

HORNINGSHAM NEWS

ISSUE 227
November 2019





We clean frames as well as glass. We also clean Conservatories, Conservatory Roofs, Inside Windows, Solar Panels and Gutter Clearing
 Call Doug Valentine
 Tel: 01373 837423
 Mobile: 07739 189180
 doug.valentine8@gmail.com

Horningsham Village Hall



Competitive Rates & Residents Discounts

Hall Hire - bookings@horningshamvillagehall.com
 Event queries - enquiries@horningshamvillagehall.com

Kerrie & Co

Cleaning, Ironing and Laundry Service
 End of tenancy cleaning
 Carpets & Ovens
 01373 463456
 07812 202206



Learn to drive

with your local instructor



call tina

01985 988578

mobile 07745 652777



Special Lunch Offer for 2018
 10% Discount with this Ad

Open for Lunch
 Tues – Sat 12 – 2.30 pm
 Evenings Friday & Saturday
 6.00 – 10.30pm

We also do takeaways

Bookings:
 01373 467370
 james@thaikitchenfrome.com
 www.thaikitchenfrome.com

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
 F. CURTIS & SON
 11 PORTWAY WARMINSTER
 TEL 212033

Bed & Breakfast

and

Self-Catering Cottage

Stephen & Margaret Crossman

Mill Farm
 Horningsham
 Warminster
 BA12 7LL
 01985 844333



EDITORIAL

Horningsham Hall with its wonderful, newly refurbished floor has been widely seen on BBC One! A glance at this month's cover explains why. Emma and her dance partner Aljaz have been filmed using it for their rehearsals for Strictly Come Dancing. Sharp-eyed local fans of the programme quickly spotted that it was none other than Horningsham Hall there on prime time TV. Even if the Luncheon Club members had failed to spot this, they soon found out when the venue for their lunch was switched to the Banqueting Suite at Longleat House (p.9). As we go to press, Emma is still in the contest and we are all urging her on.

Inside this month's issue you can read about: the mystery of the crushed cattle trough; lions damaging cars 50 years ago; two approaches to jam-making; a muddy outing to Heaven's Gate; when the Mill Farm cows are to go inside for the winter; arrangements for Bonfire Night; even when your bins will be emptied . . . and much more. You may remember that 3 years ago we began a series on the work with Syrian refugees that Caroline and Neil were doing. Now, as the project nears its conclusion and coincidentally as the tragedy of the Vietnamese migrants dominates our news, they have provided us with a fascinating update on some of the people they have helped.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Friday 15th November 2019

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team

Tim Hill	844365	Chrissie Buttery	844622
Helen Taylor	215906	Gill Courtney	844411
	James Osborne (<i>Treasurer</i>)	844711	



find us on
Facebook

We now have 690 “Page Follows” – well over three times the number of printed copies!

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

CHURCH NEWS



‘Where two or three are gathered together’ was certainly appropriate at our Harvest Festival. It was unfortunate that there were services at both Longbridge Deverill and the Chapel on the same day, resulting in a small congregation at the Church. However, those who came enjoyed it and were very generous. In particular, thank you to Steve and Margaret Crossman, who contributed generously to the produce and ran the auction. We are very grateful. Thank you also to the Rev Gay Maynard from Corsley who kindly took the service for us.

There will be no service in Horningsham Church until Christmas Day. The annual Act of Remembrance will take place as usual at the War Memorial. The service will be taken by the Rev Di Britten from Corsley.

Helen Taylor

Church Date

Sunday 10th November Remembrance Service 10.45am at the War Memorial

News from the Heytesbury Deanery/Maridi Diocese Link Group

Maridi is in the South West of South Sudan and shares a border with the DRC. - we have been partnering with the Episcopal Church there since 2009 when the Bishop of Salisbury allocated them to us. Some of you will have met Bishop Moses when he spent a week with us earlier in the year.



On Friday 11th October the Deanery Link Group (Jane Shaw, Eva Burton, Meg Oliver, Anne Thompson and Gay Maynard) held their annual Quiz in support of the Chaima Christian Institute, which is in Maridi Town. Around 50 people from across the Deanery sat down to a fun evening with quizmasters Bob and Bob and also enjoyed a

hot supper of Cottage Pie and veg followed by fruit crumble and custard. The evening was a great success and we raised in excess of £650 - thank you to all who supported us, it makes the hard work of organising and delivering so worthwhile. This amount of money can make a big difference and will go towards sponsoring more students at Chaima. Because of many years of civil war, education generally has not been available, especially for girls, who are still expected to stay at home and help with the chores.

Watch out for the information board which will be in St. Margaret's Church for a little while and then hopefully one or two of our other churches in the Benefice will also have it on display.

Thank you again.

Revd Gay Maynard

Dear Friends,

Well here we are in November and almost the end of the church's year which ends with Feast of Christ the king on the 24th. Then we begin again with Advent Sunday and the season of Advent, which is my very favourite season in the church's calendar. But before we look forward we must look back; the most important event we hold in church this month is the Service of Remembrance, always a very moving occasion.



I remember the first Remembrance service I took in the benefice at Kingston Deverill and feeling somewhat overwhelmed by the plethora of medals emblazoned on so many chests. In fact anticipating my trepidation on being faced with all this, one very kind and sensitive churchwarden took me to one side to reassure me that there was no need to feel intimidated. Of course after 5 years I have got to know the owners of these splendidly appraised chests, which helps a lot, but I still feel humbled and privileged to be conducting a service where a very high percentage of the congregation have experience of active service in the military.

The Remembrance service is of course a public ritual to facilitate a national day of collective remembering, but each of us has our own bank of private memories that are filed away in the recesses of our brains. Events that happened years and years ago and which are buried deep in our unconscious minds can suddenly rise to the surface with the right trigger. I experienced this very recently myself when my father died and memories of my childhood flooded back, including a memory of being taken to a café and my father letting me eat the sugar lumps! It's no wonder I have so many fillings!

