

THE HARDINGTON AND PENDOMER MESSENGER

www.hardington.net

CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sun 3 rd	Matins	St Mary's Hardington	10.45am
Sun 10 th	Holy Communion	St Mary's Hardington	11.00am
	Family Service	St Roch, Pendomer	9.15am
Sun 17 th	Benefice Eucharist	St Martin's W Coker	11.00am
	Bishop Peter presiding. Followed by lunch No other Church Services		
Sun 24 th	Holy Communion	St Roch, Pendomer	9.15am
	Family Service	St Mary's Hardington	10.45am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Sat 2 nd	Village Hall Coffee Morning, all welcome	10.30-12.00pm
	Beetle Drive, Village Hall, all welcome	6.30pm
Tues 12 th	Benefice Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage,	7.45pm
Wed 13 th	W.I. Village Hall, guests & new members welcome	7.45pm
Fri 15 th	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Tues 19 th	Parish Council, Village Hall, all welcome	7.30pm

FEBRUARY 20TH LAST DATE FOR MARCH MESSENGER

Wed 20 th	Art Group, Village Hall, all welcome	2.00pm
Thurs 21 st	Afternoon Tea, Springfield Stores	2.30-4.00pm
Tues 26 th	Benefice Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage,	7.45pm
Wed 27 th	Garden Club, Village Hall	7.30pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tues	Pilates, Village Hall	11.00-12.00pm
	Ashtanga Yoga, Village Hall	7.00-8.00pm
Fri	Bell Ringing Practice, St. Mary's Hardington Mandeville	7.45pm

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Andy and Julie Jones welcomed a new grandchild, Ronnie, a new child for their son Luke and wife Georgie.

Jamie Knibbs and Natalie Cole had a Christmas Eve baby, Percy Fletcher. This was the first child for the couple but 5th grandchild for Barry and Sally Knibbs.

To John Perring and Jo Szmaj, who became engaged at Christmas.

Tim Dunsdon celebrated an extra special birthday in January. Congratulations to all of the above.

GOOD WISHES: Various villagers have been unwell necessitating a spell in hospital; we send our good wishes to: Julia Beckley, Barry Knibbs, Sheila Carpenter and David Platten.

WELCOME: Willow Lowry, her partner Lawrence and daughter Lilia have moved into her parent's old home, in Hardington Marsh, where Willow grew up. Her parents, Pauline and Rod have moved to France. We wish both couples much happiness in their new homes.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK: David and Anthea Lovelock moved into Coker Wood Cottage some 15 years ago. They transformed the cottage and garden into a beautiful home and many villagers have enjoyed visiting their garden over the years. Having decided to downsize to Cornwall they should be moving in February. They have been stalwarts of St Roch Church Pendomer and David has been a key member of the Benefice choir. They will be sorely missed by their friends and fellow villagers but we wish them well in their future.

CONDOLENCES: Sadly, we report the death of Pendomer farmer and resident, Nigel Smith. Nigel moved with his parents and brother to Penhill Farm as a child and apart from time at school and college has spent his life farming in Pendomer. Initially a dairy farm, Nigel and Sarah decided to keep Hereford beef cattle after deciding they couldn't bear to have an empty farm yard after selling the dairy herd.

More recently Nigel and Sarah were delighted that their son Tim continued the family tradition of farming, joining them in the business. Tim has taken on most of the day to day running as Nigel had been suffering ill health in the past few years. Nigel's funeral took place at St Michael's East Coker Church with a burial at St Roch, Pendomer. Our condolences are sent to Sarah, Tim and his wife Kathy and daughter Isabel at this sad time. Condolences are also sent to Cathy Bakewell and family on the recent death of her father.

THANKS: Sarah and Tim Smith and family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and kind letters received after the sudden death of Nigel. This is a tremendous support during this sad time.

BEWARE FROGS & TOADS!

February seems to be the month that everyone's minds turns to romance including the amphibians that try to make their way back the ponds where they were hatched! It has become very apparent over the years that we have many more ponds around the village and whilst this is so good for the ecology of the area this does of course means more frogs and toads crossing roads. It seems to be on wet, mild February nights that they seem most active and it is distressing to see squashed amphibians the following morning. The most I have counted (gruesome I know and not without distress to myself) are 22 between my home at the top of the High Street to Derek and Rosemary Richards home, some 100 metres away. If you can please watch out for these little creatures and avoid running them over, they are quite easily seen in headlights. Better still pick them up and carry them, in the direction they are facing, to the other side of the road. I know various villagers have thought me mad stopping my car and moving these creatures to safety but I am happy to try and do my bit in preserving them, as life is difficult enough for them without running the gauntlet of the roads.

Many Thanks, Sue Phillips.

VILLAGE BREAKFAST

This popular village event will be on Saturday March 9th 8.30-12noon. Tickets will be on sale from Springfield Stores, courtesy of Daphne, from mid-February. Reserve yours early to avoid disappointment. There will be a raffle so donations of prizes will be gratefully received. This year our chosen charities are, Somerset Mind, Not Forgotten, (a charity which has been supporting ex-military persons for almost a 100 years) and of course the Village Hall.

