HORNINGSHAM NEWS ISSUE 249 October 2023





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October 2023

EDITORIAL

There is a hot air balloon on our cover and many more inside as we celebrate another successful Sky Safari at Longleat. Over 100 balloons took part. though this year the wind took them over Heaven's Gate rather than over the village. By the way, the balloons came from all over the country and some from abroad, but the one on our cover is based here in Horningsham with its owner, Neil Dykes. It is again Paul Kemp we have to thank for the excellent photo.

Inside we have a report and photos of the hard-working volunteers who gave the outside of the Village Hall a new coat of white paint. We have what is Reverend Pauline's last letter as she retires this month. She has been such an active member of the community that she will be widely missed.

Tim Hill

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

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team				
Tim Hill	844365	Chrissie Buttery	844622	
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find us on Facebook				

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 Thursday 14th September 2023

Co-option: Councillor George Williamson was co-opted onto the Council Team.

Planning Applications - Application No: PL/2023/07221

Application Type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Proposal: T1 - Apple - complete a 1.5m crown reduction

Site Address: 102 Anchor Barton, Horningsham, Warminster, BA12 7LR

Resolved: to support the application.

Parish Steward: Numerous signs around the parish require cleaning and the clearing of vegetation. The Field Maple at Hollybush bus stop needs to be trimmed.

Gully down Little Scotland requires clearing. Councillor Windess to meet with Parish Steward. The Pathway also requires clearing Councillor Ken Windess will email a picture of it to the Clerk.

Bus stop foliage cleared around the Bath Arms Bus Stop.

Tree on the Common near the Bath Arms is over hanging the road signage.

From Cock Road through to the tree tunnel on the brow of the hill, wheels have eroded the side of the road can this be refilled with scalpings a bit higher, so it compresses and remains at road height.

War Memorial back down to the junction there is a huge amount of leaf debris please can this be cleared.

Ask if the road sweeper could visit the parish and clear along the church wall, and the opposite side could this be relayed to the Area Highways Engineer.

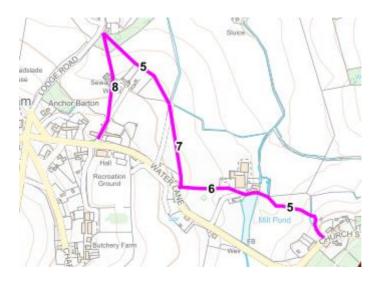
Rights of Way- an application to the LHFIG for the supply and installation of 11 new kissing gates for the rights of way would be made by the Parish Council as discussed at its last meeting. The installation will be actioned by volunteers. Longleat Estate has indicated that it is prepared to make the Parish Council's required 25% financial contribution, but the Parish Council needs to lead in submitting the formal application to the Wiltshire Council LHFIG. Council

approved the application to the LHFIG for the funding towards 11 kissing gates to be able to complete this programme of works.

Council discussed the presentation given by Nigel Linge on creating more accessible Rights of Way on Horningsham footpaths 5,6,7 & 8.

It was noted that Vicky Roscoe the Countryside Access Officer needs to action a site visit to confirm exact requirements, Sally Madgwick the Highways and definitive map records Manager advises that the Parish Council speaks to Vicky Roscoe to decide which regulations should be used.

The Estate needs the Parish Council to lead on making Horningsham Footpath 6 and part of Horningsham Footpath 5 redundant. This comes under the Highways Act 1980 ss118. This action then creates disabled access on footpaths 5, 7, & 8. improving accessibility in the Parish. The Parish Council approved to take these actions.



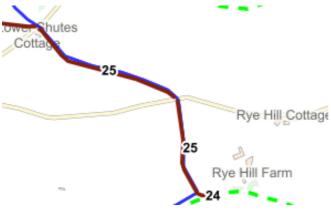
It was noted that there is an apparent encroachment at the western end that is to be addressed. Although it has been there for some time, "once a road, always a road" applies.

Horningsham footpath 21 the bridle way has been blocked by a porch but Longleat Estate are working with the occupant to address the issue.



Horningsham Bridleway 25

It was noted that there is an obstruction to this bridleway at Lower Shute Cottage, the tenant has been notified by the estate. It is hoped to be opened up in September 2023.



