

THE HARDINGTON AND PENDOMER MESSENGER

www.hardington.net

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Sun 6 th	Matins	St Mary's Hardington	10.45am
Sun 13 th	Holy Communion	St Mary's Hardington	11.00am
	Family Service	St Roch, Pendomer	9.15am
Sun 20 th	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's Hardington	8.00am
	Holy Communion	St Roch, Pendomer	9.15am
Sun 27 th	Holy Communion	St Roch, Pendomer	9.15am
	Family Service	St Mary's Hardington	10.45am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Mon 7 th	Beer Fest Meeting, Royal Oak, all welcome	7.00pm
Tues 8 th	Benefice Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage,	7.45pm
Wed 9 th	W.I. Village Hall, guests & new members welcome	7.45pm
Fri 11 th	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Tues 15 th	Parish Council, Village Hall, all welcome	7.30pm
Wed 16 th	Village coffee morning, The Old P.O, High St.	10.30-12.00

JANUARY 20TH LAST DATE FOR FEBRUARY MESSENGER

Mon 21 st	Tea & Toes, Village Hall by appt	1.00- 4.00pm
Wed 23 rd	Garden Club, Village Hall	7.30pm
Fri 25 th	Double Comedy Bill, Village Hall, tickets at P.O	7.30pm
Sat 26 th	Double Comedy Bill, Village Hall, tickets at P.O	7.30pm
	RSPB garden bird-watch until 28 th Jan	
Mon 28 th	WEA course, Village Hall	2.00-3.30pm

ADVANCE NOTICES

Sat Feb 2 nd	Village Hall Coffee Morning, all welcome	10.30-12.00
Sat Feb 2 nd	Beetle Drive, Village Hall (<i>See article in text</i>)	6.30pm

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: Margaret Wilkins celebrated a very special birthday in December. Percy Curtis was 99 in December. Many congratulations to you both.

GOOD WISHES: The following villagers have all spent various times in hospital over the past few weeks and we send them our good wishes now they are home.

Lesley Whetham, Rob Patten, Robin Searle and Barry Knibbs.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK: After twenty plus years Peter and Gillian Bysouth with their son John are moving to Oxfordshire to be nearer their daughter Sarah and family. There are a few lines written elsewhere but I'm sure the village would like to wish them much happiness in their new home.

CONDOLENCES: Joe Samways, of Kingswood Farm died aged 88 years in November. Although the farm has a North Perrott postal address it is in fact one of two outlying farms within the Parish of Hardington. Our condolences are sent to his family at this sad time. There is an obituary to Joe from his ex-neighbours and friends Angie and Pip Oxenbury elsewhere in The Messenger.

GOODBYE

It is with much sadness that we say "Goodbye" to Peter, Gillian and John Bysouth in January. Peter has worked tirelessly for the village since they moved here in the 1980's. He has been Parish Councillor and Chairman; Trustee and member of the Village Hall Committee also Chairman in recent years, and Church Treasurer for over 25 years, meticulously keeping the Church accounts in order. There are also the mundane everyday jobs he does locking and unlocking the Church every day; putting out the Church and Village Hall bins; meeting with workman at the Church and Village Hall when necessary etc., etc. All done quietly, never looking for praise or reward. Those of us who have worked with Peter in any of these roles, know how hard he worked and the hours he has put in for the benefit of the village. His departure will leave a big hole to fill. We wish them all the very best for their future.

Daphne S. Creed

HARDINGTON ARTS AND CRAFT GROUP

The Arts and Crafts Group will not be meeting in January, but would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Shirley 863937

JOE SAMWAYS

Joe was born at Daisy Farm Halstock in 1930, then moved to Tucking Mill, Barwick, where he went to the local school. He came to live at Kingswood Farm, Hardington, with his parents and brother in 1948. After his father died Joe took over the farm, which in those days had a dairy herd. In later years a beef suckler herd replaced the milking cows and sheep were introduced. Joe loved his cattle and sheep and was also fond of horses and in his younger days could often be seen riding bareback around the farm on a pony.

He was a very good musician, playing piano and accordion in a local dance band. After leaving the band he bought an electric organ and played at family gatherings. Joe was a founder member of South Somerset Agricultural Preservation Club, which went on to establish Yesterday's Farming. As well as horses, he had a donkey called Basil with a cart that he took to various charity events giving rides to children. Joe joined Henry Fry with his two large steers, which were trained to pull a wagon, and together they appeared at carnivals and shows and even the Lord Mayor's Show in London.

Joe married Gill in 1960 and they had two children, Pat and George, and five grandchildren and when sadly Gill died in 2010 the grandchildren became even more important to him. They have all followed him into farming and a love of animals and tractors. Joe was certainly one of the great local farming characters and was a connection to a different way of farming that has now passed but should not be forgotten.

Angie & Pip Oxenbury

COKER WEA

Coker WEA branch is a collaboration of the three wards, those from East & West Coker and Hardington. The programme for the Spring Term will be in Hardington Village hall as this is a venue that suits us well.