But what about when our memory starts to fail, or is sabotaged by illness or accident? What about when we cannot even remember who we are? I think about these things every time I visit an elderly person with dementia or take communion to the residents at Longbridge Deverill Nursing Home. It can be heart-breaking to see people so diminished by disease in this way but I find the Christian understanding of who we are and how we are each individually known and loved by God incredibly powerful in these circumstances.

The psalmist says:

*For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.*

In other words, God knows us and loves us even before we were born. He will never forget us or leave us; even when we have forgotten who we are, he knows and loves us still, we are precious in his sight.

In this season of remembrance may God's love surround you.

Love and prayers,

Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.co.uk

Remembrance Sunday



At 10.45 on Sunday 10th November we will be gathering at the War Memorial to remember the men of Horningsham who died in the two World Wars. Whether you have lived in Horningsham for many years or are new to the village, do come and join us.

The Memorial Orchard planted with a heritage apple tree for each man on the Memorial as part of Horningsham's commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Great War is now well established. There is even a seat donated by Longleat Forestry from which you can contemplate the wonderful view of the village.

The War Memorial, pictured on this postcard from the time, was inaugurated in 1920 and the ceremony was described in the Wiltshire Times:

“It was a typical winter day and the surrounding country was covered in a thin layer of snow which must have brought home with tremendous force the hardships bravely borne during the grip of a hard winter in France and Flanders by the 25 villagers before they fell . . . The ex-servicemen of the village were given a privileged position on the left-hand side of the wicket gate leading to the memorial, near by were the school children, who, under the conductorship of Mr T Wellborn, with the united church choirs sang the hymn “The Supreme Sacrifice” and at the close of the service, and after the singing of the National Anthem, Mr N U White (Warminster) sounded the “Last Post” with “Reveille” following immediately after.”

HORNINGSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Horningsham Parish Council met on Thursday 10th October at the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors, Tim Hill, Matt Simpson, Dermot FitzGerald, Gerard Brierley, Ken Windess, Simon Millar, Michael Trollope, Fran Chris, Charlotte Hilleary and John Radley.

Apologies: Stephen Crossman

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Mrs. Sarah Jeffries MILCM

Highways Parish Steward

It was noted that the Parish Steward had done a useful amount of clearing near the War Memorial and had also made a good job of clearing the stream at the bottom of Church Lane. The nearby gully into the field remains to be cleared.

Asset Maintenance – Bus Shelter

Councillor Windess reported that the barge boards had been cut back and an attempt to address the sealing between the blockwork and the wood had been made but he said he would undertake further sealing to inhibit potential damp.

Tenders for the Grounds Contract 2020

The Clerk reported that the tenders approved by Council had been sent out to possible contractors and would be considered at the next meeting.

Play Area

Councillor Windess reported that he had fitted the boards along the tennis court fence and the base for the seat would be completed soon.

Longleat Balloon Fiesta

This year there had been an exceptionally large number of spectators and this had caused the road to the village to be blocked meaning that emergency vehicles would have been unable to pass. The Clerk was instructed to bring this to the attention of Longleat Estate and to request that their transport plan for next year addressed this serious problem.

Remembrance Service at the War Memorial

The Clerk was instructed to invite Rev Di Britten to conduct the service. Councillor Windess would invite Mr Bill Smy to lay the wreath and the Chairman would ask Mr Graham Long to play the Last Post on his bugle. Councillor FitzGerald confirmed that the order for the wreath had been placed.

Grant Application

Councillors considered an application from Councillor Windess, who had declared an interest, on behalf of the Hall Committee for a grant of £500 towards the cost of updating the lighting in the Hall. The grant was unanimously approved.

Chapel Signage

The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Estate about the damaged sign on West Common to the Chapel but had received no reply.

Horningsham Village Signage

The Chairman, Councillor Tim Hill, proposed that the Council should start a rolling programme of installing street and place names in the village. He said that having signs would not only help visitors, couriers and emergency services locate addresses but would also ensure the preservation of traditional street and place names. He pointed out that, in

the almost complete absence of signs, the departure of many long term residents and the high turnover of village residents meant that few villagers knew the names of streets and places in Horningsham.

The Highways Authority had indicated that the signs would have to be of their approved design and be placed in locations of which they approved. The Parish Steward would be tasked with their installation. The approved signs cost £89 each. The Chairman presented a list of 30 possible names. After discussion of the aesthetics, Councillors reluctantly accepted that there was no possibility of choosing their own design and voted 8 to 1 with 1 abstention to commence the programme with 10 signs. Councillors would decide at their next meeting which the first signs should be.

Community Emergency Plan Update

Councillor Matt Simpson said he would be ordering more salt some of which would be distributed in tactical locations around the village.

Electoral Boundary Review

The Commission's final recommendations for Unitary Divisions within Wiltshire have been amended to make no change to Horningsham.

Annual Parish Newsletter

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Newsletter had been printed at a cost of £56.51 and it would be distributed with the November issue of Horningsham News.

The next meeting of Horningsham Parish Council will be on Thursday 21st November at 7.30 in the Village Hall when all are welcome to attend.



**DRIVE IN
AND PICK
YOUR OWN
FIREWOOD**

**Woodchip, Mulch, Hardwood
Logs, Softwood Logs, Kindling,
House Coal, Smokeless Coal.**
Delivery available.

Mon to Fri: 7.30am - 4.15pm
Closed on Sundays & Bank Holidays
Open Saturdays from Sep-Mar only until 12noon
☎ 01985 213507 🌐 www.longleat.co.uk/forestry

 **LONGLEAT
FORESTRY**

5% Discount on Firewood for Tenants of Longleat Estate

November Road Closures



First the good news! Wiltshire Council are to carry out carriageway resurfacing, road marking, adjustment of ironworks and surface dressing on various roads in the village.

