

MARCH 2023



**Valentines Day Telephone Box
Decorated by Jackie Thomas**

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Beth, elder daughter of Sandy and Chris Hubbard of Bishops Lane recently announced her engagement to Oliver Stokes. Sending every good wish for their future happiness. Ali Trickett enjoyed extended celebrations with family and friends on her 'special' birthday last month. Irene Tizard will be celebrating her 'special' day during March. Congratulations to you both. Muriel Amatt, previous resident of High Meadows, Bishops Lane, recently celebrated her 95th birthday. We are pleased to hear she is settled in a home in Weymouth, is keeping well and sends her good wishes to the villagers.

THANKS; As a token of our thanks to the Messenger team of deliverers, Sheila and Robin Carpenter recently hosted a 'Thank You' tea party at their home. It was well attended by the many volunteers who turn out each month to make sure you receive this valuable village newsletter, keeping you abreast of village activities. Some of our volunteers have delivered since the Messengers inception in November 1995. Thank you to those who donated to the Messenger funds recently. Unfortunately, due to the increase in printing costs we are still in need of more funds. Should you be able to donate please leave with Daphne at Springfield Stores or with Richard Beatson, the treasurer's home Highlands. Hardington Mandeville. Editorial team

GET WELL: A couple of villagers have been in hospital this past month. Shirley Angel and Pauline Grassam. Also Sue De Boehmler fell going **into** Sonny's sustaining a fracture to her foot! Good wishes are sent to them for their recoveries.

ANNUAL VILLAGE BREAKFAST

Don't forget to order your tickets for the annual Village Breakfast Saturday 11th March. Tickets will be limited! For those unfamiliar with the event, you are in for a treat. We serve, fruit juice, cereals, a full English breakfast, or equivalent followed by, toast, marmalade, tea, and coffee. All this for £8 for those over 11, £6 for 4–10-year-olds and £4 for 0-3s. **Please order vegetarian/vegan or mention any dietary requirements when buying tickets.** We use local suppliers where possible. This year we will be donating the proceeds to Pancreatic Cancer UK, The Village Hall, and St Mary's Church. Should you have a raffle prize you could donate please leave with WI committee members or with Daphne at Springfield Stores. Tickets are available from, Daphne. Booking is essential, no tickets sold on the door. Looking forward to seeing you.

WI Committee

FROGS AND TOADS

Just a reminder that toads and frogs are busy crossing the High Street and Penn Lane at nights for the next few weeks. Signs are currently in place. Should you be driving on these lanes please be aware there may be 'rescuers' as well as these useful amphibians about.

Sue Phillips

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

If you would like to join us for this service it will be held on Friday March 3rd 2.30pm at St Mary's Church, East Chinnock. Should you need a lift please contact me. The service this year has been organised by inter-domination women of Taiwan. The Taiwanese are very much in need of our prayers currently. ALL are welcome. I try to have someone from each Church on the committee as well as people from other Christian denominations who live in the villages. If you would like to join the committee or even take over as secretary (it is not arduous) then please contact me on the number/email below. There will be refreshments following the service. We look forward to seeing you.
Sue Phillips 862866 windphill@hotmail.com

HELP US RETAIN BUS ROUTE 44

Many people do not realise we have a daily bus service from the village, Mon-Fri (excluding Bank holidays). It picks up at 10.10am outside the phone box in the High Street, then to Springfield Store in the Moor. Return is 12.45pm from the Borough by the War Memorial. This service allows for approximately 2 hours in town. Bus passes are accepted and if you don't have a bus pass the cost is currently £2 for all bus journeys as an incentive to encourage better use. Many people rely on this service so help keep it viable.
Maureen Mills

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

Hardington Garden Club - A talk on Roses by a highly knowledgeable speaker. Now is the time we need to start pruning our roses to get them fired up for a summer display. And the availability of cheaper bare rooted roses is still with us, if you want to add some glamour to your garden. Don't know where to start, either with pruning or what to choose? Then why not join us on 22nd March in the Village Hall to hear all about Roses. Everyone is welcome.
Save the date: Saturday 13th May - Plant Sale from 2pm around the village and if wet, in the Village Hall.
Sally Thompson

STREET FAYRE QUIZ

In support of the Street Fayre, we are holding a Quiz Night in the Village Hall from 7pm on Friday 24th March. Bring a team of up to six, or turn up on the night and join a table. Bar available. Tickets are £5.00 (or £1 for under 16's) and will be on sale in Springfield Stores or from Andrew Middleton

HARDINGTON & PENDOMER W.I.

At our February meeting, Dr Lesley Sutcliffe gave us an interesting talk entitled, 'Alternative Medical Therapies over the Centuries'. She took us on a journey through time telling us about the quack and bizarre practices which people subjected themselves to in order to be cured of an illness. Her talk was very entertaining, however it seemed that mostly the cure was far worse than the disease itself.

