

HORNINGSHAM

NEWS

ISSUE 216
October 2018





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EDITORIAL

Autumn is here and with it the grapes in Horningsham’s vineyard are almost ready for harvesting. Our cover photo by Matt Simpson shows the Bacchus grapes almost ready to be turned into sparkling white wine by Three Choirs Vineyards. The exceptional summer promises a bumper harvest of both the Bacchus and the Pinot Noir grapes. We hope to bring you the story of the harvest in next month’s issue.

Meanwhile, there is much to read in this month’s Horningsham News. The defibrillator has been installed by Ken Windess outside the main entrance of the Hall. It’s one of those things one hopes will never be needed but it could save a life if it was. Ken has had an even busier month than usual for he has also fitted a brand new electric cooker at the Village Hall, much to the delight of the Luncheon Club cooks!

Our village groups report on their various activities including: how the Cricket Club won a cup; how the W.I. decorated crockery; how the School expanded into School House; and how the Lion Cubs made excellent use of their grant from the Village Fayre.

As the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice that ended the Great War approaches, we have the story of 19 year old Reginald Moore who was killed just 21 days before it was all over.

Do mark **Sunday 11th November** in your diary as we will be holding a special service to commemorate the men who died. It will be followed by a reception at the Hall which we are expecting some of the men’s relatives to attend.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Monday 15th October 2018

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

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We now have 581 “Page Likes” – well over three times the number of printed copies!

Printed by Parish Magazine Printing (01288 341617) printers of community magazines.

CHURCH NEWS



No news this month, except a reminder that our Harvest Festival is on Sunday 7th October at 5.00pm. This will be a short, informal service followed by the popular auction of produce. Hopefully there will be a good selection of fruit, veg, home baking and preserves that should encourage some lively bidding! Do come along and share this enjoyable occasion. . At the end of the month is the more solemn All Souls service. This is a very meaningful service to those who attend and is always well supported.

Helen Taylor

Church Dates

7th October Harvest Festival at 5.00pm
28th October All Souls Service at 4.30pm

Dear Friends,

I write on the most glorious autumn day of bright sunshine; the leaves are just turning and there was a real nip in the air this morning. The children are practising their harvest songs and the hedges are resplendent with autumn berries. I must say the blackberries this year have especially prolific and particularly sweet and juicy. I think I have become a bit obsessed by them and I keep an eye out for them when I'm driving around the lanes or walking the dogs who have become used to stopping and waiting patiently whilst I eat a few. I do share them and inevitably Alf the Labrador gobbles them up but



Betty the Labradoodle sniffs hers suspiciously and then spits them out. We are so blessed are we not by the beauty of our surroundings made more so by the loveliness of the fading autumnal light. So often we forget how privileged we are to live in this place where we can enjoy the glories of the natural world on a daily basis.

Recently we had a lovely Songs of Praise service at Brixton Deverill church, which was an opportunity not only to sing our favourite hymns but to express praise and gratitude to God for the good things in our lives. We live in difficult times, in uncertain times when it is all too easy to submit to doom and gloom because it is disconcerting to feel that our grip on what was once a given is being eroded. The notion of ‘the unknown’ is not an idea we are overly fond of. Part of us would love to know how the future plays out, what to prepare for, what to let go because it won’t be successful anyway. C.S. Lewis alludes to this desire in *Prince Caspian*, in this conversation between Lucy and Aslan. “Please Aslan!” said Lucy, “am I not to know?” “To know what would have happened, child?” said Aslan. “No, nobody is ever told that.” “Oh dear,” said Lucy. Not knowing what the future holds brings a certain uneasiness to our lives. And yet, in a strange way, there is comfort in the fact as well. Whatever happens to us and our loved ones is out of our hands; we simply don’t know anything about it. I don’t believe in a God who inflicts pain and suffering on her children to ‘teach them a lesson’ or ‘to make them a better person.’ But I do believe in a God who holds us in the palm of her hand wherever we find ourselves and from whose love we can never be separated whatever life throws at us.

So enjoy and give thanks for this wonderful world and yes, I know there is much pain and suffering, but there is beauty too.

Love and prayers,

Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com

HORNINGSHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Harvest Service is on the 23 September at 4 pm
Our service in November is on the 9th at 10 am

Carol Cox horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk

HORNINGSHAM LUNCHEON CLUB



Luncheon Club

COOKING ON GAS? Not anymore! After the failure of the gas cooker at the Hall the Committee decided on replacing it with an electric cooker as this was a more affordable option. Our thanks to Mel and the committee from Maiden Bradley who let us use their Hall for our opening lunch after the summer break. We have now moved back to Horningsham and will be using the cooker for the first time next week. I am sure all of our cooks will soon get used to the new equipment. The Hall Committee worked very hard to get the kitchen ship-shape and ready for our use and our grateful thanks

to them for this.

The club is looked forward to by our members and they all enjoyed meeting again after their summer holidays. We would like to see some more members join us, so if you are over 60 and free on a Thursday come along and see for yourself. We meet at 12 noon for lunch at 12.30pm. The cost is £3 for a two course lunch followed by tea or coffee. You are more than welcome to come along and give it a try. If you are housebound and live in the Village we can arrange for your meal to be delivered.

Several of our members are in poor health at the moment and we send our best wishes to them all and hope they will be back with us soon. We also send our congratulations to two of our members from Warminster: Vera & Peter who will celebrate their Diamond Wedding anniversary in September.

Lesley Trollope



WELCOME CLUB

The September trip to Sidmouth was enjoyed, report next issue at which time you can read about our Thursday September meeting. With the darkness fast approaching, it has been decided to take a shorter trip so we are off to Bristol Harbour on Tuesday 23rd October, the idea being to leave for home in the earlier afternoon to get back before dark.