Now the bad news – this will require a series of road closures on certain days in November when lengthy diversions will be signed.

It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

Round Hill (Part), Horningsham; from property known as Round Hill Farm for a distance of approximately 620 metres in a south westerly direction.

On 12 November 2019 and the closure will be required between the hours of 07:00 and 18:00 until 13 November 2019

Hollybush (Part), Horningsham; from its junction with the Maiden Bradley road to its junction with Hitcombe Bottom.

On 13 November 2019 and the closure will be required between the hours of 07:00 and 18:00 until 14 November 2019.

Forest Road, Horningsham; from its junction with B3092 Frome Road to its junction with Cock Road

Cock Road, Horningsham; from its junction with Forest Road to its junction with Anchor Barton

Anchor Barton, Horningsham; from its junction with Cock Road to its junction with Water Lane

Water Lane, Horningsham; from its junction with Anchor Barton to its junction with The Island.

On 14 November 2019 and the closure will be required between the hours of 09:00 and 15:00 until 18 November 2019.

LUNCHEON CLUB: OUR UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS MOMENT



Those of you who watch Strictly Come Dancing will know that this year Viscountess Emma Weymouth is dancing with Aljaz Skorjanec. They have been using Horningsham Village Hall for some of their rehearsals and asked if we would mind if they could use the Hall on Thursday 10th October our usual Luncheon Club day. In return we would be allowed to use the banqueting room at Longleat for our lunch. This was met with delight by the members who were very excited in going upper class.

Rehearsals were changed to London at the beginning of the week but it was agreed that we could still use Longleat House as our venue.

The cooks decamped to Longleat early morning on the Thursday where the tables had been placed ready for our usual helpers to lay up. Everything went very smoothly although the kitchen got extremely hot!!!

The members were allowed to drive to the back door where they were helped to park and then taken in the lift up to the dining venue. All the staff at Longleat were very attentive and helped with anything we needed and escorted all our members in and out of the house. We were treated to some lovely chocolates to go with their tea and coffee from Emma's Kitchen.



After their meal the members could explore the house and grounds before they went home, a treat that many took advantage of. A day I am sure that will be a talking point for some time to come.

From all the Luncheon Club members we would like to thank Emma and all the staff at Longleat who looked after us so well for the day.

Lesley Trollope



WELCOME CLUB

The Welcome Club held their monthly meeting at Longleat House because Emma Viscountess of Weymouth was using Horningsham Hall to practise her dancing for “Strictly Coming Dancing”, so it certainly made a change for us. It was sad we had so few members, but those who did attend enjoyed the speaker. Joe Pitts came from Centre for Sustainable Energy he was advising us on ways to save money on our energy bills.

Our next meeting is on November 21st which will be our A.G.M. Also we will be putting places forward for coach trips in 2020, so we want as many members to come and suggest places and to talk about the running of the club.

Pearl Hudson 844779

PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL

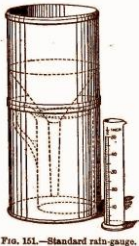


FIG. 151.—Standard rain-gauge.

September started well with warm winds and the occasional light shower, until the 6th when we had a really heavy storm giving us half an inch. We then had the odd shower or mizzle for the next few days. Then things started to dry up for a while and Frome Show managed to have quite a good day. This sort of pattern of weather continued for a while but then on the 22nd we had a downpour, and again for the next few days dropping 2.14 inches. For the last days of September we again had heavy showers. By the end of the month we had 4.01 inches compared to 1.94 in 2018.

John Whatley



Two welcomes this month.

Welcome to Tim and Fiona Cooke who have moved to 117 Little Scotland. It is a welcome back to the village for Tim, who lived in Water Lane about 17 years ago when his mother Christine worked at Longleat. He now has a general building business. Fiona is a nursing assistant in the main theatres in Salisbury Hospital. They have 2 children, Aimee aged 9 and Finlay aged 6, both at Crockerton Primary School. They have a Lexie Staffie dog.

Welcome to Jonathan and Natalia Conroy who have come down from London to 212 Pottle Street. They met when they both worked at the well-known River Café in Hammersmith. Natalia then ran her own café called the Orchard Canteen. They are now taking a break, getting to know the area with the idea of opening an eatery locally. Natalia has written a beautifully produced cook book called “The Kitchen Orchard: Fridge Foraging and Simple Feasts” recommended by Nigella Lawson.

Maggie Osborne

HORNINGSHAM HALL

We've been lucky enough to have Viscountess Emma & Aljaz training at the Hall for their Strictly journey. How lovely to see our Hall featured on the show. We wish them lots of luck and hope they have an amazing success in the show.



Coming up in November we have the return of our traditional Bonfire Night. Tuesday 5th November 4-6pm. There will be a small firework finale, hot food available & drinks. All money raised on the night will go towards further improvements at the Hall.

In December we have Horningsham School Christmas Play and Christmas Fayre. The matinee play performance is on Thursday 12th December, evening performance Friday 13th December. Christmas Fayre, Saturday 14th December.

Louisa Cruickshank

**TRADITIONAL
BONFIRE
NIGHT!**

**HORNINGSHAM
PLAYING FIELD
BA12 7LX**

**TUESDAY 5th
NOVEMBER**

HOT FOOD & DRINK

4-6PM

FIREWORK FINALE

FREE ENTRY!

Horningsham Primary School



✉ Admin@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

✉ FriendsofHPS@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

www.horningsham.schnet.org ☎ 01985 844342

Term Highlights



We have had such a busy and fun packed first term at school. Our annual Harvest Festival was lovely and we managed to raise some money for the church with a produce sale and donated lots of food to the Warminster Foodbank. Woodpeckers organised their own class fund raising event with a monstrous stay and play after school - raising £234!

