HORNINGSHAM NEWS ISSUE 243 March 2023





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EDITORIAL

We are back to normal with this month's cover photo, though last month's shocking photo did arouse much interest in the sad state of the Chapel Schoolroom. Horningsham is having a particularly good snowdrop year. They are especially prolific in aptly named White Street where Paul Kemp captured these.

Inside this issue you will find news from most of the village clubs and organisations. The Fayre Committee are making tremendous progress with arrangements for the Summer Fayre. This is Horningsham's main event of the year and provides vital funding for our clubs and groups. So do make sure you have Sunday 11th June in your diary.

The Hall Committee have a list of events in their report. It was good to see more people at the monthly Coffee Morning – every 3^{rd} Sunday of the month – do come along. They have also arranged another Village Supper – Saturday 22^{nd} April. Jo and Angus are cooking again so you can be sure of a memorable meal.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Wednesday 15th March 2023

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team					
Tim Hill	844365	Chrissie Buttery	844622		
Helen Taylor	215906	Gill Courtney	844411		
James Oborne (Treasurer) 844711					



We now have 1,467 "Page Follows" – over eight times the number of printed copies!

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

Horningsham Parish Council 23rd February 2023

Resignation – Councillor Charlotte Hilleary has resigned the Parish Council will be notified by Wiltshire Council on the 2^{nd of} March 2023 if an election as been requested by 10 parishioners. If no election is requested the Parish Council will advertise for a Co-opted Councillor to join the team.

Horningsham Street Signs- a grant has been awarded by Wiltshire Council to place street name signs at West Common, Anchor Barton, Hitcombe Bottom, Gentle Street, Rowe's Hill, White Street.

Footbridge - the Wiltshire Council Area Highways Engineer picked up on their last visit to the Parish that the wooden bridge near Mill Farm has some loose floorboards. This has been checked and remedial work has been requested. It is expected that this will take place after April when the new maintenance contractor starts.

Parish Steward – it was agreed that last month's work list be resent the Parish Steward had not been able to action the list, as they had been pulled from the parish to deal with the priority grit salting and pot hole repairs.

Munday's Lane - Councillor Stephen Crossman's reported on his discussions with the farmer regarding the hedges on either side of Mundy's Lane and the hope to action on a yearly maintenance plan for Munday's Lane. Sadly, the lane is too narrow to drive down to clear either side. The Clerk was instructed to contact Grounds Contractor ask for quote spray the brambles and clear through once a year, as they may well have smaller equipment to take this action.

Recreational area – it was agreed to purchase 3 new take your litter home signs to be placed inside the play area.

Tennis Court- a new tennis court net was agreed, it would only be put in place when the tennis season was in place and removed in the winter months. A meeting to look at putting in a slope down to the tennis court enabling the area to be accessible for all was arranged between Councillors Stephen Crossman, John Radley and Matt Simpson. **Teenage Recreational Provision** – Unitary Councillor Bill Parks informed Council that he would assist the Clerk with applying for a Youth Grant towards the equipment. Councillor Steven Seals kindly offered to provide football nets for the two goals, Councillor John Radley to arrange their installation.

Dates of Meetings in 2023/2024

Annual Parish Meeting: Thursday 18th May 2023 7.00pm (Meeting of Electors not a Full Council meeting)

Dates of Full Parish Council Meetings 2023/2024

All Parish Council meetings will have an opportunity at the start for parishioners to ask questions or make comments on any matter.

Thursday 6th April 2023 7.30pm, Thursday 18th May 2023 7.00pm (Annual Parish Meeting Electors meeting) Thursday 18th May 2023 7.30pm Annual Parish Council Meeting, Thursday 29th June 2023 7.30pm, There will be no meeting during the July/August Break, Thursday 14th September 2023 7.30pm, Thursday 26th October 2023 7.30pm, Thursday 7th December 2023 7.30pm (Budget meeting), Thursday 18th January 2024 7.30pm, Thursday 29th February 2024 7.30pm and Thursday 11th April 2024 7.30pm

Coronation – it was unanimously agreed that a it would be lovely to hold Village party/picnic for children and adults within the Community to celebrate the Coronation.

It was agreed unanimously to gift money to Community Groups for such an event. Councillor Stephen Crossman and Councillor Ken Windess to approach the relevant persons to see if there is interest. It was agreed to delegate the power to the Clerk arrange for donations to be gifted to the groups to fund such an event, due to the timings of the next Council meeting.

Cloudy IT – the Council were pleased to hear that the Cloudy Group who provide the Council with its IT system, have planted a lifesaving tree for the Council.