Teenage Recreational Provision – it was noted with delight that the Fudge Trust have granted $\pounds 1,094.00$ towards the teenage recreational project. It was noted that Crey's Charity had turned down the application for funding. It was agreed one basketball hoop be purchased for the Hall end of the tennis court.

Community Emergency Plan Update - Councillor Matt Simpson reported on the Wiltshire and Swindon Prepared training day he attended at Tidworth.

Changes are to be made on the plan he will work with Clerk on these.

A summer cool plan re a heat wave will be included into the plan. During a prolonged heat wave portable air conditioning units will be required to provide a cool place for the vulnerable.

During power cuts vulnerable parishioners need to be identified to the electricity company, along with newborn and the elderly. The percentage of at-risk parishioners needs to be collated.

The Parish Council agreed to purchase additional grit salt for the winter as Wiltshire Council were unable to refill the salt grit bins within the required timeframe.

Wiltshire Council local Plan Consultation - Councillors Liz Glover, George Williamson and Ken Windess will look at the Wiltshire Council Local Plan which sets out the vision and framework for housing, infrastructure, and land for employment growth for the next 15 years. Once adopted, all planning applications will be determined against the Plan.

Wiltshire Council's consultation begins on Wednesday 27 September and ends at 23:59 on Wednesday 22 November. The Councillors will bring to the Council their thoughts on the draft plan.

Parish Clerks Delegated Powers LGA 1972 s101. - Application No: PL/2023/06934 Application Type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Proposal: T1 Weeping Willow - Reduce back to previous pruning points. Site Address: Mill Farm, Water Lane, Horningsham, Warminster, BA12 7LL Decision: Supported.

Notice of items to be taken into consideration at the next meeting- Financial Regulations update, Freedom of Information Charges reviewed, Internal Audit Check by a Councillor to be approved and a date arranged, Clerk's Appraisal and Wages for inclusion in the draft 2024/2025 budget.

The date of the next meeting is **Thursday 26th October 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: www.horningsham.gov.uk 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

Email: clerk@horningshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01985 213 436.

Address: 9 Beech Grove Warminster Wiltshire BA12 0AB

CHURCH NEWS



We were all very sorry to hear the news that our Rector Pauline has decided to retire. Pauline became a part of our community nine years ago, and from the start her emphasis was on fellowship. Coffee and cake were an important part of every service, encouraging the congregation to stay afterwards and enjoy each other's company. Pauline loves baking as a form of relaxation and we have all benefited. PCC meetings will not be the same without one of her lovely cakes! The Luncheon Club enjoyed her puddings and it was an opportunity for her to meet people and chat.

There will now be a lengthy process to find a successor. There is a meeting at the end of September when we will hear more about what happens next. In the meantime, we will look forward to sharing a last service with Pauline at 10.00am on October 15th at Longbridge Deverill church.

Helen Taylor

Dear Friends,

I don't know what your thoughts are about the Bible, but I have to say that it does contain some of the most profound words I have ever come across.



In the book of Ecclesiastes, written over two thousand years ago, we read, 'To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.' My time in this benefice has now come to an end; it doesn't seem five minutes since I arrived, and we held a big service in St Margaret's Corsley for my licencing by Bishop Nick. Actually, it doesn't seem five minutes since I was ordained in Peterborough Cathedral twenty years ago.

I have been so privileged in my ministry. I have had the opportunity to enjoy the most incredible experiences and meet the most amazing and inspirational people. I have been able to be alongside people at the saddest and most painful periods of their lives and the most joyful; a deeply humbling part of what it means to be a parish priest.

I count myself so lucky to have lived amongst you all in this beautiful place and I am so grateful for your friendship and support over the last nine years. I must particularly thank our Licenced Lay Minister Robert Shuler, and our lovely retired priests for their support and help with leading services and taking funerals and weddings. And now, even though it is very painful, I know it is the right time to go and the right time for me to retire.

When I was ordained all those years ago, I had to learn what it meant to be a parish priest, now I must learn what it means to be a retired priest. I have to say, even though writing a sermon is a very interesting task, I am very much looking forward to not having to write one every week! I'm also looking forward to reading the great pile of books I have stacked up ready and maybe playing the piano again.

So to be succinct, I think what I am trying to say is very simple; thank you. Thank you for making my time here so enjoyable, I will miss this place and miss you all so much.