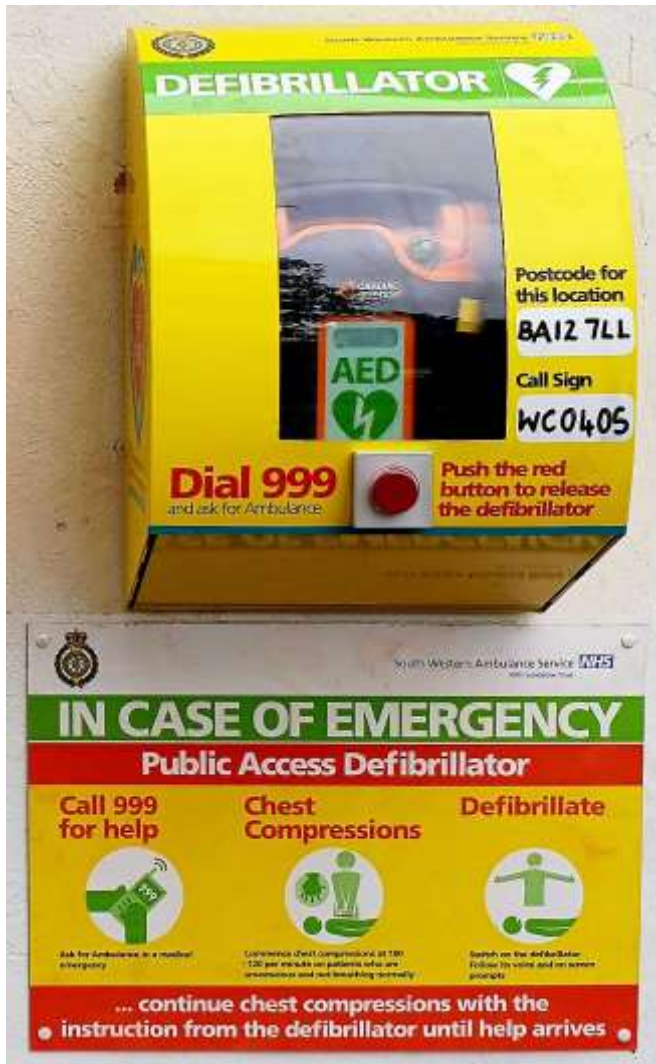
The October meeting will introduce us to Catherine Williams who lives in the village and specialises in reflexology. She will join us on Thursday 18th October at 2.30pm in the Hall.

Do keep Tuesday December 4th in mind when we are going to The Bell at Andover for our Christmas Lunch – cost approximately £10 - £12, travel free.

Chris Short 01985 847373

HORNINGSHAM'S DEFIBRILLATOR

The Parish Council has provided the village with its first defibrillator in association with South West Ambulance Service. It is on the wall outside the Village Hall near the main entrance.



A defibrillator is a device used to give an electric shock to help restart a patient's heart when they are in cardiac arrest. When someone suffers a cardiac arrest the heart stops and blood is no longer being pumped around their body. The longer they go without emergency life-support, the harder it is to restart their heart. The Horningsham automatic defibrillator is easy and safe to use by anyone with little or no training. The device talks and displays what you need to do.

HALL NEWS



So this month has been a mixture of highs and lows. The Hall floor looks fantastic, the new heating system is amazing and so warm! We have invested a lot of money into these improvements and could not be happier with the results. Then disaster struck . . . the Hall oven & gas pipes were condemned. A huge expense that we could definitely have done without: replacement and installation of a new oven. Unfortunately the timing also impacted on the Hall's long standing Luncheon Club starting back after their summer break, we do thank them for their understanding and continued support. A new electric oven is now in and ready to use but it has made a big dent in our funds.



With this in mind we would love your support at our next event at the Hall: “At Home with William Shakespeare” performed by Pip Utton. Performance starts at 7pm, doors open for refreshments at 6.15pm on Thursday 11th October. Tickets cost £12 from James Osborne or the Bath Arms.

We are also looking forward to another traditional Bonfire Night on Friday 2nd November. More details of this will be circulated closer to the date but keep the evening free so you can join us for food, drinks and a massive bonfire!

Louisa Cruickshank

HORNINGSHAM W.I.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

At the end of August, we met for a creative session and social. The theme was decorating ceramics. We had plain white china, mugs and plates to experiment with our designs, using coloured pens or acrylic paints. Helpful ideas were suggested by downloads from the Web. We had a fun evening making our weird and wonderful decorations which looked surprisingly convincing. All washed down with tea, coffee or gin and tonic and plenty of laughs.



We are looking forward to sitting back and learning about chocolate and of course trying some in our September meeting.

Coming up in the rest of the year:

- October – Autumn recipes with seasonal produce
- November – Christmas craft
- December – Christmas fun

Meetings are free for WI members, Guests are £3 per meeting

If you are interested in joining us and would like to come along to a meeting then please get in touch. We meet on the last Tuesday of every month at Horningsham Village Hall, normally at 7.30pm. You can reach us at wihorningsham@gmail.com or on 01985 844801. Please let us know if you are planning to come along so we can be expecting you.

Caramantha Wellstead
President Horningsham WI



MONTHLY RECIPE

Recently I went to meet another of my ‘food heroes’ Charles Dowding. Described as “an acclaimed innovator of no-dig organic growing since 1983, he now welcomes people to Homeacres in Alhampton for courses and open-days that attract an increasing amount of interest. Permaculture makes incredible sense and Charles carries out trials and posts photographs to show the results. Another enthusiast is Carl Legge, who lives on the Llŷn Peninsula, he provided me with ‘food for thought’ with a recipe originally from Arto Der Haroutunian, a celebrated British Armenian cook born in Aleppo. I wanted to do something ‘courgetty’ because my one plant this year has hung on through thick and thin. So here is Courgette Böreği or Börek. You would normally think of them as deep fried using filo pastry but this recipe uses an enriched dough with yoghurt. Here goes!