We start the year with a six-week course on Monday 28th January, 2-3.30pm when Greta de Plage will discuss five authors who wrote 1930's Crime Fiction.

Saturday March 16th we have a study day, 10-1pm, about Tudor portraits and the influence that Henry V111 and Elizabeth 1st had in creating their images.

April 13th study day 10-1pm, on the genealogy of Medieval Women in Somerset through their land ownership.

For more information on any of these topics please register via the WEA web site or telephone 0300 303 3464. Alternatively contact Viv, 863953 or Jayne 862385. We look forward to hearing from you.

Viv Ford

HARDINGTON AND PENDOMER W.I.

For those who braved a chilly evening to attend Hardington and Pendomer WI December meeting found a very warm welcome at the Village Hall. Tables had been decorated with seasonal centrepieces, and the 'café' layout encouraged plenty of chatting. Mulled wine and crisps added to the party atmosphere and there were festive sweaters in evidence. During the business section of the meeting, reference was made to a most enjoyable Christmas Lunch at Sonny's on December 4th, and a recent Skittles match. Three members had been to Wells Cathedral for the Somerset Federation service of Lessons and Carols. Ladies were reminded to bring their form regarding choice of WI resolution to the January meeting, and advance notice was given of the Village Big Breakfast on March 9th.

Cecilia Dack then demonstrated how to create a Christmas wreath, building up from scratch by securing moss to a wire hoop, then adding Leylandii sprigs and other foliage before finishing off with berries, dried fruit slices and a bow. One lucky raffle winner went home with the finished article!

Birthday posies were presented to members celebrating their birthday during December, and Happy Birthday was sung for Margaret Wilkins who reached a significant milestone this week.

Liz Brown gave a vote of thanks to the Committee for all their work during the year, and in particular for this evening's refreshments.

The next meeting will be on January 9th, at the Village Hall, 7.30 for 7.45.

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

TURKEY SUPPER

Thank you to everyone who supported the Annual Turkey Supper on 1st December. The 3-course meal was enjoyed by 70 people seated in the Village Hall and the resulting profit of £880.00 has been divided between St. Mary's Fabric Fund and Hardington Mandeville Village Hall.

Daphne Creed.

EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL IN JANUARY

Many thanks to Daphne and her team for another very enjoyable Turkey Supper. Tickets sold out well in advance but it was nice to see that so many newcomers to the village managed to get theirs. Hopefully we will see you at many more events in the hall.

Pilates. Unfortunately, there was not enough support for the course in November but Cazzie would like to hold one starting in January. Please give her a ring if you are interested. 07970 380665

Dates for your new 2019 diaries:

Friday January 11th Hollywood in Hardington movie is " The Children Act " starring Emma Thompson as a High Court judge who has to decide if a teenager with cancer should be given a life-saving blood transfusion, which is against his parents' religious beliefs.

Monday January 21st Teas and Toes. Ring Elaine for an appointment on 863026. All dates for 2019 are now on the Village Hall calendar, which is on the website.

Friday 25th and Saturday 26th January. Hardington Players: 2 one act comedies. Tickets available from Springfield Stores.

Finally, remember to get your 100 Club entry form in. It's not too late, the first draw will take place on January 9th. Happy New Year!

HARDINGTON PLAYERS DOUBLE COMEDY BILL

Post Christmas blues? Hardington Players have a very entertaining evening to brighten up your January. Tickets are now on sale for a Double Comedy Bill at Hardington Village Hall on Friday 25 January and Saturday 26 January 2019 at 7.30 pm. The evening will consist of two one-act plays with a short interval.

In case you didn't see December's Messenger - "Murder at the Cathedral" is a hilarious re-imagining of the T.S Eliot drama. A struggling amateur dramatic company resorts to nefarious means in order to guarantee the success of their next production - murder! Throw in a love triangle, some mysterious motives, a moronic leading man and a cougar with a deadly appetite for younger men and you have a one-act comedy of murderous proportions.

"Last Panto in Little Grimley" is another in the Little Grimley series of comedies - if you saw Elaine Gilmore's ice skating scene in Strictly Dancing last time you will not want to miss her reprising her character but with a different challenge.

There will be several familiar faces on stage but also some new appearances.

Tickets £8.00 from Springfield Stores - 01935 862363 or 07769 678208 (Anne Lunt)

HARDINGTON WILDLIFE

In spite of many of our bird species being in decline, it is obvious that a few are doing really well. These include all the corvids and I'm amazed and concerned to see the huge numbers of these birds around the village. It is now recognised that these birds are exceptionally clever, and are learning how to exploit and thrive on human activity. Now I see enormous flocks of a mix of jackdaws, crows, rooks and even a raven congregating in fields over the road. Eventually they fly south towards pinewood where I assume they are roosting. Next morning they return and head off towards Yeovil. One can get some idea of the problem when looking out over Yeovil from a tall building. Jackdaws are nesting in many chimney pots. Sadly this must have a serious effect on more likeable garden birds, with the food supply and nesting success. For many years I have never seen a corvid in the garden, but now they are regular unwelcome visitors to the bird table.