Fallen Kissing Gate on Footpath Corsley 4 by the Phone Box in Newbury – The Parish Council noted that Longleat have repaired the above Kissing gate. The Volunteer Rights of Way team leader has informed them that he has inserted destination signs at each end of bridleway HORN24 on taller posts (the bridleway from Newbury up towards Heaven's Gate).

Best Kept Village Competition – The Parish Council has agreed to take part in the Best Kept Village Competition. The Clerk will start preparing the competition documentation and the requirements would be advertised on the Facebook pages. It is hoped to bring the village together to spring clean it!

Notice of items to be taken into consideration at the next meeting- year end Audit, Best Kept Village Competition and Coronation preparations.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 6th April 2023 at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend, as always, the meeting will be open to parishioners to ask questions or make comments on any matter. The website <u>www.horningsham.org.uk</u> can be accessed to read a copy of the agenda or minutes electronically or a hard copy is placed on the noticeboard outside of the school.

Mrs Sarah Jeffries PSLCC CertHE

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FAYRE NEWS

We have a title for this year's Fayre : A Right Royal Fayre!

In celebration of our new monarch, we're theming the Fayre all things Royal. There will be a Kings & Queens, Prince/Princess Parade in the arena along with a creative opportunity to make crowns in the kids' tent. We'll also be running a potato/veg royal look-a-like competition so get practising on your King Edwards and courgettes now.

The Bath Arms have kindly agreed to run the bar again and we have various food stalls already booked in. We're on the lookout for local creators/bakers/makers to showcase their talents. You could host a stall together with someone else from the village; we have a lot of small businesses in the village so let me know if you'd like to hook up someone else from the village.

We're also going to have a cosy open mic tent - if you play in a band or sing and would like some exposure, book a slot to perform on the day.

We've got some comedy action planned for the main arena to entertain and enliven all plus hopefully the return of the large inflatables and the kids' corner.

This and so much more to come. It's shaping up to be another great Fayre.

Check out the latest Fayre news on Facebook or Instagram

@horningshamvillagefayre - applications for stall holders can be found there too.

Next meeting is **Wednesday 29th March at 6pm** at the Village Hall. **Remember the Fayre is on Sunday 11th June**



Are you decluttering? Do you have anything you no longer want that we may be able to sell at the Fayre? Moving house? Know anyone who is? Please let the Fayre Committee know. The Bric-a-Brac stall can raise as much as £1,000 in a good year which all helps village causes. Please call Steve Crossman 844333 or James Oborne 07753 404705

Church of St John the Baptist



Dear Friends,

As I sit writing this, I am 'basking' in the sunshine. The ice and frosts of January and early February have gone and today we are in double figures on the thermometer. Spring has sprung, the churchyard in Kingston Deverill is awash with snowdrops and in my garden, I have seen more snowdrops, the first crocuses, primroses and daffodils, a real boost in these gloomy, dark and short days, and as we reflect on world events in Ukraine, Turkey and Syria and those suffering, we also feel their consequences in our lives.

By the time this is published Lent with have started, we will have eaten our pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the Carnivals will have been celebrated across America and Europe and we'll have been Ashed on Ash Wednesday. Then we will be looking forward to Easter in early April. Lent and Easter are two of the most significant events in the Christian calendar, a time when we reflect on Christ's journey, his message and ministry of salvation, the route to his trial, crucifixion, death and glorious resurrection.

The season of Lent lasts for forty days (not including Sundays). It is a time when Christians reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. Some people fast, eat frugally or give up treats following the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

People also give to charity, set aside time to study the Bible and meet with other Christians to reflect on Jesus' life and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. There will be three Lent Coffee mornings in the Deverills 21st, 28th March and 4th April.

As it says in Ecclesiastes – there is a time and season for every purpose under heaven. We have time in Lent to reflect and prepare, then celebrate with joy the central tenet of the Christian faith, the Resurrection of Jesus who died to save the world.

Robert Shuler, Licensed Lay Minister and Church Warden Kingston Deverill

HORNINGSHAM LUNCHEON CLUB



We are back at last. After the problem with the cooker at Horningsham we have spent the last four weeks at Maiden Bradley. Our grateful thanks to the Maiden Bradley Hall Committee for at short notice letting us use their hall. Special thanks to Keith for putting the tables up each week and to Carole and Mary for showing us where everything was, for their help each week, and for making us feel so welcome.