Eco Cluster

Our newly formed Eco Gang have joined forces with three other schools to work towards becoming an Eco School. Compass Cluster is made up of Horningsham, Wylve Valley, Crockerton and Dinton schools – all small, village primary schools aiming to collaborate on shared projects.





Keep Dancing!

As an Artsmark school, we love all forms of the Arts and have had quite a focus on dance this term. Groups of children have attended a variety of workshops to develop their skills and work with dance

teachers and children from other schools. We have also been really inspired by Viscountess Weymouth and thoroughly enjoyed having a wake and shake session with her and Aljaz when they surprised us with a visit

Bringing learning to life



Trips are a fantastic way of giving the children first hand experiences and bringing learning to life. Owls had an amazing experience watching a live satellite launch from NASA and had great fun at We the

Curious in Bristol. Robins have been learning all about people who help us in the community and enjoyed exploring the fire engines at Warminster Fire Station and meeting a surgeon.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 12th December: evening performance of Christmas Play

Friday 13th December: matinee performance of Christmas Play

Saturday 14th December: Christmas Fayre, Village Hall

Mill Farm Chronicles Sept-Oct 2019

I know I shouldn't be mentioning the C word yet as it's only October but it's only 8 weeks away and stuff needs to be done, especially as the men in my house think that the Christmas Fairy does everything and that they don't have to do a single thing towards it. I sometimes wish I had the nerve to not write the cards or wrap the presents or buy the turkey and see what happens on 25th December but I haven't yet. To be honest I love the build-up to Christmas and all that it entails, probably even more than the day itself. Anyway, the cards are started, present buying is ongoing as and when I can afford it and last weekend Ivy and I made the Christmas puddings. We use a recipe that's been handed down from my Mum. All the family have a stir of the mixture and make a wish. I even took the bowl into Mum's to let her have a stir and a wish too which she loved. My aim is to be Christmas ready by December 1st so watch this space!



As I write this it's the day before we have our latest TB results. The Vet Technician, Carmen, is due at 8.30 am to go through the cows and calves to check for any reactors. I have no idea how it will go and nor does Steve, we are just resigned to whatever happens these days.

After tomorrow most of the cows will be coming in for the winter. The summer calvers will go up to Bradley to eat the grass off for a couple of weeks until they come in too although with all the extra animals we have on the farm at the moment we are struggling with barn space. Our buildings aren't the best so Steve has to be quite creative to fit all the animals in, which includes the donkeys and the pigs!

Last weekend the overladen apple trees in the orchard had their apples picked by volunteers from Longleat. The Estate re-instated the apple trees into the orchard about 15 years ago, because it was a cider orchard in the olden days called The Mill Mead Orchard. The crop, which are all old varieties of cider apples, are going off to be made into cider and champagne cider. I'm hoping we might get given some to taste, especially the champagne cider. The pigs, Thelma and Louise, have been happily clearing up the windfalls.

Business is pretty quiet now that the children are back at school but we do have some of the Animal Park production team staying for a couple of weeks while they film a Christmas special. Jack has been filmed a few times with the animals from the family

farm so we are hoping he survives the cuts and makes it onto the programme. I've made use of the downtime by painting the lounge and doing some sorting out of cupboards.

At the end of September we spent a lovely day celebrating my nephew's wedding. Dan and Amelia married at Stourton Church and had their reception at The Gathering Barn at Keysley Farm. It was a wonderful day. Amelia and the bridesmaids looked beautiful, the food and speeches were great and the weather was kind to us till the evening. The following morning we were all back at the barn helping to clear up and being sustained with bacon rolls and wedding cake by the groom's mum Jackie.



Guy and Ivy share the same birthday 28 years apart which fell on the Monday after the wedding. Guy was going to be away with work for his 33rd birthday so his family and us met for a Sunday roast after the bacon sandwiches (so much food that weekend!). Ivy had a few friends home for a tea party after school on the Monday which Jack and I helped Amy with. It was a very pink, glittery and unicorny party and Ivy had a great time. Jack and I had to disappear in the middle of the party though because we had reports of a few cows out on a road. Why do they always get out when we are miles away and it's pouring with rain?

A few weeks ago we went to the cinema with Dawn and Laurie, bed and breakfast guests who have been coming for so long and so often that they are now more family than guests, to see the film *Downton Abbey*. Dawn and Laurie live quite close to Highclere Castle where *Downton* is filmed and have visited there and I've cooked lunch for Julian Fellows who wrote *Downton Abbey* so we all felt as if we had a vested interest in the film.

The clocks go back this Saturday but I don't think Steve and I will see the benefit of the extra hour because the grandchildren are staying and Theo, who has his cot in our room at the moment, definitely won't realise that he really should stay asleep for a bit later than 6am! Oh the joys of grandchildren . . .

Margaret Crossman

Notes From A Horningsham Garden

Looking forward to November which does mark the end of the active growing season and is the time to cut back and prune exuberant growth on shrubs and hedges and clear away rotting vegetation and see what can be left to overwinter. And there are still plenty of fruits to harvest.

In the vegetable garden, the last of the runner and French beans have been picked and any left can ripen and dry out for next year's seed, plus a giant golden marrow. All the tomatoes, cucumbers and courgettes have finished and there were enough green tomatoes to make 5 pots of chutney. The cobnut harvest has been good. I picked 4 large boxes and I have now finished cracking nuts and eating them or baking them in the oven. They then keep for months and it gives them an extra nutty flavour and crunchy texture.



Lots apples are ripening now, mainly Golden Delicious and Bramleys and mean many messy and happy evenings making apple juice. It's also been a great year for pears and the two Conference trees have been dripping with golden fruit. They are delicious eaten when just ripe, but the excess have been frozen in syrup. Only the medlars left to harvest now. They have to soften until nearly rotten and can then be made into medlar jelly which is great with cold meat or on scones.