But we are not going to be far away in Buckland Dinham so please do come and say hello if you are passing, the coffee and cake will be waiting for you.

Please do come to my last service here on October 15th at 10am at St Peter and St Paul's Longbridge Deverill.

With love and gratitude, Pauline Reid



WELCOME CLUB

On Tuesday 26th September the Welcome Club went on their monthly outing, this month it was to Abergavenny. We left with overcast skies and the forecast did not look good but we hoped for the best. Our coffee stop was at Chepstow Garden Centre. They had altered the restaurant since we were there the last time and it was now waitress service. We had told people an hour at the garden centre but it turned out it was not enough time to have a look around the centre after coffee. We got to Abergavenny at about 12.30pm and agreed to leave at 4pm after we had the raffle. People went off to do their thing, most had lunch then looked around the town. It was market day and most people enjoyed the indoor market. Although Wales is known for its rainfall, we had a beautiful day with a blue sky and lovely sunshine all the time we were there, so people really enjoyed themselves. We did not have any rain till we got past Bradford on Avon on the way home. Lesley and Tom did the raffle which people find great fun. Our next outing is to Newbury on October17th which is our last outing of the year - where has the year gone? If anyone is interested in coming, please contact Pearl on 219289 or Lesley on 211355.

Pearl Hudson

Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 15th October *Coffee Morning* 10-12 at the Village Hall Thursday 26th October *Parish Council* 7.30 at the Village Hall



Parsonage Farm Rainfall



FIG. 151 .- Standard rain-gauge.

August was an unusual month, it followed a really wet month, and we all thought that summer had gone, but August gave us some dry weather. It started dull but warm with some drying winds, which helped us get cutting the wheat for milling, We had heavy rain on the 12th, with 1.66 inches. It was then dry for a few days but again the next week we had 0.75. It carried on in this pattern for the rest of the month and we ended up with a total of 2.78 inches. So really a very different, difficult and disappointing August.

John Whatley





All too soon, our summer is over, washed away by more September rain. All that is left is to put the pitch to bed – scarify it, spread some grass seed and put on another 20 bags of loam – and organise our annual dinner. We have many memories of 2023; here are a few from games furthest from home.

Lyndhurst in the New Forest is 50 miles from Horningsham and as far as we will travel for a single game. But it is well worth it, even if for one of our opening batsmen, it was a long way to go to bag a duck. The ground is a rough patch of park land on a slope, looked after by New Forest ponies, who graze and poo on it throughout the year, and indeed throughout the afternoon. If they spot a patch that needs eating at fine leg they will wander across for a nibble while the game goes on. The game paused once to allow two adult ponies and a foal to canter across the field. I often say 'you won't see that at Lord's'. This was something you don't even see in village cricket; though a couple of years ago on the Yorkshire dales we played a game in a field of sheep. The essential groundsman's equipment here is not a tractor and gangs, but rakes and buckets to clear the droppings.

When the ground is soft from rain, the ponies leave deep hoof marks; on the day of our game, a hot sun solidified those marks into hard little craters. If the ball caught the edge of one, the bounce was steep and unpredictable and lethal. The local dentist probably does good business. Fortunately our worst injury was a bright red bruise on the point of a chin. It was the Sunday of a bank holiday week end, and crowds of people and slow moving cars moved obliviously behind the bowlers' arms. Some even unfolded deck chairs and watched the game. They did not witness much high class cricket. Not from us, anyway. Lyndhurst were more competent and sent us home with great memories but also our 18th loss of the season.

I forgot last month to tell you about our journey to Northumberland: our lovable eccentric team mate whose luggage was three black bin bags and a kite that he flew at Lindisfarne on the causeway out to Holy Island; the game we played under the granite crags and sheer walls of Bamburgh Castle; the North Sea lapping the

rocks behind the pavilion. An ITV news crew happened to film us there. That was our 13^{th} loss.

In early September we made our way to the 'cradle of cricket', Broad Halfpenny Down in Sussex Hampshire to play the Hambledon Brigands. They charged us £150 for the experience, and were rather peeved that we tried not to lose; their captain even offered ours a few words of advice on the subject in a heated moment. We made a hash of chasing 170, and Callum had decided to fight out a draw, with our 76 year-old David O'Connor holding up the other end. For ten overs those two held firm, surrounded on all sides by opposition fielders in crouched catching positions, breathing down their necks, telling them to get out, waiting for David to make one mistake and give up a catch. Heroically, David didn't. As the sun set on the game and on the South Downs - and on our season he blocked out 38 balls and saved the day. Match drawn.