There are however, a few success stories. Greater spotted woodpeckers are increasing; goldfinches, which used to be quite rare, I now count the commonest birds in the garden. Two probable reasons for this – one is that they are now fully protected and cannot be tracked and sold as a caged songbird, and also they are filling the gap left by the demise of greenfinches, which are very susceptible to several avian diseases. One probable cause is rotten food left in birdfeeders, and we are urged to discard old food, and regularly clean out feeders.

Two interesting projects for January:

1. It is the annual RSPB garden bird watch on January 26th to 28th. Details and forms from www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

2. The RSPB and BTO are concerned about falling numbers of tawny owl and are conducting a survey. If you have tawny owls calling near you, please let me know and I will pass it on.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

The next village coffee morning will be on Wednesday January 16th from 10.30 to 12noon, at Alan and Pauline Grassam's house, the Old Village Post Office, High Street. All welcome. If lift required contact Peter Rosewell 862249 or Mike Bickerton 862154.

STREET FAYRE 2019

The 2019 Hardington Street Fayre will be held in the High Street on Saturday 6 July 2019. If you are able to assist in any way at, or before, the event please contact Martin Tizard (martin.tizard@btopenworld.com).

BEETLE DRIVE

As part of fundraising for the Street Fayre, there will be a Beetle Drive on Saturday 2 February in the Village Hall. Doors open at 6.30, with games starting at 7.00pm. This is a fun event for all ages – if you don't know the rules you will soon learn!

Tickets available from Springfield Stores: £5 (£1 child).

If you are able to assist, want further information or could donate a raffle prize, please contact Andrew Middleton. (andrew@themiddletons.org)

Hardington Garden Club

The Annual General Meeting for the Garden Club was held on 28th November with a significant number of members in attendance. This was followed by a wonderful Christmas meal cooked and served by Martin and team at the Royal Oak, enjoyed by club members and partners.

The first garden club meeting of 2019 is to be held on Wednesday 23rd January. We have a talk by Neil Lovesay entitled "Plant Propagation Part 2", followed by a soup supper. Everyone is welcome to join us for the event, which starts at 7.30pm.

We have another great programme of talks and visits planned for the year ahead, of interest to expert and aspiring gardeners alike. Events are generally held on the fourth Wednesday evening of each month. Details will be published monthly in the Messenger. Annual membership costing £15 runs from January to December and is due at the January meeting for those wishing to join. Please make payment by cheque, payable to "Hardington Garden Club". Non-members are very welcome to attend, with a charge of £3 per meeting.

We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you on the 23rd January.

Jacqui Watkins

The Royal British Legion East & West Coker Branch

The Branch 2018 Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning was held at West Coker Commemoration Hall On Saturday 7th October. A very successful event, over £600 was raised – a great start to the 2018 Appeal. Thank-you to all helpers and the many friends who called in. To date the East Coker District Poppy Appeal 2018 total is £9646.27, a record! Hardington's total amounted to £889.49, an increase of £72.64 from 2017. Our house – house collectors; Ron Ahern with his wife Joyce and Richard Leach, collected £255.47 between them. The remainder was made up from static boxes at the village shop (£144.27) The Royal Oak (£42.45) plus donations, wreaths and Church collection at St Mary's on Remembrance Sunday. A big thank-you to our collectors and those who gave so generously. You will remember in my report this time last year, I asked if any of you would help us with our house – house collections in the East Coker District. A lot of our collectors have been with us for a number of years and age is not on their side. To date nobody has come forward, not only in Hardington but in all villages. In consequences 2018 will be the final year of house – house collections in the East Coker District, which comprises East & West Coker, Hardington, East Chinnock, Barwick & Stoford. I will still put out static boxes in shops, pubs etc.

Can you spare the time to become the Poppy Appeal Organiser (PAO) ? I have been the district PAO for eight years and like others age is not on my side. Please give me a ring if you are interested in taking this role. Without your continued support and generosity the Royal British Legion would not be able to continue to provide its assistance, support and advice to our Service families, dependants and veterans now and into the future.

From the whole Service community. Thank – You. Good Luck – Health & Happiness for 2019

Notes for diaries: Our Annual Cheese & Wine Evening is on Friday 3rd May at East Coker Village Hall 7.30pm.

David Holland , chairman and PAO 862782, d.holland632@btinternet.com, secretary Marylin Smith 863944

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.



BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

FRIDAY 25th & SATURDAY 26th JANUARY

7.30PM

Why not celebrate Burns night this January with a fantastic tasting supper?!

Join us at the Royal Oak for five courses of mouth-watering Scottish cuisine, all prepared and cooked by us, for just £26.95 per person!

This is one of our most popular theme nights, so be sure to book yourself a table soon and don't miss out on those haggis, neeps and tatties!



GOT AN EVENT COMING UP?

We provide outdoor catering from small, hot or cold buffets to large sit down wedding breakfasts. We have two fully equipped bars and we have brilliant staff to help provide a fantastic and seamless service. Give us a call or see our website for more details.

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

01935 862354