera Manning - Piano*

Programme includes:

Frank Bridge – Spring Song

Beethoven – Sonata no. 2

Saint-Saëns – "The Swan"

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# Horsington Church School



We are soon having an open afternoon. Please share with friends and family with school age children who may wish to join our friendly school. Visits to the school are also available all year round by appointment.

## Open afternoon

Thursday 30th June  
1:30pm - 3pm

Come and see our school on a normal teaching day, explore our outdoor learning areas, talk to parents and meet the head teacher.

There will be drinks, cakes and play activities for children throughout the afternoon.

**Horsington Church School, Horsington, Templecombe, Somerset, BA8 0BW [www.horsingtonbwmat.org](http://www.horsingtonbwmat.org)**

**[office@horsingtonbwmat.org](mailto:office@horsingtonbwmat.org)  
01963 370358**



# HORSINGTON CHURCH

From the Rector

Moses was alone with God for a long time. He had left Aaron, his brother, in charge of the people he was leading. They had experienced their God hammering Pharaoh and all of Egypt with horrendous calamities to redeem the Israelites from slavery in this land. They had witnessed their God providing an eloquent sufficiency of tasty bread and meat, and of water in the most arid of places, on their journey towards freedom and a place to put down their roots. They had witnessed their God keeping them and their wares from wearing out.

But, whilst Moses was away with God, as had occurred many times on this journey from slavery to freedom, they forgot. They grumbled. They sought self-sufficiency. They looked for another god. And Aaron gave it to them, and then promptly blamed the Israelites and lied about how this golden calf came into existence.

God was justly angered by this idolatry and forgetfulness. And had it not been for Moses standing in the gap in prayer for this wayward and fickle people, they would have all died because of their misdirected choices and impatience.

We are facing unprecedented changes on all sides. Supply chains disrupted, producers unable to source materials, the world's greatest refugee crisis is growing, old diseases are again threatening, household budgets cannot stretch any further, jobs are under threat, politicians and leaders are scratching old wounds. The list goes on.

How are we to respond? We can forget God and look for other substitute gods. Or we can patiently wait and trust God in these times of uncertainty and danger. Since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. We do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved. For faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

As our Queen celebrates 70 years of being our Servant Queen under the King of the universe she serves, let us join with her in renewing our faith in her Lord and ours.



Our services' pattern in June and July: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 9am and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 10.30am. In July, our 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday venue is in Henstridge. Do also keep up to date with the Jubilee celebrations, especially the Village lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June (£15 per ticket).

Keep an eye on our website [A Church Near You](#) for updates and events.

Kind regards,  
Rev Kevin (01963 363832)



## Do you support someone who has a long-term physical or mental illness or problems with alcohol or drugs?

This person could be your partner, your child, a parent, brother or sister, grandparent, or a neighbour.

If so, do you

- Help the person get up, washed and dressed, and with medication?
- Do lots of things around the house like cooking, cleaning, laundry, fetching and carrying?
- Give them lots of emotional support, like calming them down when they're upset & agitated or low?
- Struggle to concentrate on day-to-day things and feel overwhelmed?
- Find it difficult to have a social life, see friends or join community activities?
- Worry a lot about them?
- Often feel anxious and frightened?

If the answer is yes to any or most of these questions, you could be a Carer and you are not alone - there is support for you! You might not have thought of yourself as a carer before, because it's a family member and it's normal life for you – it's just what you do! You may have had to give up work to care for them.

To talk to someone, please get in touch with your GP surgery & ask for the Carers Champion for advice and information.

For information about a range of things that could be helpful to you and to find out where your local Carers Support Group is, you can go to the Somerset Carers website [www.somersetcarers.org](http://www.somersetcarers.org) or call their helpline **0800 31 68 600**

If you have a disabled child, call the Somerset Parent Carer Forum - **01458-259384** - <https://somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk/>

For support and information for **Young Carers** aged under 18, please call Somerset County Council on **0300 123 2224** or the Somerset Carers service on **0800 31 68 600** or go to <https://somersetcarers.org/who-can-help-you/somerset-young-carers/>

Sue Crisfield

**Rural Practice Network (Spark Somerset)**

# Wick Charity Music Festival

## Saturday 9th July 2022

The 27th May 2020 was a fateful day for the Sprake family. Chris was severely injured when thrown off a quad bike. The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance was called and Chris was quickly transferred to Southmead Hospital, Bristol and his journey to recovery began. A month later, Chris was transferred to the Portland Brain Injury Unit at Poole. Without the expertise of these amazing people, Chris would not have recovered in the way he has. We also received some amazing support and advice in the early days after Chris's accident from the charity *Headway*, whose expertise and knowledge helped reassure me about procedures being carried out and prepared me for potential outcomes. We now want to raise some money for these wonderful organisations.

**WICK CHARITY MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
9th JULY 2022

Gates Open 5.00pm  
Entertainment 6.00pm - 1.00am

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Headway the brain injury association

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Sarah Sprake (07526 259146)  
Jo Osment (07715 988200)

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Festival!

**We are looking for Volunteers to help us on the day of the event. If anyone can help we would be beyond grateful. Our contact information is below.**

Many thanks!

**Chris, Sarah, Will, Tom, Charlie and Katherine Sprake**  
[Sprake575@live.co.uk](mailto:Sprake575@live.co.uk) or Tel: 07526 259146/(01963 251546  
[stowellfarm@btconnect.com](mailto:stowellfarm@btconnect.com) Tel: 07792 114154 (Liz Kingman)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Including *Births\* Deaths\* Birthdays\* Weddings\* Anniversaries\* Congratulations*  
 If you have any announcements, articles for sale or to give away,  
 babysitting services etc. you would like included please contact  
[info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:info@horsingtonmagazine.co.uk)

### TEMPLECOMBE INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL PAGEANT 2022

#### 25 YEAR ANIVERSARY

The Medieval Pageant will coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee  
 celebrations

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June & Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 11.00am to 5.00pm

Entry prices will be the same as 2018/19

At the gate: **Family (2+2) £26.00, Adult £10.00, Child/OAP £7.00**

Sadly the pageant for 2020 and 2021 needed to be cancelled which has delayed  
 the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event

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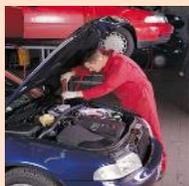


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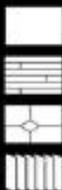
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## CONTACT LIST

(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

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Buses (local)		0871 2002233
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<b>Doctors' Surgeries</b>	Milborne Port (inc Templecombe)	250334
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	Susan Maltin	371400
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	www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com	
<b>St John's Church</b>		
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Warden	Stephen Miles	370823
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Art	Gill Elston &	370236
	Alison Clements	370866
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		370830