That sunset also brought to a close the fifty-second consecutive cricket season in which your correspondent has hoped but failed to score a century. He regrets ever more deeply the afternoon a few years ago he retired on 96 not out because it was time to make the tea. There is always next year.

The team owes huge thanks to Susie Hilleary for producing another summer of brilliant teas; Dan Joines, James Davies and Paul Grugeon for looking after the ground, which is now one of the best we play on; and Callum for fixing us up to play so many great games.

James Oborne



Sunday 15th October 10 – 12 at the Hall Everyone Welcome

Horningsham Hall



The Hall has been repainted. A big thank you to our amazing volunteers who made sure we finished the mammoth job in one day : Jen & Andy (they organised it), Rick (he brought the cherry picker), Karl, Ryan, Callum, Ken & John, Leonard, Tom, Jim, Cherry, Peter, Ernest, Rupert & Gil, Murray, Katy and Eilish. A great effort.

Our next event will be bonfire night on 5th November, perhaps with a few fireworks.

The next coffee morning is on Sunday 15th October









Notes from a Horningsham Garden

What a roller coaster the weather in September has been. The very hot spell at the beginning meant watering the poly tunnel every day as well as the greenhouse. There was a brief glut of cucumbers, the smooth F1 hybrids and the hardier prickly ridge type like Marketmore. Masses of tomatoes too, the outdoor basket cherries which are very sweet and the cordon greenhouse ones. I particularly like a bright yellow one with a lovely flavour called Honey Delight that I got from Simpsons Seeds.

Then it rained more again but was still warm and there was a glut of French beans, the climber called Cobra, and runner beans. My favourite of these is Moonlight with creamy white flowers and long, tender pods. My sister gave me some Native American sweetcorn seeds picked up on her travels in North America and they have been very prolific with several cobs on each plant. They ripened well but unfortunately proved to be rather tough and not very sweet. Better as a subsistence food plant I think.

Fruits like the cultivated blackberries produced a massive crop along with delicious Victoria plums. Lovely for crumbles and jams. Now it's time for the apples, fluffy early cookers like Grenadier and Golden Delicious, which are delicious for juicing. Big green Conference pears are nearly ready to eat ripening in the fruit bowl.

Hazelnuts have been disappointing though as once again the grey squirrels have gobbled up most of the crop, annoyingly before they are even ripe. I remember when I used to get sacks of lovely large cobnuts, but with the constant rise of the squirrel population, just 2 baskets this year.

The flower border looks at its best in September, full of yellows, pinks ,purples, whites and blues from Michaelmas Daisies, Heleniums, sunflowers and dahlias. Beloved by bees and butterflies. I hope they stand up to the autumn gales and rain.

Time to think about bulbs for next spring!

Carole Hill



Wild Horningsham

Ouch!! I hear myself say as once again a bramble attacks me or defends itself, the same thing I guess. I literally keep a needle on my bedside table to pick out those little tips of bramble thorn that impale themselves into my hand, persisting in reddening and irritating more until I dig them out. How can something so small hurt so much?

The bramble is, in my mind, one of the few wild plants that is untameable, truly wild. Its nature unboundable in any horticultural sense.

For so much of the year it is a weed in the garden or a hindrance to country walks, taking as its own, field gates and styles, an absolute pain in the...ars...neck. Until, that is, the latter end of summer and in autumn, then it takes on a whole new persona, the sweet, delicious, finger staining delight of the blackberry.



Its wild nature doesn't stop there though. We all know what a blackberry is? Right! But ask a botanist and watch them go pale as they hope they are not going to have to describe what taxonomic classification it fits into. For what is just a bramble to you or me, is one of an untold number of subspecies of its overarching Latin name *Rubus fruticosus*, or *Rubus fruticosus agg* (aggregate) to be more correct and to allow for a large

amount of speculation on the subject. In John Wright's The Forager's Calendar, 350 or so 'micro-species' is the number aired and Richard Maybe in his Flora Britannica mentions 400 but these numbers are something of a finger held to the wind. Such is the ambiguity of this plant that if you were an expert in their study you would have your own 'ology' as a batologist. Worth remembering that one for a pub quiz question!