Our WI is part of a national organisation which enables members to interact on many different levels. We belong to the Crewkerne group of WIs. Our WI competes in the group's skittle league and is currently enjoying some success having won its last game with West Coker WI by one skittle. The group has also organised a quiz at West Chinnock WI and an evening walk with supper, hosted by East Chinnock WI which our members are able to attend. The Somerset Federation of WIs also organise events which our members can attend including craft days and an afternoon tea to see 'The Red Dress' which is an award winning, global, collaborative embroidery project 2009-2022 conceived by British artist Kirstie Macleod. The initiative provided an artistic platform for women around the world, many of whom are marginalised and living in poverty, to tell their personal stories through embroidery. The Somerset Federation also organises holidays for members and supports several charities in Somerset. In 2022, not only did members provide household items for YMCAs and The Besom Trust, but also underwear, clothing and toiletries for our Urgent Appeal for Ukrainian Refugees, culminating in 97 handmade Christmas Goody Bags plus winter coats. Our shoeboxes, given at Christmas to residents of local YMCAs and women's refuges, and other charities totalled a staggering number of 422. In June, the National Federation of WIs holds its annual meeting in Cardiff and members can attend by zoom, or in person to hear inspirational speakers. The NFWI also produce a monthly magazine for members and the MyWI website for members is packed with news, recipes, crafts etc.

Our next Hardington WI meeting is Members' Night, on Wednesday, 11th March at 7.30 pm. Visitors, and ladies new to the village and the WI are very welcome. Please contact either Margaret Casey on 01935 321615 or Sue Phillips 01935 862866 if you wish to attend. There are still tickets available at the village shop for the Village Breakfast on Saturday, 11th March from 8.30 am until 12 noon. Proceeds to Pancreatic Cancer UK, our church and our village hall. Look forward to seeing you there.

Linda Lines

CONCERTS IN THE WEST

We are delighted to say that you will have another chance to hear exceptional musicians in St Roch Church, Pendomer. At 3pm on Sunday April 23rd Ensemble Molière will give a concert of Baroque music by composers including Lully, Rameau, Couperin and others. The five talented young musicians will be playing flute, violin, bassoon, viola da gamba/cello and harpsichord. I can guarantee this will be a superb concert. I have tickets at £18, or they can be booked online at the website www.concertsinthewest.org.uk

Robin Carpenter 862339

BOOK LOVERS

Do you love reading? We are 3 local ladies who have started a monthly evening book club where we discuss a book from the library and enjoy a bottle of wine together. We are looking for a couple more people to join us. We hold the meetings in my house near the church at 7.30 the first Monday of the month. If you are interested in making a commitment to most months, give me ring. Kaz on [07813860314](tel:07813860314).

Bring Girlguiding Back To West Coker. Jane leFeuvre

Yeovil Division Girlguiding commissioners would like to establish the degree of interest in Girlguiding in West Coker and the surrounding villages, prior to considering whether to pursue reopening Rainbow, Brownie, or Guide units at the new Jubilee Hall in West Coker. If you have daughters in the age ranges of 4-7 yrs (Rainbows), 7-10 yrs (Brownies), or 10-14 yrs (Guides), who are interested in joining such a unit, please contact the commissioners via the contact email westcoker@girlguidingsomerset.org.uk This email address will go straight through to the Yeovil Division Girlguiding commissioners, and they will respond to you directly. They are also interested to hear of girls of 14yrs and above who may be interested in helping as a young leader at a West Coker unit, and from adults who might be interested in helping at or training to help run one of the units, and to their establish their availability. (Please make contact with the commissioners on the same email address as above. Girlguiding is a wonderful organisation, and helping in a unit is a great way to get involved in the community, make good friends, work with young people and have lots of fun. Provided the venue is available, Flexible guiding allows times, days and length of sessions to be organised to accommodate leaders/and helpers as well as the girls. It would be wonderful to have Girlguiding units back in West Coker, especially now the new Jubilee Hall is finished and opened, so here's hoping lots of interest is forthcoming.

CORONATION WEEKEND IN MAY

As you may know Buckingham Palace has suggested the following programme for the Coronation weekend.

Saturday 6 May Coronation

Sunday 7 May Big Community Lunch (Communities are encouraged to join together for a celebration lunch)

Monday 8 May Bank Holiday The Big Help Out

(People are encouraged to spend time on the day volunteering/joining projects in their area)

To celebrate the event in Hardington and Pendomer it has been decided to amalgamate the Party in the Park (sponsored by Ernest Kong) with a Street Party type lunch event in the recreation field on Sunday 7 May 2023. This will be open to all residents of Hardington and Pendomer and any friends/family visiting that weekend. Planning is in the early stages but will include children's activities, music by Michael Mochan and a classic car display. More information in March. Meanwhile please do get in touch if you have any suggestions. Anne Lunt (07769 678208 annelunt@btinternet.com)

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING 7TH MARCH

At our first coffee morning since Covid we were pleased to welcome 24 villagers. Good to see some new faces. Our next one is on **Tuesday 7th March, 10.30-12.00** at the home of Sue Phillips. This is Windmill Cottage at the top of the High Street.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday March 7th at Windmill Cottage

Wednesday April 12th 10.30-12 at Rydon Farm

Wednesday 10th May 2.30-4 at Daphne's, Springfield Stores

All villagers are welcome, we look forward to meeting new friends.