Ingredients

Dough

8oz/225g unsalted butter
1 large egg
½ pint /300ml yoghurt
1¼ lb /560g plain flour
¼ tsp salt
¼ tsp bi-carbonate of soda

Filling

1lb/450g courgettes
6oz/175g grated Feta, Lancashire, Cheddar or Gruyere
1 tsp salt
¼ tsp black pepper
1 tsp dried mint
1 egg beaten

Method

1. The very first job is to prep the courgettes. Grate, sprinkle with a little salt and leave to drain in a sieve.
2. Place the butter on a low heat to melt gently.
3. In a large bowl mix the vegetable oil and the egg, stir in the yoghurt. Pour the butter in as if you were making mayonnaise and stir. The result should be a velvety texture, Raymond Blanc would say ‘unctuous’ and unctuous it is! Add the salt and bi-carb to the flour and then sift into the liquid. Stir well to amalgamate and turn out onto a lightly floured surface to knead.
4. Knead well until a smooth dough is obtained, cover the bowl and refrigerate for ½ an hour.
5. Make a cup of tea! The dough can then be divided into two ready to roll out. It is similar in stretchiness to bread dough and tends to shrink back, so roll out as thinly as possible. Drink the tea! Using a 4” or 10cm cutter cut out circles until all the dough is used up.
6. Press the courgettes to release as much liquid as possible. Add the grated cheese, salt, pepper, mint and ½ the beaten egg. Mix well.
7. Place 1½ tps of mixture on each circle, fold over and seal using a fork. Brush with remaining egg wash. Place on greased baking sheets and bake: 350 F 180 C Gas mk 4 for about 25 - 30 mins or until golden.

Carl says that “they are delightful warm or at room temperature, freeze well and are ideal for a snack, main meal, picnic or lunch”. I agree and you do get a lot of bang for your buck! As always make it your own! Please share if you find a great filling!

Jayne Glover

LION CUBS

It's been lovely to welcome back faces new and old to playgroup after the summer break. Thanks to a generous donation from the proceeds of the village Fayre, we have been able to give the playgroup a makeover and purchase some new equipment and toys, as well as some much needed soft mats for the baby corner. It has also meant that we have been able to invest in some fun new crafts and are in a position to reduce our weekly admission to just £1/child. We hope that all these exciting changes along with recent improvements in the hall's heating will encourage more people to join us with their little ones. We meet every Thursday at the village hall from 9.15-10.45am.





A slightly late welcome to Liz and Martin Jones who moved to Broadslade Cottage a few weeks ago. Martin is originally from Guildford but has been in Arizona for 17 years, where he met Liz from New York at a hiking and camping club. They now have a family of three: Fiona in Tokyo. Edward in Toronto, and Imogen in Phoenix. Here in Horningsham they have 3 cats. Martin works for American Express. Liz has retired from the insurance business.

Joe and Paul Kemp have come to 107 Anchor Barton with two black and white cats. Paul is an energy saving consultant, mainly working from home. Joe, having worked for some years as a carer, has just completed a history degree with the Open University and is looking for a job.

Maggie Osborne

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HORNINGSHAM CRICKET CLUB

The 2018 Horningsham Cricket Club season will go down, much like the weather, as a true vintage. Despite a bumpy end to our Wessex Sunday League campaign when our unbeaten run came to an end at the hands of a very strong Cranmore side, our final match against Queen Camel was of little matter as our points lead was by then unassailable. Horningsham had been crowned Wessex League, East Division champions. The date for a cup final against the West Divisions winners Broadwindsor was set for September 16th.

Before that we had the small matter of our very first tour. Our North Cornwall adventure started on the unlikely venue of Polzeath beach. Due to poor weather inland, and more importantly, a sudden and complete disappearance of the opposition, we spent our first evening honing our skills with some pretty impressive beach cricket including our septuagenarian wicket keeper David O'Connor eagerly running 5.

The next day we were treated to blue skies and the outstandingly beautiful Pencarrow House Cricket Club. Winning ways were restored in a fun game followed by an appropriate amount of refreshment.

Next up was a trip to St Stephens near St Austell. Whilst the scenery wasn't quite a match from the previous day the quality of the wicket and outfield certainly was. As was the hospitality and welcome by the Cornish. A more competitive game followed but once again the visitors posted a win. To everybody's surprise all tour members returned intact and almost in time for a hard fought battle against Peter Osborne's White City which inevitably resulted in a draw. This did however maintain an unbeaten record over an unforgettable weekend. Our thanks to Callum Widdows and Geoff Lodge for organising so well.



So did we go to Yeovil and win the cup? You bet we did. Well done to Ed Buxton for an unbeaten 92 not out along with valuable runs from Jacob Abbot and also Harry Hatch, who we are very pleased to see back from New Zealand, that saw us to the 180 set by the opposition with 2 overs to go. An under par target thanks to a patient and all round excellent performance in the field. A fantastic end to a brilliant season.

Huge thanks as ever for all the hard work by James Osborne, Bill White and Paul Grugeon and of course the wonderful teas by Susie Hilleary and Dolly.

Angus Hilleary

Horningsham Primary School

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✉ FriendsofHPS@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

www.horningsham.schnet.org ☎ 01985 844342



We have had a great start to the new academic year and have lots of exciting things planned for the year ahead! We now have complete use of the School House and have three new amazing rooms for group work. A huge thank you to the Creys Charity for supporting us with new furniture and resources and to Longleat and the LA for renovating the space and making this possible.