These different plants lead to many and varied fruits, some small and hard, others sour, still more large and succulent. If you find a good one remember it and keep it to yourself because all blackberries are not alike and you may not find another as good!

I shouldn't really be writing about blackberries for the October edition of the News, however, as folk law has it that if you eat them after Michaelmas, the 29th September, the Devil is supposed to have spat on them. This event, we would be led to believe, occurred when Lucifer, after fighting with Archangel Michael, was somewhat peeved after landing on a blackberry bush. Another reason might be because Michaelmas was, in medieval times, a useful date to delineate the seasons, ending the harvest and preparing for the coming winter. But it is most likely because of the grey mould or bacteria that are more prevalent in this season and can turn the fruit sour.

If you find a nice juicy blackberry in October go ahead and eat it I say but watch out for those thorns!

Andy Dean

Horningsham Residents Association (HRA)

The HRA is formed by and for the residents of Horningsham.

We want to bring the village together to talk about the things that are important to us as a community.

It can be anything at all. From public transportation to understanding tenancy agreements; a village shop to a youth club or temporary post office.

With a larger collective voice we will approach organisations such as the Parish Council, Longleat Estate and Wiltshire County Council, to help them help the village.

> NEXT MEETING 11am on Sunday, 22nd October Horningsham village hall

Hopefully see you there!



5th Nov-2023 | 4pm-7.30pm

Fireworks Night Horningsham Village Hall

Traditional bonfire night for the village of Horningsham, including huge bonfire and a small fireworks display.

There will be food and drink for sale. Cash only.

Red Panda Twins Born at Longleat



A pair of rare red pandas has been born at Longleat as part of an international breeding programme for the endangered species.

The two males, which were born at the end of June, are developing well and hitting key milestones thanks to the care and attention of mum Emma.

Both Emma and dad Lionel are considered critically important members of the European Endangered Species Programme for the red panda due to their diverse genetics. "Every animal birth is always special and exciting, but breeding an endangered species is an incredible thing to be part of," said keeper Samantha Peeke.

"As the cubs grow, they will go onto join the endangered species breeding programme and help ensure the survival of their species. Whilst they are young, they spend most of their time inside one of the nest boxes in the enclosure, where Emma feeds and cleans them," she added.

As they mature, the cubs will start to get braver and explore the outside world under the watchful eye of mum Emma and expert keepers at Longleat. Keepers check on the cubs throughout the day and monitor Emma closely, adapting her diet and environment as needed to ensure she has everything she needs to look after them. The cubs are also regularly weighed to ensure their continued growth and development.

Longleat has extensive experience of looking after and breeding red pandas, with six previous cubs having been successfully reared at the park, all of which have gone on to join breeding programmes at other collections across Europe.

The red panda is officially recognised as endangered in the wild, meaning the species faces a high risk of extinction in the near future. Numbers are thought to be as low as 2,500 in the wild. They are endangered due to deforestation and habitat loss as well as poaching and the illegal pet trade.



Red pandas are carnivores, but their natural diet consists mostly of bamboo, each red panda can eat 20,000 bamboo leaves a day in the wild. Longleat has its own bamboo plantation to provide a regular supply of fresh bamboo leaves, replicating their wild diet as closely as possible. Due to bamboo being low in energy red pandas can spend a large amount of their day sleeping to conserve energy and can often be seen snoozing in the trees of their enclosure.

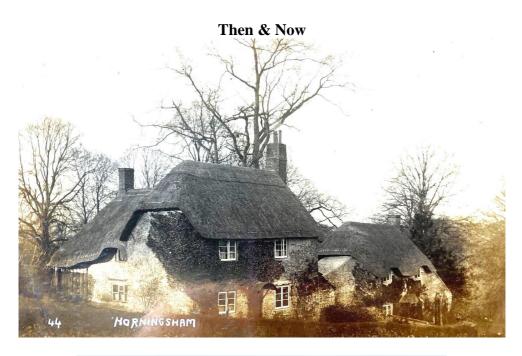
Longleat Sky Safari













The house nearest the camera in the 2023 photo is number 220 while the two further away are 221 and 222. That building was originally built in 1787 as a single dwelling for the foreman and was only extended and converted to two dwellings in the 1860s or 1870s. The building nearest the camera was used as workshops and stores for carpenters, masons and other Estate tradesmen until it was converted to a dwelling.