February is the month that the Luncheon Club began 40 years ago. The brainchild of Hazel Gillingham and the late Brenda Mackintosh. To celebrate this milestone we are holding an afternoon tea at Horningsham Hall on Thursday 13th April at 3.0pm. If there are any past members, cooks or helpers who would like to join us please get in touch with Margaret or Lesley. We are hoping that Hazel will be well enough to join us all the way from Norfolk and past Chairwoman Jane Yates will also be coming back to celebrate with us.

Let us hope that the Club will continue to thrive for another 40 years.

Margaret 844756 Lesley 211355



On Thursday March 23rd at Horningsham Hall the Welcome Club will hold the opening meeting of the season at 2pm. Members will pay £5.00 subscription and collect their membership card telling them where we are going on our outings this year. Anyone over 60 years of age can be a member, the more the merrier and we look forward to seeing new faces as well as the old ones!

The first outing of the season is on Tuesday 25th April when it will be a mystery trip when only the driver knows where we are going. Anyone who is interested, please give me a call on 01985219289.

Pearl Hudson

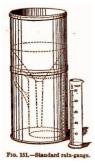
HORNINGSHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



We hope to make safe the pathway to the cemetery which has become very muddy and slippery and would advise anyone using it to take care.

Our next service will be at 10am on Sunday 12th March all are welcome.

Carol Cox horningshamchapel@aol.com



PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL

January carried on with wet cold weather with another 1.84 inches on the $13/14^{\text{th}}$ Then came the frost with temperatures falling to -6C, this continued to the 24^{th} followed by dense fog. By the end of January we had 7.23 inches.

February started feeling a little warmer and snowdrops started to appear, with daffodils as well. So far this month has been pleasant at times in the spring sun, but cooler in the shade, a drop of rain on the 15^{th} but not enough to stop field work.

John Whatley

HALL NEWS



It was lovely to see so many different faces at the coffee morning in February and at Shrove Tuesday pancakes. Many thanks to Rick and Katy Gunning for inspiring these, and to all who came.

Remember the coffee mornings are on the third Sunday of every month; the next one is on 19th March.

We also have the date for your diary for the next village dinner in the Hall: Saturday 22nd April. Jo and Angus who provided us with such a super dinner in November will be in the kitchen again. We are very grateful to them and look forward to another great evening. Please put it in your diary. Details of how to book and pay to follow later.

Upcoming events - dates to look out for:

The next coffee morning: Sunday 19th March 10am-12noon School Quiz Night: Friday 24th March First home cricket match of the season: Sunday 16th April Village Dinner: Saturday 22nd April 6pm for 7pm Village Hall AGM: Thursday 4th May 7pm Village Fayre: Sunday 11th June

James Oborne

HORNINGSHAM CRICKET CLUB



Thanks to a hyper-active fixtures secretary the cricket club is looking forward to another summer with over 60 matches. The highlights will be two tours. To Northumberland in July, to play under the basalt crags and walls of Bamburgh Castle on the North Sea coast. And then a pilgrimage to Broad Halfpenny Down in Sussex in September, to sip a lemonade at the Bat and Ball Inn, where they wrote the rules of cricket, and play on the ground where first class cricket was first played in 1772. 1772 was, by the way, 89 years before the first recorded game in Horningsham. It is amazing that we go to these places.

We have entered the national village cup, and face a first round away trip to Redlynch & Hale, south of Salisbury, in April. Our previous two forays into this competition lasted just the one game.

If you live in the village and have never played cricket here and would like to, please be in touch. We can make it happen. We don't have separate men's, women's and children's teams, but men, women and children over the age of about 13 all play.

Prizes for the 2022 season were awarded at the Bath Arms in January. Best batsman, with 966 runs, was Christie O'Connor, an astonishing record considering he was away at university for half the summer. Harry Hatch was best bowler, with 52 wickets. Our captain Callum Widdows took 64 but inflated his total by bowling against tail-enders and children. Leonard Snook was Most Improved Player. Dan Edmund (Most Ducks) and Tom Spencer (Most Dropped Catches) both need practice.

By the time you read this (I hope somebody will read this) we will have played our first match of the year. Skittles against Heytesbury at the Fox & Hounds. Cricket starts in April.