HARDINGTON ARTS AND CRAFT GROUP

The next meeting of the Arts and Craft group will be on Wednesday 20th February in the Village Hall at 2pm. New faces always welcome.

Val Marsden

THE VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Our next Village Hall Coffee morning is on **Saturday 2nd February 10.30 am - 12 noon**. Do try and come along and bring the children and family to join us for refreshments of the popular bacon rolls, cakes and biscuits with coffee, tea and juices. Have a chat about your Christmas and New Year celebrations, and relax! Any further information and offers of help please ring: Vivien or Trevor on 864546

HARDINGTON AND PENDOMER W.I.

Despite the bitterly cold evening, we welcomed several visitors and new members to our first meeting of 2019. Our speaker was Emma Duke, a local artist, who spoke about The Magic of Driftwood and the Bristol Channel. Emma has a real passion for working with wood. We were all carried away by her enthusiasm and knowledge about the driftwood she had collected locally, and enjoyed examining the beautiful pieces of wood which Emma described as being, 'Sculptured by Mother Nature'. We hope to organise a craft session lead by Emma at a future date.

Our new programme for the year was unveiled and we are delighted to be welcoming Val Stones, the Cake Whisperer and Bake Off contestant, to speak at our birthday party in April, along with other speakers on a wide range of topics throughout the year.

Our annual village breakfast will take place on Saturday, 9th March this year. Our chosen charities are The Village Hall, Not Forgotten – an inspirational small charity that helps ex service personnel, and Mind in Somerset. At our next meeting in the village hall on Wednesday 13th February at 7.45pm, David Fields, Community Fundraising Manager at Yeovil Mind will tell us more about the work of this charity which helps around 7000 local people every year.

The WI offers more than just the monthly meetings in our village hall. Members can take part in skittles tournaments, quizzes, craft activities, visits, organised walks and much, much more. There are many different activities open to members both locally and further afield.

New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings and are assured of a friendly welcome. See our Facebook page for more information of our upcoming events.

ST MARY'S CHURCH

As you will be aware Peter and Gillian Bysouth moved away on 9th January after living in Hardington for over 25 years. Among the many things that Peter did so conscientiously for both the Village Hall and the Church, was to open the Church each day and lock it in the evening, so that it was available for anyone to visit and enjoy peace and reflection for a few moments. Now that Peter and Gillian have left, it would be wonderful if someone else in the village, who passes the Church on a regular basis, or who lives nearby, would be willing to take on that role. Please let me know if you would be happy to take this on. Many thanks, Daphne Creed (862363)

EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL IN JANUARY

Friday February 15th Hollywood in Hardington movie is “ King of Thieves “ starring Michael Caine in the incredible story of the spectacular Hatton Garden diamond heist, the biggest and most daring in British history. Doors open at 7pm; bar and refreshments available.

Advance notice that the film showing on March 15th will be “Bohemian Rhapsody”. We think this will be very popular so get your tickets early!

Rather disappointed that we still haven't got 100 members in the 100 Club so we were only able to award 2 prizes of £25 and £12 in January. Congratulations to Max Southwell and Richard Beatson.

Its not too late to join, however. Forms are available from Daphne and this month the subscription is £11 for the rest of the year.

Other events taking place in the hall this month that you might be interested in include: WEA courses on Monday afternoons (see posters for more details), the Village coffee morning on Sat 2nd Feb 10.30-12.00 and a Beetle drive for all the family on Sat 2nd Feb at 18.30 to raise funds for the 2019 Street Fayre which will take place on Sat July 6th.

The next Teas and Toes will be on Monday March 18th 1-4 pm. Ring Elaine 863026 for an appointment.

SONNY'S BEER FEST 2019 VOLUNTEER STEWARDS NEEDED

Many thanks to everyone who attended our beer fest discussion evening at the beginning of January. Several topics were discussed and ideas for improving our already successful event were put forward. Overall it was a very positive exercise, which was great. One thing that was mentioned was increasing the patrol of certain areas around the pub, which aren't covered by our security. With this in mind, we are calling for volunteers to help steward these areas, as well as helping to direct traffic, ensuring people stay in the correct areas and generally helping to ensure the festival runs smoothly. We are aiming to cover the event with 5 x 6 hour shifts, requiring around 6 people per shift, and we will be donating £200 for each shift to each group's chosen club or charity. We would love for these donations to be put back into our lovely village, so if any individuals or groups from Hardington would be interested in volunteering in order to raise money for their group or cause, then please get in contact with either myself, Ellie or Sara at the pub.

We will be opening this opportunity up to groups outside of the village at the end of February.

Many thanks Martin Hooper

HARDINGTON WILDLIFE

It's nice to see lots of snowdrops blooming in many parts of the village, a sure sign that spring is on its way. I also see other flowers in the garden and hedgerows like Crocus, Primrose, Daisy and Hellebores. However, I am not impressed by the many thousands of very early daffodils planted all over Yeovil by the town council. Daffodils grow extremely well in our heavy alkaline soil and are usually able to increase every year. Traditionally they flower in March and April and it seems wrong to see them out before the snowdrops in December. Tulips on the other hand struggle if left in the ground over winter and are often eaten by badgers.