In December 1833 a fire devastated the workshops as was reported in the Devizes Gazette of 19th December:



A fire broke out last week at Longleat, in the carpenter's sheps belonging to the Marquis of Bath, which are situated in one of the woods at a short distance from that nobleman's mansion. Some valuable carvings, and a quantity of timber and tools were destroyed, and the premises also materially damaged, but by prompt assistance in unroofing part of the buildings, and cutting off the communication of the flames, total destruction was prevented. It was at first supposed to have been the act of an incendiary, but circumstances have since transpired to induce a belief of its being purely accidental. Induced, from the well known aniable character and benevolence of his building, and the high estimation in which he is held, it is impossible to conceive that any human being would be base enough to do him the slightest injury.

One hundred and fifty four men turned out to extinguish the fire. They were paid 2 shillings each - save in the case of eight men, presumably of higher social status than the rest, who were given game instead.

Over the years the cottages have housed a variety of Longleat employees including a night watchman, a head gardener, a forester and a librarian.

Recently two of the three cottages have seen great change as they are now a part of Longleat's "Stay at Longleat" enterprise. 220 has been renamed Gardener's Cottage and 221 is now Carpenter's Cottage. They have been renovated, furnished and equipped to a high standard and are available as holiday lets for around £500 per night.

Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

01985 845303 (answerphone)



Future events coming up

Sunday 1st October – Catch up Coffee Morning 10-11am
Friday 6th October – Fundraising Macmillan Coffee Morning 10-12
Friday 6th October & Saturday 7th October
The return of the Temporary Measure – pop up pub from 6pm both

evenings

Friday 13th October – Fundraising Coffee Morning for the Parish Newsletter 10-12

Saturday 14th October – Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30-5.30pm

Saturday 28th October – Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30-5.30pm Please see www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk for further details

Regular events

Mondays	9.30am-10.30am	Advanced Pilates	
Mondays	10.40am-11.40am	Beginners Pilates	
Mondays	5.00pm-6.00pm	Dr's Surgery	
Tuesday	9.30am-10.30am	Bradley Babies	
Tuesday	1.00pm-3.00pm	Post Office Service	
Wednesdays	6.15pm-7.15pm	Yoga Flow	
Thursdays	11.00am-Midday	Restorative Yoga	
Fridays	10am-12pm	Coffee Morning	
Saturdays	4.30-5.30pm	Fish & Chip Van	
-	_	Fortnightly	

Book library available during hall opening Friday mornings

THE SALISBURY AND WINCHESTER JOURNAL, AND GENERAL ADVERTISER OF WILTS, HANTS, DORSET. AND SOMERSET.

ME LXXXILI

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27. 1817.

PRICE SEVEN-PENCE Stamp Daty 44.

The following five prisoners, who were sentenced to death at our last summer assizes, but whose sentences have been since commuted to transportation for life, were removed from Fisherton Gaol on Thursday last, in the custody of Mr. Dowding, the gaoler, in order to be put on board a convict hulk at Woolwich, the hulks at Portsmouth being at present quite filled :- Charles Mines, convicted of stealing two sheep, the property of James Hull, at Potterne; Henry Angel, for robbing Harry Witt on the highway in the parish of Downton; Daniel Tabor, for breaking into and robbing the house of L. Jesse, in this city; Robert Adlam, for breaking into the house of J. Edwards, at Horningsham, and stealing a coat; and Wm. Taylor, for breaking into and robbing the Two other prihouse of Wm. Grayer, at Landford. soners were also taken at the same time to the Woolwich hulk, viz. Uriah Aust, sentenced at our last assizes to 7 years transportation for breaking into the house of Jas. Ferris, at Bradford, and stealing linen; and Wm. Chaffey, convicted at our last city sessions on the 28th of July, of picking pockets in the Court during the business of the sessions, and sentenced to be transported 7 years.

Penalties were harsh in 1817. Robert Adlam was sentenced to death for stealing a coat. This was later commuted to transportation for life. While waiting to be transported to Australia, convicts were held in terrible conditions on old ships.

The harsh penalties don't seem to have been particularly effective at deterring crime. William Chaffey was caught picking pockets actually in the court - he got 7 years transportation.



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





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