All the Michaelmas daisies are over now, washed out rather early by the rain, but the dahlias are still looking marvellous and will continue until the first frost. The enormous range and colour make them a spectacular late summer herbaceous perennials. Strange to think they were first imported from the Americas for their edible tubers. They seem quite hardy in this light sandy soil, so I never bother to dig them up and bring them indoors as is advised in colder wetter areas.

Other showy flowers at this time, are Nerines, bulbs with bright pink flowers, autumn flowering cyclamen and autumn crocuses.



Next month, time to think about Christmas evergreens and eating the harvest!

Carole Hill

THEN & NOW



The road opposite the School is called Pound Lane because in the 18th century the village pound for lost or straying animals was on the site of the Forestry Stables. Owners called reclaim their livestock on payment of a fee.

Our earlier photo dates from the late 1950s and shows the three workhorses setting off for a day's work in the woods. Sometimes it was a long walk – two hours to Southleigh Woods for example.

Not long after this photo was taken the horses were phased out in favour of tractors. The stables are now just used for storage but behind them is a graveyard for two retired tractors. The “R” suffix on the registration plate on this one shows it dates from 1976 – 7.



Lion Cubs

This term we have embraced all things Autumn and the children of Lion Cubs Playgroup have made a variety of wonderful creations from the abundance of offerings Autumn brings. Conkers turned into necklaces, fallen leaves and painted hands to re-create a miniature tree. Apples and blackberries handpicked and cooked up into a delicious crumble (those that made it into the bowls!) by our budding little chefs.



We are getting out and about for our final gathering in October before we break for half term and the winter weather takes hold. We plan to walk to Heaven's Gate come rain or shine, fuelled by hot chocolate & biscuits! We will be welcoming our lion cubs back to the village hall for playgroup as usual on Thursday 7th November 9.15-10.45am.

Charlotte Hilleary



ACCIDENTAL VOLUNTEERS: AN UPDATE

It is exactly 3 years since, under cover of darkness we clambered through a broken window into an abandoned warehouse in Northern Greece to meet Mohammad, a chain-smoking displaced Syrian pharmacist, cross-legged in a tent, representing 1,300 other refugees in a building with no heat, no water and only intermittent electricity. He was wary at first, he had taken a leadership role in the camp and was used to vetting “would be” helpers who brought ideas quite opposed to the needs of his people. We tried to listen.

We spent the first few days running the most urgent cases to doctors and dentists and picking up big orders of medications from local pharmacies. Our days were long and the gratitude shown to us completely disarming. We established a relationship of extraordinary mutual respect. They’ve since said that we were the first people to show them some humanity.

We sent updates to everyone in Horningsham as much to catalogue our own thoughts as to inform our friends in the village, but we were only ever telling you half of it. We had face-offs with UN security, we got chased by the Army, we got asked to calm down a group of protesters burning dumpsters and tyres blocking the main road into Thessaloniki. We overcame the dilemma of whether it’s more noble to break rules than follow them when the rules aren’t working. We confronted established ineffective organisations paralysed by their own webs of red tape. We never forgot the day that Hassan, a young Syrian engineer, implored us to always ask “but what is the benefit” before we did anything.

One day, in the camp, Caroline was asked back to a tent by Odae, a young father who wanted her to see the conditions in which Nariman, his wife, and their three children were living. We were so moved by their situation that we decided to find a house for the family to live in to escape the hell of the camp. By the end of the month we had rented enough places in the city to become the third largest provider of independent refugee housing in Greece.

Where are they now? Germany is the answer in that case, reunited with their extended family in the Black Forest. We’ve housed families from all over Syria and Iraq and met many amazing people, all of whom have disturbing tales of their lives living in ISIS or Assad controlled areas. Last Christmas we visited several who had been sent to Sweden. They are working, growing up, settling in and delivering to the communities they’ve been assigned too. I am always struck by the irony of the



argument that these vulnerable displaced families represent some sort of threat to us when in fact they are the people who decided not to fight but instead to leave everything behind and look for safety with us in Europe. That so many of our leaders have shown such reticence to assist them should forever shame us as a civilised society.

These days we spend a lot of time in Italy, it is handily placed between Horningsham and Greece and travelling there gives us the opportunity to visit the families we've met and housed over the last few years. Watching them integrate into life all over the continent is a huge pleasure for us. It's very rewarding when they learn French and we can speak to them in the same language for the first time. One particular Kurdish family who came to us on horseback through the mountains of Iraq and the jails of Turkey, burrowed their way into our hearts more than most. Mum, Dad and four daughters hit their neighbourhood in the hilly suburbs of Thessaloniki with such enthusiasm that they earned virtual celebrity status among the locals. No party was worth going to that they didn't attend, no class at school worth topping if the Syrian girls weren't also competing for honours. They tried to escape Greece in a car but eventually succeeded through a semi-legal route to re-apply for refugee status in Germany and begin the refugee process all over again. We can only wish them well.

Back in Greece we still house 34 people. All the children are now in full time school, many of the men have found work picking fruit and most of the women attend language and educational classes. We've had a few births along the way, one little girl they even named Caroline, after they'd asked how exactly to spell it.

Caroline and I control a Charitable Family Trust established in the US to fund things like this. The cost to



rent, heat and maintain the houses in Greece is about 8 times what we pay in rent to live with you in Wiltshire. Lately the Northern European countries, under pressure from a newly invigorated nationalistic minority, have reduced the numbers of families they accept for relocation. Consequently, our tenants have been staying longer and it feels like we are being taken advantage of. Not by the tenants, who never ask for anything, but by the governments whose responsibility to provide a safe haven is theirs and shouldn't be ours. We have applied for funding from another much larger charity based in the UK and if we don't get it in the next couple of months we are going to shut down our Greek project, and the Greek Registered Charity it morphed into.