I hope many folk had fun in January by taking part in the big garden bird watch. It is interesting and important to see changes over the years and help scientists to suggest methods of helping wildlife.

Now there is an opportunity for farmers and landowners to also help wildlife by taking part in the big Farmland Bird count organised by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) who ask you to spend just 30 minutes on a patch of land between February 8 and 17th and record what you see. Then send your results to GTCT@bfbc.org.uk. This sort of survey could help farmers and politicians to make the right decisions about improving the environment and at the same time compensating farmers financially.

Those who put up bird nesting boxes, should now clean them out ready for the new season. An old birds nest gets very messy and often is infested by parasites. This does not always stop the birds nesting again, but young birds can be killed if parasites get out of control.

Mike Bickerton

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

To all those who had fun tackling our Christmas quiz, it seems to have been rather too easy as 10 entries were returned 100% correct. However it does show that we have lots of knowledgeable gardeners in the village, and if they are not already in the garden club they should join and share their expertise with others. Now we have drawn out two winners at random so congratulations to Penny Parrott and Shirley Heal.

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The January Meeting...

January's meeting saw a high number of public in attendance, mainly due to the interest in the planning application for a new bungalow and two 4-bedroom houses in the former grounds of Hardington House, on land North of Tall Elms. Prior to the meeting the PC heard statements of objection from several parishioners. This was in addition to 7 letters of objection already received by email. The principal reason given in these objections, was due to the proposed site access on a double bend on Broadstone lane. Many felt this would make an already-dangerous stretch of road even more hazardous. Some felt that providing access from Rectory Lane should be investigated. There were objections due to the lack of evidence provided that the proposed type of housing meets an identified village need (in accordance with policy SS2). Many felt the village does not require any additional large houses and that smaller, more affordable homes would be more suitable. There were also concerns raised relating to the effect on the heritage value of the site, including the loss of an historic wall and the impact on the well-known village landmark, the "green door".

The PC meeting began with the co-option of Catherine Hyde-Phillips. Catherine then signed the declaration of acceptance of office and joined the Meeting.

Following lengthy discussion of the points raised above, the PC voted unanimously to object to the Tall Elms application for three new dwellings.

The PC heard that the two application amendments for the already approved dwelling adjacent to Finials, and also the two-storey extension at Hill End House had been approved.

The Chairman reported that work has finally begun on the Moor End Nursery development site and thanked Malcolm and James White for allowing site traffic access via the Royal Oak Farm. The residents of Moor Lane are very grateful not to have the large trucks and lorries frequently driving down their narrow lane.

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30 in the Village Hall on the 19th February, 2019 and the public can speak for a limited amount of time at the start. The agenda for the forthcoming meetings and minutes of past meetings can be found a few days beforehand on the village website www.hardington.net and copies are posted on the village notice boards. You can contact me at hardingtonclerk@rocketmail.com, by telephone on 01935 862073, or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH. Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Instead of our usual coffee morning in February, we will be having afternoon tea at the home of Daphne Creed, Springfield, Hardington Moor, on Thursday 21st February from 2.30 to 4 PM. All are very welcome and if a lift is required please ring Peter Rosewell 862 249 or Mike Bickerton 862154. Helen Rosewell

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The next garden club meeting is to be held on Wednesday 27th February in the Village Hall. We will be having a talk from The Gardens Group entitled "Garden Friends and Foes". Everyone is welcome to join us for the event, with the talk starting at 7.30pm.

Membership is £15 for the year. Non-members are very welcome to attend, with a charge of £3 per meeting. Look forward to seeing you there. Jacqui Watkins

MUSIC LOVERS – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Last year St Roch Church at Pendomer welcomed the Marmen String Quartet, who gave a superb recital as part of the Concerts in the West series (www.concertsinthewest.org). This year on Saturday 15th June the Moriarty Winds, comprising flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and French horn will give a varied recital of wonderful music. I will shortly have tickets at £15, or they can be obtained via the web site. I also have brochures giving details of all six groups who will each give a series of recitals in the area from February until November this year.

Robin Carpenter 862339

THANK YOU: The Messenger Team would like to thank the villagers who have made donations to the Messenger fund in the past month.

AND FINALLY: Items for next month's Messenger can be emailed to the team at: hardingtonmessenger@rocketmail.com. Please send your contribution as an **attachment** to an email in a Microsoft word (.doc or .docx) document, preferably in Calibri 16, in as simple a form as possible. We are only able to print in black and white so unfortunately we cannot print photos.



VALENTINE'S MENU

THURSDAY 14TH – SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

We have a special Valentine's sharing menu available from Thursday 14th until Saturday 16th February, so why not treat your other half to a romantic Valentine's meal in our cosy country pub



SUNDAY LUNCHESES

Don't miss out on our stunning roast lunches, available every Sunday from 12pm until 2.30pm. A choice of two local meats served with crisp roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables and rich gravy. Fish, vegetarian and children's options available.

MOTHER'S DAY – 31ST MARCH

We are beginning to take bookings for Mother's day so be sure to book your table to avoid disappointment.

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

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