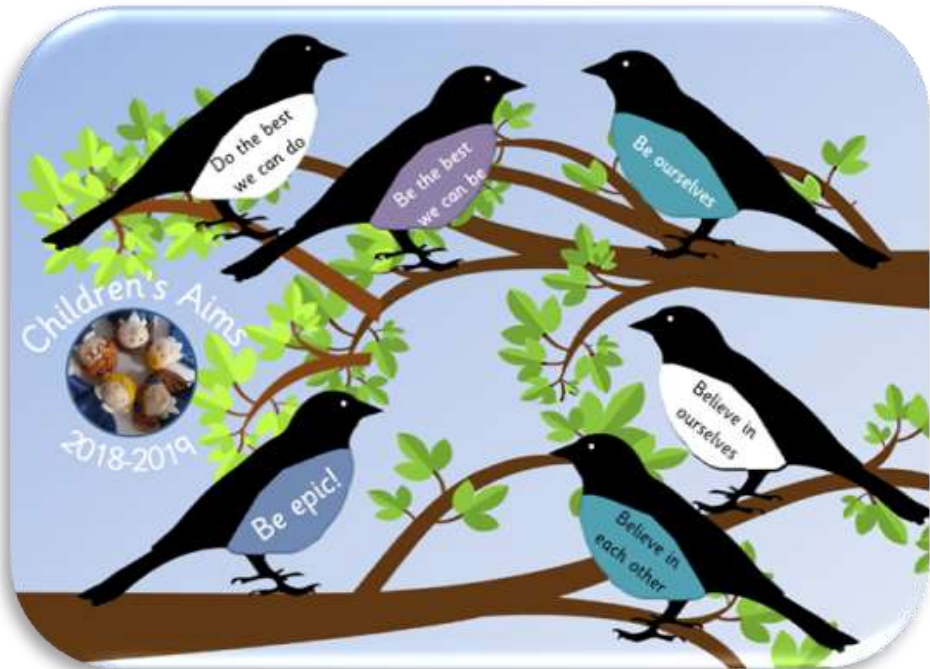
The children have all settled in really well, with our new reception children quite at home already! We also have some fun topics this term – Peter Rabbit and Friends, Tudor Times and Great Inventions. A big welcome to Miss Young, who has joined us as the teacher for Owls Class; Mrs Lapham is now officially our Assistant Head and is already doing a fantastic job!

New Pupil Roles

Our new Year 6 pupils are keen to take a more active role in the school, having been given their leadership responsibilities. We have a new Head Boy and Head Girl – Charlie and Annie, with Isaac and Bethany leading a new School Council. Angel, Mackinley, Archie and Tilly take on Team Captain status, with Charlie and Isaac appointed as Sports Ambassadors and Tilly as Arts Leader. We know they will all do a great job!



Aims for 2018-2019



The children have created their aims for the year – very much focusing on being positive and having self-belief. The staff have also worked hard to produce a vision for all pupils at Horningsham alongside a staff pledge to ensure we achieve this. It's made for a very positive and aspirational start to the year.

Interested in being more involved in school?

If you have any expertise with the following or interest to be involved then please contact the school:

- Local Tudor history (particularly Sir John Thynne)
- Portraits
- Engineering and design
- History of inventions
- Friends of Horningsham Primary School (FOHPS) committee or working party for planning, and organising community and fundraising events

Mill Farm Chronicles August – September 2018

It's very quiet on the farm at the moment. Nothing of interest is happening. The cows and calves are in the fields all hopefully putting on weight but for very different reasons. The calves because they are growing and the cows because they are in calf.

The corn is in, the straw is in and we have no maize this year to harvest so it's just ploughing, hedge cutting and fencing over the next few weeks.

We are hoping that the Autumn is dry and not too cold so that the animals can stay out for a while yet. It might mean some supplement feeding of silage or hay, but it will save on straw if they aren't in the sheds and really, I'm sure they much prefer to be outside in the sunshine.

The donkeys are just beginning to grow their winter coats. We are wondering if Poppy will grow dreadlocks again this winter. They are due to have their hooves trimmed soon and the vet is coming to give them their booster injections and to grind their teeth. Blimey these girls are very high maintenance!

The sludge on our fields is far too wet to do much to now so I think it will just sit there till next Spring. Steve has tried to get on it with the tractor to begin working it down and has been stuck in it twice so not encouraging.

The Longleat Sky Safari came and went and was a complete success by the looks of it. We had balloonists from UK, Alaska and the USA staying. It's always quite challenging for me because I never know when to cook and serve breakfast, or when to get into the rooms to clean. If the weather is good first thing then the balloons go up, but how far do they go and how long does it take for them to be retrieved? If the weather is bad, then they don't fly so do they want breakfast or have a lie in, has the family got up with them or are they still in their room? I spend as much time studying the weather forecasts as they do, and I never get it right.

The American gentleman staying, with his wife Debra, was Dr Bill Bussey who is apparently a balloon legend, World Record holder and founder of The Great Texas Balloon Race. He was also the first person to organize a balloon glow at a public event in 1980. So if you've ever enjoyed the fabulous balloon night glows at Longleat, then he's the man to thank. Bill was also a dentist of 40+ years and said I had 'priddy teeth' (say pretty in an American accent).

They were a lovely couple but their first trip to the UK wasn't the best experience. They broke down on the M25 in their hire car on the way here, got lost and didn't arrive till the morning after they were due and then both had dicky tummies, not due to my cooking I hasten to add! I felt so sorry for them.