We are very grateful for the donations, interest and support we received from people in the village, but more recently we have had to acknowledge that, even though the unfairness of the refugee situation is widely accepted, too many of us in our wider society unashamedly demand that our privilege be protected and preserved above the basic needs of others. And that's sad. It's sad that we were never able to win the argument and convince more people that sharing good fortune delivers a greater reward. It's sad that we weren't able to do more to correct this injustice.

Neil & Caroline

Horningsham's Notable Trees

That old chestnut ! Which old chestnut?
The Case of the *Castanea sativa*



I love mystery particularly of the Agatha Christie genre known as ‘cosy crime’ the devil is usually in the detail, the things observed by Poirot for instance that ‘lesser mortals’ (Hastings) don’t even notice. The skills required to be a paleoecologist or an archaeobotanist must be similar to a detective. Let us look at The Case of the *Castanea sativa*.

The Woodland Trust website seem unequivocal in its information “Introduced by the Romans and a roasted winter treat, these long lived giants, with their prickly husks and deeply grooved bark give us our classic Christmas nut.”

Of course it may be that the website hasn’t been updated since this statement:

“It has long been thought that sweet chestnut trees were introduced to Britain by the Romans – a belief popularised by 18th-century writers – but new research assessing archaeobotanical samples from this period has now cast doubt on such assumptions.” Rob Jarman *et al* in Current Archaeology CA349

Then there’s this:

“The sweet chestnut, *Castanea sativa*, is a southern European tree and was almost certainly introduced by the Romans.” Monty Don in The Guardian, 2005

And this:

“Native to southern Europe, sweet chestnut is considered to have been introduced by the Romans primarily as a food source. However recent evidence suggests it may have been established prior to the Roman arrival.” Ben Law in Woodland Craft, 2015.

Where does this leave us?

“In Britain, where sweet chestnut is classified as an archaeophyte of Roman introduction, there are many ancient sweet chestnut trees and woodlands significant for conservation, yet no dendrochronological assessment has been made of them. This paper describes an attempt to assess the dendrochronological potential of sweet chestnut wood.”

Jarman, Moir, Webb & Chambers (2017) *Arboricultural Journal*.

Well, their assessment involved 8 sweet chestnuts, including veterans, mature and coppice. Using two methods, coring of living wood and growth ring parameters in fallen wood four trees were used to cross-match and cross-date *C.sativa* using oak reference chronologies. The result was as follows:

“The ages for these chestnut trees range from circa AD 1668 to AD 1940. It is concluded that oak reference chronologies can be used to date sweet chestnut wood, with benefits for archaeological, historic building and palaeoenvironmental assessments. The extraction of sawn sections from dead veteran trees and their dendrochronological analysis indicates a more reliable and benign approach to dating ancient trees in historic landscapes compared with coring.”

So, is the Mystery solved?

I can't go without mentioning that chestnut paling was used in the Second World War to make over 1,500 miles of tank tracks on the Normandy beaches. “Plants go to War: A Botanical History of World War 2” by Judith Sumner.

Until 1900, all hops were grown up poles, each about 14 feet tall and only about 1 inch in diameter at the tip. Each hop vine needed two poles, so around 2,000 were used for every acre of hops. This was serviced in Kent in particular by coppices of sweet chestnut cut on a 10-year rotation. It is one of the best coppice trees, throwing up a mass of straight shoots with glossy saw-toothed leaves that have a remarkably exotic, almost tropical appearance.

Uses for Sweet Chestnut Coppice

Age of rotation	Use
3 years	Walking sticks, faggots
5 years	Walking sticks, faggots, yurt poles, hedging stakes, beanpoles, pea sticks, pegs, woven panels, straw bale spikes, balustrades, rustic furniture.
7 - 12 years	Rustic furniture, laths, pales, rose arches, gate hurdles, trellis panels, trug handles
20 years	Laths, pales,
30+ years	Roundwood timber framing, post-and-rail fencing, fencing posts, decking, cladding, arbours, gates, shingles, window frames, charcoal, firewood

Jayne Glover

Horningsham Women's Group

Our October meeting was all about jam making, a traditional occupation of the WI. So we spent the evening in the kitchen getting slightly sticky chopping, measuring and stirring.

We adopted an experimental approach using:

- a) the traditional preserving pan and jam thermometer
- b) an electrical jam maker which had to be programmed

The result was 10 splendid jars of blackberry and apple jam, labelled and ready for our store cupboards. Our taste test suggested that the jam maker produced a more textured consistency than the traditional method which some people preferred.

In between our kitchen activities we discussed our future group format now that leaving the WI organisation was proceeding. This will be further discussed at our Christmas meeting on the 18th of November.





**Next Meeting: 7.30 Tuesday 18th November– NB not first Tuesday
Christmas Craft**

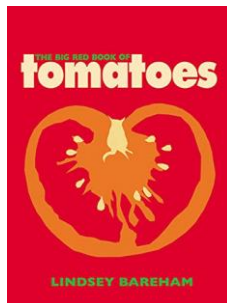
Meetings are free for members. Guests are £3 per meeting

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 first Tuesday of the month at Horningsham Village Hall, normally at 7.30pm. You don't have to be a village resident to join us and you are welcome to bring a friend. 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.

MONTHLY RECIPE

Jayne's Addiction

You really would think by now that I have enough cookery books or have had enough of cookery books! I don't cook for a living anymore, I don't teach, or demonstrate but I just can't help myself when my interest is turned up to 500 °F/ 260 °C or Gas mark 10. 😊 August and September were such a blur that I found myself wanting to write about 'New ideas if you have a glut of Tomatoes' for this issue. Oops! Well we haven't had a frost yet (I won't mention the rain). I found that there are few books on the subject but the one that stuck out a mile was by Lindsey Bareham. Suffice to say I now want every book that Lindsey ('a writer who cooks' and a Cornwall-ophile) has written. "The Big Red Book of Tomatoes" is truly a tomato lover's dream. When you read it, it makes you wonder why we only think of chutney. I love it and there is a mention of our very own Matt Simpson on page 24.