Bamburgh, fought over since 420 AD by Celtic Britons, Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, the Normans and Horningsham Cricket Club

Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

01985 845303 (answerphone)



Spring events coming up.... Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th March both evenings from 5pm – the return of 'The Temporary Measure' - Pub night and games Sunday 5th March – 10-11 Sunday Catch-up Coffee Morning Sunday 12th March – Greener Maiden Bradley Coffee Morning 11-12 Fridav 17th March - Film Night 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris' Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start Tuesday 21st March – 7.00pm Defibrillator Training Saturday 25th March – A performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's Ruddigore by The White Horse Opera Group Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets £10.00 available from Devizes Books or www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera **Saturday 1st April** – Community Litter Pick Saturday 22nd April – Banjo Circus LIVE MUSIC EVENT Please see www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk for further details **Regular events**

Mondays10.00am-11.00amYogaMondays5.00pm-6.00pmDr's SurgeryTuesdays11am-MiddayBradley BabiesTuesdays1.00pm-3.00pmPost Office Service

10am-12pm 12

6.15pm-7.15pm

Yoga Flow

Coffee Morning

Wednesdays

Fridays

Keith James Widdows 26th May 1953 - 14th March 2020



Memorial Service

Tuesday 14th March 2023 11.30am - Service @ Christchurch, Warminster 12:30pm - Gathering to celebrate his life with food & drink @ The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill

To mark 3 years since the sad passing of our Father, Keith Widdows, a memorial service will be held to remember Keith, which everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to attend please contact one of the Family (all are on Facebook or call Ryan on 07826064525) so we have an idea how many to expect for the ceremony.

Due to the extreme lock down rules in 2020 we never had the opportunity to invite friends and family to his funeral and give him the send-off he deserved.

We look forward to seeing some familiar faces on this special day.

The Widdows Family



Horningsham Primary School

Email: <u>FriendsofHPS@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk</u> Email: <u>admin@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk</u> Website: www.horningsham.wilts.sch.uk 201985.844342



Dance Festival

We were so proud of the children at the recent West Wilts Annual Dance Festival. They performed on the stage at Bath Forum in front of a packed audience of parents and other schools and were the stars of the show (no bias!). The theme this year was 'It's a kind of Magic', which they interpreted with a dance in the world of fairy tales. Using a mixture of dance genres, the children performed impeccably, maintaining great timing and musicality with the great routine choreographed by Mrs Lapham and Mrs Dorgan. Well done to all the children and our talented dance teachers!



Spring Quiz Night

There are still a few tickets available for our Horningsham Spring Quiz at the Village Hall on Friday 24th March 7-11pm. It should be a great evening with bar, food, raffle and quiz – with our super guest quiz master Steve Crossman! Scan the QR code on the poster or via the news article on our website to book.

Natural History Museum



The children in Owls and Woodpeckers' Classes had a wonderful day in London visiting the Natural History Museum. Woodpeckers explored the museum and particularly enjoyed investigating the geology exhibits for research for their Volcanoes and Earthquakes topic. Owls, who are currently studying space, did an amazing workshop with scientists building their own Mars rovers out of Lego and programmed them across a lunar surface. It was a great day full of memorable learning.

New Website



You may have noticed that we have a new website! Our new address is www.horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

Help! Kitchen Assistant Needed

We are desperately in need of a Kitchen Assistant to work any of our daily lunchtimes – please spread the word and direct any interested parties to 'vacancies' on our website or to contact the school office for further information. Many thanks.

THEN & NOW





16







The Round House is all that remains of the cloth industry in Horningsham, an industry that was once a major occupation not just here in the village, but in the whole area. The importance of the cloth industry in Horningsham is shown in a survey of occupations carried out by Longleat in 1799. There were: 2 clothiers; 18 weavers; 8 shearmen; 4 scribblers; and 2 twisters all employed in cloth production. However, cloth production in the West Country suffered a great decline due to the rise of new industrial production in the North. By 1841 the only Horningsham jobs left in the cloth industry were just 3 weavers and by 1851 there were only 2: aged 72 and 84 and both described in the 1851 Census as "paupers".

The Round House itself is where cloth was hung to dry – hence its hexagonal shape. It was said that when Longleat workmen dug into the earth floor it was still stained with colours from dye. Locally, it was referred to as the Blanket Factory. On the site, including the now empty ground on the other side of the road known as The Island, there was, a thriving cloth processing operation owned by William Everett a wealthy clothier who built nearby Holywell House for himself and his family. On the land above the Round House there were tenter racks where cloth was stretched after fulling on tenterhooks to prevent it shrinking.

In 1767 Everett installed a gig mill in one of his fulling mills to mechanically raise the nap on the unfinished cloth prior to it being sheared to make it smooth. According to accounts at the time, one man and a boy using the gig mill could in two hours do the work done by 30 men in a day. Unsurprisingly, this was not a welcome development for the workmen and about 500 shearmen from the area marched on Horningsham and destroyed the gig mill. This incident not only attracted local press interest but is cited by Karl Marx in Das Kapital.