It's the birthday season now, so life gets very expensive. We kicked off with our nephew Daniel's 30th birthday party at the end of August (although he's not 30 till October.) He had a brilliant fancy dress party at his Mum and Dad's home. The theme was 'anything beginning with D'. Well, there were Disco divas, a Disco ball, Dan's Mum, the Dali Lama, Daddy Shark, Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz and a couple of Dennis The Menaces to name a few. You'll see what Steve, Jack and I went as opposite.



Steve's 62nd birthday was yesterday. We had a lovely day visiting my family in Hereford and meeting our 6-week-old Great Nephew Frankie for the first time. Theo at 6 months looked huge next to him. Next weekend is Guy and Ivy's birthdays, 32 and 4 respectively. Ivy is having a big birthday bash with a Shimmer and Shine theme, which is a children's cartoon about pink and purple Genies, in case you were wondering, so everything is pink and purple. There's going to be a balloon modelling man and a face painter too. Guy for some reason doesn't want to share a party this year, so we are having a sensible grown-up Sunday lunch down in Poole with all of Guy's family to celebrate his special day.

I'm writing this in the middle of the night and the wind is blowing a gale outside and I'm wondering if our big old condemned barn will make it through the night or will it blow down? If it carries on blowing like this I'm fearing for the house as well as the barn!

The temperature has dropped these past few days and I am definitely lighting the fire tonight.

Margaret Crossman

THEN & NOW



1905



16

An evocative photo of Church Farm in Church Street in 1905 shows mothers and children walking up the road. All look as though they are dressed in their “Sunday Best” so they are probably walking to the Church. The biggest change over the last 113 years is that now nobody would walk a group of children up the middle of the road unless they had a death wish. Now there is a pavement for pedestrians. The other notable difference is the height of the chimneys which were surprisingly tall and ornate in 1905.

Church Farm seems from the Censuses to have had a chequered history as a farm. In 1861 it was lived in by widower George Sutton aged 66 who was described as a farmer with just 2½ acres. In 1871 the tenant, Thomas Miller described himself as a baker and grocer but by 1881 aged 75, he called himself a farmer. In 1891 John Andrews (42) from Bristol referred to himself as a farmer and miller. In 1901 76 year old George Croom from Whitham Friary was a farmer. By 1911 he had died and his 82 year old widow, Elizabeth, crossed out her occupation as an “invalid in bed” and wrote in “Farmer”. One of her two daughters described herself as a farmer while the other was a farmer and poultry keeper. The 61 year old married son, no mention of his wife at this address, was a “retired farmer”.

Readers will remember that Church Farm featured in Vera

Crossman’s 16 part series “Opposite”. In which she described how with falling farm prices her father, Ernest Trollope, had no choice but to sell up in



ERNIE TROLLOPE AT CHURCH FARM

1938. Vera herself, like her brother Michael, was born in the room that has a bay window. In 1939 George Elliott, a dairy farmer, had taken on Church Farm. Later, the land and the barn were re-allocated to Mill Farm. There was even a plan at one stage to convert the barn to dwellings but access proved too difficult and the plan was dropped. However, the current tenants keep poultry again and sell free range eggs.

Turning to the cottages in the foreground, they were mostly occupied by agricultural labourers though in 1901 George Bell from Northampton was a “Warrener and Gamekeeper”. The job of warrener is one that has disappeared but he was a keeper of a warren where rabbits were reared for meat and fur and the term persists in the surname of Warren. By 1911, Number 71 had become a Reading Room where villagers could meet and read newspapers and play games. The Reading Room persisted until the then Marquess bought an army surplus hut at the end of World War 1 and installed it as the first Village Hall.

Festival of Light 2018



In 2018, Longleat's extraordinary Festival of Light is back and will take you on a fantastic voyage. More than 645 breath-taking, illuminated lanterns, adorning over 30 acres of splendid 'Capability' Brown landscaped grounds, will transform Longleat as darkness falls.

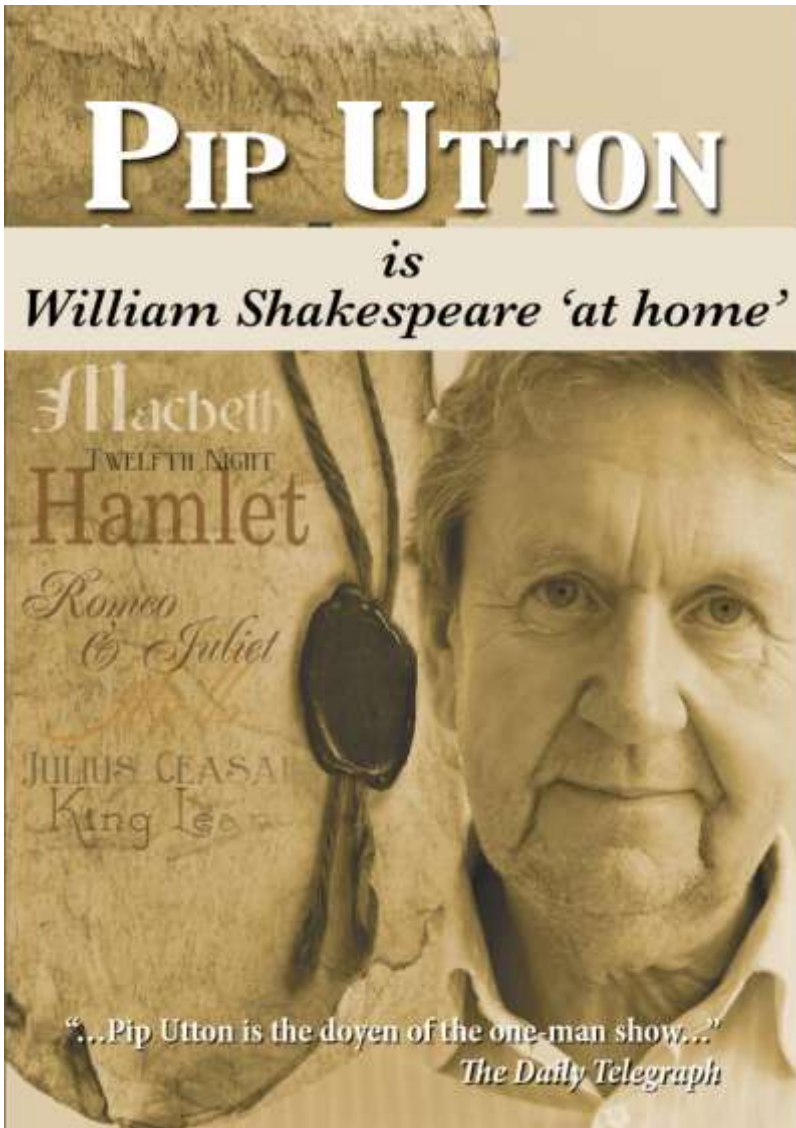
This year Longleat are inviting guests to join a thrilling expedition around the world, journeying through time and space with three new characters, Harry and Bea, a plucky brother and sister, and their fearless terrier companion, Monty. No, it's not Tintin's dog Snowy, just looks rather like him!