Lindsey Bareham's Cheese and Tomato Tart with Mustard

Ingredients

10 ripe medium tomatoes, cored peeled and sliced into 4
100g butter 8 fresh sage leaves
1 egg yolk 2 tbsp smooth Dijon mustard
150g flour salt and freshly ground pepper
2 tbsp olive oil 100g Wensleydale cheese

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 400 °F/ 200 °F / gas mark 6

1. Melt a small knob of butter in a small frying pan and heat until it froths . Add the sage and cook quickly on both sides. Drain to crisp on kitchen paper.
2. In a bowl add the remaining butter to the flour and salt, then rub in with the fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Crumble the sage and lightly work it through. Add the egg yolk and one tablespoon of the mustard to bind and form a ball. Leave it to rest.
3. On a plate season the tomato slice with salt & pepper and drizzle with oil. Turn after 5 minutes and repeat.
4. Roll out the pastry and line a 20cm / 8" flan ring. Cover loosely with foil or greaseproof and use rice or baking beans to bake blind for 10 minutes. Remove the foil and bake for another 5 mins.

Reduce the oven temperature to 350 °C/180 °F/gas mark 4.

5. Smear the base of the tart with the rest of the mustard, cover with thin slices of cheese (I crumbled it). Arrange the tomatoes on top. Pour the olive oil juices over the tomatoes. Bake for 25 minutes.
6. Allow the tart to settle for 15 minutes before removing the ring and serving

Omlowenha dha voes!
(Bon Appetit in Cornish)

Jayne Glover

MAIDEN BRADLEY HALL



Christmas Fair

Friday 29th November 6pm - 8pm

Come along and get into the Christmas spirit - well it's nearly December!
Fun for all the family with tombola, festive gifts, games, decorations, mulled wine & refreshments and much more.

Film Night: Friday 8th November: Stan & Ollie (PG) doors open 7.00pm



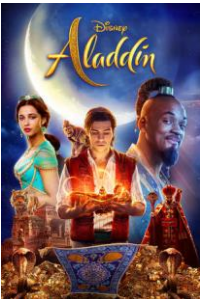
STEVE
COOGAN

JOHN C.
REILLY

STAN & OLLIE

The Untold Story Of The World's Greatest Comedy Act.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.STANANDOLLIE.COM



Film Night: Saturday 23rd November: Aladdin (PG)
Doors open 5.45pm for 6.30pm start
Fish & Chips available from Mr. Chippy

Post Office service, café and the Community Store will be available every Tuesday afternoon 1-3pm in the Hall.

Coffee Mornings & Library every Friday 10.00 - 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
Opening times: 9am – 11.30am. Please note CASH ONLY.

Longleat Koalas Offer Scientific Breakthrough to Save Iconic Species in the Wild

Scientists working with a group of koalas at Longleat have discovered vital genetic clues which may help to secure the long-term survival of the iconic Australian marsupial in the wild. It has been estimated there are now less than 100,000 koalas in Australia with the surviving populations becoming increasingly fragmented and suffering from a series of illnesses caused by their limited genetic diversity.

Up to a third of southern koalas suffer from a form of kidney disease while their northern cousins have been decimated by cancers and a form of HIV. All three disorders have a genetic link and now researchers from the University of Nottingham's School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, working with keepers at Longleat, believe they have identified a genetic mutation and a retrovirus present in the southern koala population which may help to protect against all three of them.

The research is being led Dr Rachael Tarlinton, Associate Professor of Veterinary Virology. Tragically one of Longleat's southern koalas, a female called Wilpena, died as a result of the kidney disease known as oxalate nephrosis. "In the case of koalas, it's hard to get information on disease, health and reproduction when you have to catch animals that are up 50 metre tall trees as they are in the wild," said Dr Tarlinton. "Much of our work can't be done without animals held in zoological collections and, while Wilpena's death was extremely sad, it does look as though the genetic information she has provided us with could provide vital clues to help save the population in the wild."



Dr Tarlinton and her team believe they have identified a retrovirus within the southern population that helps protect them from the diseases which have affected the northern koalas. Even more excitingly she also believes they have worked out the genetic mutation

that causes the kidney disease which killed Wilpena. Dr Tarlinton is hopeful the new information will help to develop cross-breeding programmes with a view to eventually eradicating the genetic mutation which causes kidney disease and also spreading the retrovirus which helps protect against the cancers and HIV.

The koala population's genetic problems can be traced back to mass culls in the 19th and 20th centuries where an estimated eight million koalas were killed. In 1890 conservationists rescued fewer than 20 animals and relocated them to islands in southern Victoria. Most of today's animals are descended from this tiny population which is believed to have carried the genetic mutation.

A male koala has been flown from Osaka in Japan to boost Longleat's koala breeding programme. The 12-year-old was flown from Osaka Tennoji Zoo and accompanied on the flight by his Japanese keepers and vet who are helping him settle in to his new home where he will increase the genetic diversity of the programme. Longleat now has what is believed to be the only two male southern koalas outside of Australia.



Hitcombe Bottom Road Accident

If you have been keeping your eyes on the road as you negotiate the bend in the road at the bottom of Dock Hill, you may not have noticed the damage resulting from a vehicle that failed to make it round the bend. In the small hours of a recent Wednesday morning a vehicle crashed through the hedge and crushed the cattle trough just inside the field. It came out again through the hedge further down the road. The vehicle must have sustained substantial damage underneath when it wrecked the substantial galvanised trough.