The Salisbury Journal.

VOL. XXXII

On Saturday the 2d inft. about five hundred fheer-men, from the clothing towns of Somerfet and Wiltshire, assembled together upon Corfley Heath, and went in a body to Hornisham, near Warminster, Wilts, and pulled down and destroyed a new gig mill, just erected for the dressing broad-cloth, belonging to Mr. Everet of that place; whereby one man and a boy could do as much work in two hours, as thirty men could do in a day.

M O N D A Y, AUGUST 10, 1767.

[NUMB. 15356.]

The Round House is currently unoccupied

Wild Horningsham

We are becoming quite used to terms to describe various habitats that benefit nature, often in relation to their decline, such as, woodland (especially ancient), woodland pasture, scrub, wetland etc. Less often talked about are the microhabitats such as deadwood.



Often found as standing deadwood or fallen limbs, deadwood is not just a host to invertebrates such as the charismatic stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*, many fungi and lichen and also bryophytes such as mosses and liverworts; but also birds, bats and other mammals, reptiles, amphibians and, when in water, fish.

In a 2011 report by Buglife it was estimated that 13% of all species of plants and animals known in the UK are directly dependant on deadwood habitats while many more are dependant on saproxylic organisms themselves. A saproxylic species such as certain beetles (approximately 2,000 in the UK) and fungi depend on dead or dying wood for at least part of their lifecycle. However, a report in

1989 (Speight) estimated that 40% of all saproxylic species were on the verge of extinction over much of their range, while the others were in decline.

Fungi are getting so much well deserved good press now as we learn more about mycorrhizae growing in association with plant roots and the mutualistic relationship that this fosters. They are also the primary agents of wood decay and, along with saproxylic insects, play a key role in nutrient cycling and ecosystem functioning, which is a fancy way to say that they make the natural world work a whole lot better: as wood decomposes, it returns important nutrients to the soil that in turn support new growth. It also supports as much as a fifth of all woodland species, many of which are considered rare or threatened such as the stag beetle mentioned above.



Where we have agency in our gardens or any other land that we may own or manage.

or any other land that we may own or manage, and if it's safe, we can leave deadwood where it stands. Maybe use it as a plant support or, when fallen, let it decompose naturally. Or if that's a step too far down the eco warrior / tree hugger path, tidy it away into a corner somewhere but then leave it be. While all the good stuff that we can't see is going on as it decomposes we might home a hedgehog, toad, frog or newt.



Standing and fallen deadwood, along with veteran trees, present by far the best insect hotel, bird feeder, bird box, bat box and bee box available and much more besides - and any that are safely left in the garden or countryside are offering untold benefits to our ecology.

I might start a new campaign, 'keep Britain untidy' but not litter. Don't get me started...

Andv Dean

An oak deadwood bench in my garden 21

LONGLEAT NEWS



There's an extra special new arrival in the shape of an adorable baby koala.

Longleat's amazing collection of iconic southern koalas is growing at speed as the tiny new joey joins little Hazel, who was the first southern koala joey to be born in the United Kingdom last year.



BLACK AND YELLOW PAGES

Waste Collections

The recent change means there are now three different patterns around the village so it is no longer possible to list them all here. The only point in common is that they are all on a Wednesday. Some have all three on the same day, most have blue bin and black box on one day and the grey bin on another. However, even those differ in which week the pattern applies. For example, Rowe's Hill, White Street and Church Lane are all different! The only solution is to check your own dates on the Wiltshire Waste Collection Calendar at:

https://ilforms.wiltshire.gov.uk/WasteCollectionDays/index

Mobile Library	Tuesday 7 th & 21 st March	
	10.00 - 10.25 opposite the Hall	
Frome Hospital Minor Injuries		01373 454740
Community Police Officer	Vicky Howick	0726818 ext 817
Wiltshire Police – non emergency	-	101
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Shattock	844197
Horningsham School		844342
Village Hall Hire		07541 211732
Longleat Property Department		845433
Parish Council	Sarah Jeffries	213436
Congregational Chapel	CarolCox 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

Sunday 12th March *Morning Service* 10.00 at the Chapel Sunday 19th March *Coffee Morning* 10-12 at the Village Hall Friday 24th March *Horningsham Spring Quiz* 7-11 at the Village Hall Wednesday 29th March *Fayre Meeting* 6.00 at the Village Hall Thursday 6th April *Parish Council* 7.30 at the Village Hall



Traditional local ales | Menu showcasing the best seasonal Wiltshire produce | Cosy interiors





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