In each lantern scene the intrepid trio can be found exploring wondrous locations, from the exotic to the glacial, filled with astonishing creatures, magnificent scenery, stunning structures and sensational modes of transportation.

Marvel as the aeronautical heroes take flight, suspended amongst the clouds in a glorious hot air balloon. Be amazed as they trek by camel to the immense Great Pyramid of Giza towering 20 metres into the night sky, and gaze in awe at the 28 metre-long classic train, the Longleat Flyer, as it glides through the dark in a cloud of steam. Guests will be enthralled as a rocket ship blasts off into the dazzling solar system, gargantuan dinosaurs loom from prehistoric vegetation and medieval knights on horseback surround a castle's battlements with bows and swords drawn.

The seasonal spectacle continues with the 50ft enchanted Christmas Tree Show, Longleat House dressed for a 1920s Christmas and the much loved Santa Train.

The Festival of Light is on selected dates from 9th November.



Horningsham Village Hall is delighted to welcome Pip Utton back to
Horningsham to perform his newest comedy

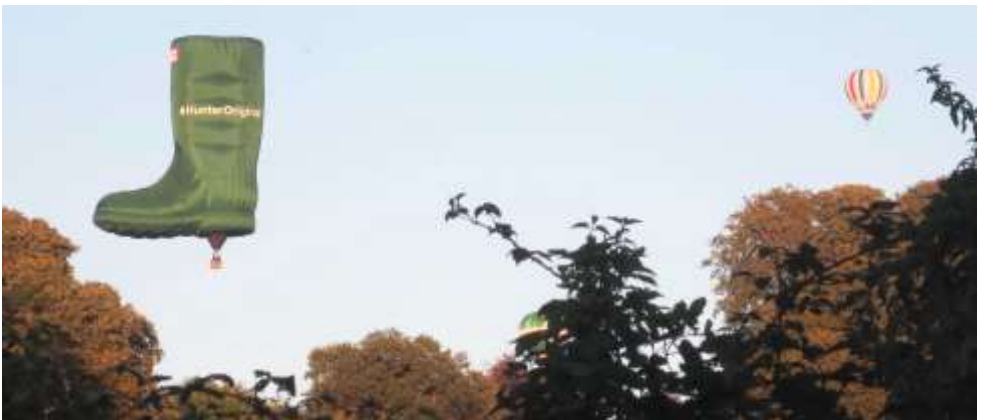
Thursday 11th October, at Horningsham Village Hall

Refreshments from 6:15, Curtain Rises 7pm


**Tickets £12 available from James Osborne
(jamesosborne@btinternet.com), and at the Bath Arms**


LONGLEAT NEWS

Longleat has smashed the UK record for the most hot air balloons aloft simultaneously. The record was broken on the morning of Saturday 15th September as part of the three-day Sky Safari event when 169 balloons of all shapes and sizes took to the skies. The previous record was 130 balloons. Over 10,000 guests watched the balloons take to the sky.







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Movie Nights

Doors open 7.00pm Ticket Price £5 includes admission, raffle and a drink

Friday 5th October

Friday 9th November



Coffee mornings every Friday 10 - noon.

Come along for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat.

Everyone welcome.

The Old Kitchen Community Store now open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays selling basic grocery items e.g. milk, cream, butter, biscuits, crisps, chocolate, tea, coffee etc. Opening times: 9am – 11.30am. Please note CASH ONLY.

Alongside the shop there is also a range of books to borrow from the Community Book Lending Library that has recently acquired a wide range of crime thrillers.

Advance warning: due to building works at the Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall due to start in October, it may be necessary to close the hall at short notice. Apologies in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

Notable Trees in Horningsham

As I write this there is less evidence of Autumn colour than I expected after the extreme temperatures and little rain of the summer. The Copper beeches are sporting a marbling of orange and the green of the Metasequoia is dull now, but there is an abundance of rosehips, hawthorn berries and the holly berries are ripening.

Musing on the benefits of living in a predominantly coniferous area I am saved by the bell tower. Glancing to my right I am saluted by a lone sentinel standing guard in our churchyard and I am saved from an error of omission. My guardian angel in disguise is a tree whose very existence is imbued with mystery and mythology, it is The Tree of Life and Death, the Yew (*Taxus baccata*).