Lion rips up car tyre as family of trippers watch

WHEN the Newtons had a day out at the Marquess of Bath's lion reserve, the lion's share of the fun was had by one of the lions. Roaring majestically, it ripped a hole in a front tyre of the car the family were in.

Yesterday the Newtons were doing a bit of "roaring" themselves. For the managers of the reserve at Longleat, Wilts,

By MIRROR REPORTER

in answer to Mr. Newton's horn blowing.

Mrs. Newton said: "The reserve's men changed the wheel." The Newtons still plan to claim for a new tyre from the reserve.

Risk

But a spokesman said: "It clearly states on the ticket that people go in at their own risk."

"It also says that no responsibility is accepted for damage to vehicles from the animals."

"Frankly, there is little chance of them getting any money back."

have told them that the rules printed on the windscreen tickets say that no responsibility is accepted for damaged cars.

"It's annoying," said Mrs. Betty Newton, of The Street, Broughton Gifford, Wilts

Engine

"When we asked about claiming, they said we didn't stand much chance of getting our money back."

Mrs. Newton, her husband Ray and their two young sons went to Longleat in a relative's car. Just before the lion struck out with a paw, they had switched off the engine to listen to its roar.

The boys thought it was all fun, especially when four or five vehicles arrived



5d. Wednesday, November 12, 1969 No. 20,491



5d. Monday, November 10, 1969 No. 20,489

SOS-LIONS STRANDED

THE crew of a police patrol car got a dramatic radio SOS yesterday: Go to the aid of a dozen stranded lions.

Dutchman William Voss, it turned out, was taking the lions from a zoo in Holland to Chipperfield's lion park at Longleat, Wilts.

When he got to Walthamstow, East London, he found that the brakes of his five-ton truck were failing.

The police got the truck to a garage, fetched straw to make the lions comfortable and arranged a special tow for the rest of the journey.



BUSES FROM BUS STOP 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

ADVERTISING RATES

¼ page £4.00 ½ page £8.00 Full Page £16.00

These apply to the inside pages of the magazine



BLACK AND YELLOW PAGES

Black Boxes	Thursday 7 th & 21 st November Thursday 5 th & 19 th December
Grey Bins	Friday 8 th & 22 nd November Friday 6 th & 20 th December
Blue Bins	Friday 1 st 15 th & 29 th November Friday 13 th & Monday 30th December
Mobile Library	Tuesday 5 th & 19 th November <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
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Shattock	844197
Horningsham School		844342
First Steps Nursery		844942
Village Hall Hire		07541 211732
Longleat Property Department		845535
Parish Council	Sarah Jeffries	213436
Congregational Chapel	Carol Cox	horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk
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

Tuesday 5th November 4.00-6.00 **Bonfire Night** at the Hall Field

Sunday 10th November 10.45 **Remembrance Service** at the War Memorial

Tuesday 18th November 7.30 **Horningsham Women's Group Meeting** at the Hall

Thursday 21st November 7.30 **Parish Council Meeting** at the Hall



THE BATH ARMS
COUNTRY PUB & ACCOMMODATION

Warm, welcoming
Wiltshire gastropub
with 18 rooms

THE BATH ARMS

Championing **the
finest regional ingredients**
in seasonal menus

Scenic spot for **cycling
and dog-walking** on the
cusp of Longleat Estate



www.batharms.co.uk • T: 01985 844 308

The Bath Arms at Longleat, Horningsham, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7LY

   @thebatharms

*Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, or used on Christmas Day

(01985)
21 22 88



(01985)
21 22 15

FROM
SOMERSET

0800 542 5222

WARMINSTER
WILTSHIRE



**No Mole
No Fee
07512681111
01373836350**



LAKESIDE
garden centre



Everything for the garden.....with lakeside views.



CROCKERTON, WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE 01985 217413 OPEN MON-SAT 8.30-5.30 SUN 10.30-4.30



www.fonthill-lakeside.com



**Professional
Eco-friendly
Carpet, Rug,
&
Upholstery Cleaning**



GREEN MAN

FROM:

01373 470416

www.greenmancleaning.co.uk

**STAR
FISH
BAR**

3 BROXBURN ROAD WARMINSTER
TEL: 01985 217232

****OPENING TIMES****

LUNCHTIMES

**MON 11.45AM - 1.45PM
TUES 11.45AM - 1.45PM
WEDS 11.45AM - 1.45PM
THURS 11.45AM - 1.45PM
FRI 11.45AM - 1.45PM
SAT 11.45AM - 1.45PM**

EVENINGS

**MON 4.45PM - 9.00PM
TUES 4.45PM - 9.00PM
WEDS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
THURS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
FRI 4.45PM - 9.00PM
SAT 4.45PM - 9.00PM**

SUNDAYS, 4.30PM - 8.30PM

**Your Advert
Here
Only £40 per year**

FORD FUEL OILS

www.fordfueloils.co.uk

The Oil Depot, Farrington Fields Trading Estate, Farrington Gurney, Bristol BS39 6UU
Tel: 01761 452222 Fax: 01761 453977
Email: admin@fordfueloils.co.uk

**COMPUTER REPAIRS
UPGRADES / SYSTEMS & LAPTOPS**

**VIRUS REMOVAL / BROADBAND
WIRELESS / NETWORKING**



FAST, FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

COMPETITIVE RATES

ONSITE OR WORKSHOP

CC CompTIA
A+ Certified

call
01373 302901

www.ntscomputing.co.uk
help@ntscomputing.co.uk

EMBERSON GENERAL BUILDERS

- Carpentry
- Brickwork
- Plastering
- Roofing
- Fencing
- Painting & Decorating

Over 15 years experience.

**Call Tony On 07917 388408 For A
competitive quote.**

**Your Ad Here
for just
£20 per year**

FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN NEEDS

**CALL FLASH ON
01985 988578
MOBILE: 07840116119**