The Yew family (*Taxaceae*) are small evergreen trees or large shrubs of rounded habit. With dense linear insignificant flowers and on female plants conspicuous red berries (arils) surround solitary seeds. The English or common yew holds its needle-like leaves in two rows on the shoots.

LIFE:- In 1994 the college I attended annually collected clippings of the yew, contributing to the large amounts needed to continue research and production of anti-cancer drugs. By 1997 I was fascinated by the branch of knowledge concerned with the study of medicinal drugs obtained from plants and other natural sources.

As far back as 1960s the terpene paclitaxel (Taxol®) had been isolated from the bark of the Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*). Supply was limited, non-renewable and yield extremely low. 3,000 yew trees were needed to yield 1 kilo of paclitaxel. There was massive resistance to this from environmental and ecological movements. Pacific yew was registered in 1992 for treatment of ovarian cancer and 1994 for metastases. Over the last 20 years paclitaxel has been one of the most widely used chemotherapies in the world treating advanced and metastatic ovarian and breast cancers. Yew is now regarded as a ‘pharmaceutical crop’ and paclitaxel is produced by semi-synthesis using needles of *Taxus baccata*. This semi-synthetic version has a different mode of action and is mainly used to treat non-small cell lung cancer. There is no shortage of *Taxus* seedlings however a high yielding, fast growing cultivar is not yet available.

DEATH:- Every single part of the yew is extremely poisonous utilising this self-defence mechanism for survival. Poisoning occurs in animals located in pastures, woods, or gardens or as a result of careless disposal of yew clippings or leaves. All species of animals are susceptible. The leaves are harmful at all stages of plant growth. Drying and storage does not reduce toxicity.

So there we have it! I could go on but I promise I won’t. Colin Tudge in “Secret Life of Trees” finishes his 14 page chapter on Conifers saying “It would be good to devote this entire book to conifers. They are so various and wondrous and in many ways, in many contexts, they have turned the course of human history.”

10 Things you may or may not know about Yew trees

Fact and fiction

1. The Ancient Yew Group recorded a yew on the Longleat Estate at Temple Farm, Corsley as Ancient, first mentioned in 1780. Using a formula of 12 inches

diameter of the trunk per 100 years, this tree is estimated to be well over 1,000 years old.



2. Ancient yews in Wiltshire are recorded by AYG in 2011 as living in Alton Priors, Longleat, Lyneham and Tisbury.
3. “Many of the yews that exist in our churchyards are widely held to pre-date the Christian consecration of the church site. This exaggeration has its roots in Victorian guidebooks and wishful local histories. Such yews do exist in British churchyards, but investigations by the Ancient Yew Group (AYG) show that while the myths surrounding them are many, pre-Christian yews themselves are relatively few.” Toby Hindson, “Historic Churchyard Yews”.
4. The term "**aril**" is sometimes applied to any fleshy appendage of the seed in flowering plants, such as the bright red fruit of the female yew. **Arils** and arillodes are often edible enticements that encourage animals to transport the seed, thereby assisting in seed dispersal.(The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Botany).
5. The foliage and seed coat of yew contains a cocktail of highly toxic alkaloids. The aril (fleshy red part) is not toxic and is a special favourite of blackbirds which act as efficient seed dispersers. Some birds, such as greenfinches, even manage to remove the toxic seed coat to get at the nutritious embryo. (Woodland Trust).
6. *Taxus baccata* can reach 400 to 600 years of age. Ten yew trees in Britain are believed to predate the 10th century.
7. Yew hedges in particular are incredibly dense, offering protection and nesting opportunities for many birds. The UK's smallest birds - the goldcrest and firecrest - nest in broadleaf woodland with a yew understorey. (Woodland Trust)
8. The Yew: Sacred Tree of Transformation and Rebirth. Glennie Kindred; Samhain. 1997
9. The collecting season tends to be from July to September. The firms that collect the clippings will often put you on a register for the following year if you enquire outside these times. (www.cancerresearchuk.org)
 10. “This solitary Tree! -a living thing
Produced too slowly ever to decay;
Of form and aspect too magnificent
To be destroyed

Excerpt from Yew-Trees by William Wordsworth

Jayne Glover

Wiltshire



Independent.

AND GENERAL ADVERTISER FOR BERKS, HANTS, DORSET, SOMERSET, OXFORDSHIRE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

VOL. XXXIX. No. 2018.

DEVIZES, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 2, 1874.

Price, One Penny.

—A HINT TO THE LADIES.—TEA DINNERS.—Mrs. Ann Marsh, a married woman of Horningsham, was charged with having been unlawfully drunk at that place on the 17th September. Sergt. Simmonds stated that though defendant had not been summoned before she had frequently been drunk. Several females of the parish, of which defendant was one, were in the habit of going to each other's houses, as might be most convenient, and partaking of what was called a *Tea Dinner*. They purchased beer and put it in a tea-pot, and had it served out in tea-cups as though it were tea. They sometimes drank to excess of this tea-pot beer, but they always contended, when accused of being a little bit elevated, that they had drunk nothing stronger than what came from the tea-pot. On the day in question the defendant had gone to one of these tea dinners, and when she got into the road she was unable to maintain her equilibrium. The defendant expressed her regret for what had happened, and said she would behave better in future. The Bench inflicted the nominal fine of 1s. and costs, together 8s.

The Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette.

VOL. XXXVII.—No. 1919.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1852.

PRICE 5d.

Robbery at Horningsham.—On Sunday night or early in the morning of the Monday the 11th inst., some thieves effected an entrance into the back premises of Mr. Trollop, of Horningsham, and stole therefrom four hitches of bacon, and four hams. A searching investigation was forthwith made by Superintendent Abbott and the police under his charge, and in the course of the following day three sacks were found buried in the garden of a person named Rowe. Suspicion, however, fell on Charles James Trollop, a son of the shopkeeper on whom the depredation was committed, inasmuch as he resides away from his father, but was observed loitering about the premises.—Trollop and Rowe were accordingly taken into custody, and on Saturday last, in company with a third prisoner were examined on a charge of felony before J. Everett, W. Temple, and J. Ravenhill, esqrs., but owing to the insufficiency of the evidence, they were discharged from custody on entering into their own recognizances to appear when called upon. Within the last few days the greater part of the bacon has been recovered, under circumstances which induce the inference that the robbery was committed by persons residing in the neighbourhood, who were alarmed by the activity of the police and strict search they have instituted.



World War 1: 100 Years Ago This Month

Reginald George Moore

Reginald Moore was killed in action just 21 days before the Great War drew to a close. At just 19, he was one of the youngest Horningsham men to be killed.



He was born in 1898 to Hubert and Annie Moore who lived at 26, Milk Street in the Trinity district of Frome. Hubert, who was born in Wingfield worked all his life as a jobbing gardener. Reginald was the eldest of three sons. His brother Walter was a year younger and Mervyn was six years younger. By 1911 the family had moved to 5 Welshmill Road in Frome. For Reginald to appear on the Horningsham War Memorial, he must have had a strong connection to the village. Maybe he followed in his father's footsteps and took up gardening as his occupation and would therefore have been lodging at the Bothy with the other young gardeners.

We know from The Keep Military Museum in Dorchester that he enlisted in Frome in the 1st Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. The Battalion was nearly wiped out in the Battle of Arras in April and May 1917 and suffered further large losses in October before being sent to Italy after the Italians had been routed at Caporetto. Here they held the line near Vicenza



until being re-deployed back to France to meet the German offensive in March 1918. The Battalion was involved in attacks as the German army fell back and in the last 10 days of August lost 263 casualties. They continued attacking German positions in September and October despite appalling weather and a gas attack. We cannot tell how much of this action Reginald was involved in, as the only record of his active service is of his death.

At 2 o'clock in the morning of the 20th October, the Battalion attacked German positions over ploughed fields under heavy shell and machine gun fire. The attack was successful with over 200 Germans taken prisoner and many machine guns captured. However, by the time the second objective had been taken in the evening, the Battalion's losses were substantial with 30 killed and over 60 wounded. Reginald was one of those killed. His body was recovered and buried at Bethencourt Community Cemetery.

Although we know so little of Reginald's short life, it is interesting to note that, as well as on the Horningsham War Memorial, his name appears on the Memorial in Trinity Church and on the Frome Town War Memorial albeit with an error in his initials.

In February 1919 Annie received Reginald's back pay of £10.90 and a War Gratuity of £5.50 in December.



Frome Town War Memorial

In reflecting on the loss of one so young, it is fascinating to see how life worked out for his brother Walter, who, 12 months younger than Reginald, was too young to join up and fight for his country. Walter was clearly a bright boy who went to Sexey's School in Bruton. He must have won a scholarship because Hubert and Annie were much too poor to afford private school fees. From there he won a county scholarship and went to Trinity College, Cambridge in the very month that his brother Reginald was killed. He studied Natural Sciences and stayed on to research plant diseases. This led to a glittering national and international career that included a CBE and being elected President of the British Mycological Society, mycology is the study of fungi. He retired due to ill health in 1962 and died in 1967. Interestingly, his obituary mentions his love of gardening.



Walter Cecil Moore 1900-1967



BUSES FROM BUS SHELTER AT THE COMMON

Salisbury every Tuesday **83**

Leaves Horningsham 09.35 *Holly Bush 09.37* Arrives Salisbury 10.30
Departs Salisbury 13.45 Arrives Horningsham 14.45

Trowbridge every Thursday **81**

Leaves Horningsham 10.03 *Holly Bush 10.01* Arrives Trowbridge 10.55
Departs Manvers St Trowbridge 13.10 Arrives Horningsham 14.04

Warminster every Friday **82**

Friday leaves Horningsham 09.45 *Holly Bush 09.48* Arrives Warminster 10.10
Departs Warminster Coach Station 12.20

Frome every Wednesday & Thursday

Wednesday **80** leaves Horningsham 10.06 *Holly Bush 10.01*
Departs Cork St. Car Park 12.15 and 13.45

Thursday **81** leaves Horningsham 10.03 *Holly Bush 10.01*
Departs Frome Market Place 13.50

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These apply to the inside pages of the magazine



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Black Boxes	Thursday 11 th & 25 th October Thursday 8 th & 22 nd November
Grey Bins	Friday 12 th & 26 th October Friday 9 th & 23 rd November
Blue Bins	Friday 5 th & 19 th October Friday 2 nd 16 th & 30 th November
Mobile Library	Tuesday 9 th October <i>10.00 – 10.25 opposite the Hall</i>

Frome Hospital Minor Injuries		01373 454740
Community Police Officer	Vicky Howick	726818 ext 817
Wiltshire Police – non emergency		101
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First Steps Nursery		844942
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Horningsham Church Rector	Rev Pauline Reid	841290
Warminster District Link Scheme		211655
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Stray or Fouling Dogs		0300 456 0100

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 7th October *Harvest Festival* 5.00pm at the Church
- Thursday 11th October *Pip Utton* 6.15 for 7.00pm at the Hall
- Thursday 25th October *Parish Council Meeting* 7.30 at the Hall
- Tuesday 30th October *W.I. Meeting* 7.30pm at the Hall
- Friday 2nd November *Bonfire Night* at the Hall



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

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SAT 11.45AM - 1.45PM

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TUES 4.45PM - 9.00PM
WEDS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
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