Alan Grassam

CRAFT EXHIBITION

Last years exhibition in St Mary's during the Street Fayre was very well attended and the Street Fayre committee would like to repeat it. If you exhibited last year we would love you to do so again. If you didn't exhibit last year, please consider doing so this year so that we can produce an even better display. The Fayre is on Saturday July 8th so there is plenty of time to produce something! Please contact Sheila Carpenter on 862339 if you are interested.

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The February Meeting...

An amendment to an existing application for the remodelling of the Mandeville Arms was discussed. The original application submitted in 2019 proposed remodelling of the building, so that the 'public house' area was significantly reduced. It included 3 apartments (2 ground floor, 1 first floor), and 4 letting rooms. The new application proposes the same size reduced pub area, but removes the apartments and letting rooms to include 'Managers accommodation', consisting of 4 double bedrooms upstairs (3 ensuite) and a kitchen/living room area downstairs.

The justification for this change is that this application can be determined now, whereas the previous 2019 application will continue to be held up until the Phosphate pollution mitigation plans are in place. Following discussion, a resolution was passed to object to the amended application on the grounds that there is not enough parking for pub customers, staff, and a manager and his family (also taking into account the potential loss of parking should permission for two dwellings behind the Mandeville Arms be granted at some time in the future).

The Chairman reported that the broken stile on the footpath behind the church to Rectory Lane has now been replaced with a metal footpath gate. He hopes to get a number of other wooden stiles on various footpaths within the village replaced with gates in the near future.

The Messenger printing costs have increased significantly due to the previous printers no longer being able to provide the service. It was agreed the Parish Council would contribute £500 towards the print costs.

Notification of a temporary road closure at Pen Cross Lane has been received. The work is expected to commence on 27th February and last for 5 days to enable Wessex Internet to carry out connection works.

The council have been asked if it would consider acquiring some land for use as a graveyard, as space in the existing churchyard is running out. The clerk will make preliminary enquiries about this. The council encourage feedback from parishioners to find out if use of parish funds for this would be supported.

The next scheduled meeting is at 7.30pm on the 21st March 2023 in the Village Hall. The public can speak for a limited amount of time at the start. The agenda for the forthcoming meeting and minutes of past meetings can be found a few days beforehand on the village website www.hardington.net. You can contact me at hardingtonclerk@rocketmail.com, tel: 07545 554145 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

HARDINGTON WILDLIFE

It may just be because I'm always so glad to see them, but it seems to me that snowdrops are putting on a particularly good show this year. Having failed once again to get more bulbs in the ground in my own garden, I'm happy to enjoy the beautiful displays all around the village as I walk the lanes. What a great pleasure it is to come upon a bank of these little flowers, their snowy white heads drooping demurely in the ultimate gesture of self-effacement! Unremarkable as a single plant, the effect of a whole drift of them is positively magical – a welcome reminder that winter is on its way out.

With the return of early flowering plants, so we see the return of our pollinators in greater numbers. Queen bumblebees are some of the first to appear, and you may have spotted one already, buzzing noisily around your crocuses. These very large and fluffy bees are the only members of the colony to survive the winter, emerging as early as February to take advantage of early nectar and pollen before hunting out a nest site (usually a hole in the ground or an abandoned mouse burrow) where they will raise the next generation. We've had bumblebee nests in an undisturbed area at the back of the garden for two years running, and I'm hoping for another this year.

Whilst it's best to leave the bumblebees to it, there are other garden visitors for whom we can provide nesting sites this month. Solitary bees, like red mason and leafcutter bees, will use a carefully positioned bee box made with hollow canes (such as bamboo) to lay their eggs. The Natural History Museum and the Bumblebee Conservation Trust both have good instructions on their websites if you fancy having a go at making one.

All it takes is a bit of March sunshine to warm the air and many hardy insects begin to stir from their winter resting places in hollow trees, plant stems and among piles of brushwood. Look out for early butterflies like commas or peacocks sunning themselves on tree trunks or warm house bricks. Whilst nectar is in short supply early in the season, try to leave some weeds for wildlife – dandelions are an excellent food source for butterflies.

Our feathered friends are already busy courting, staking out their territories, and some may even be nest-building. The early morning birdsong has certainly increased in volume recently – what a joyous sound! Listen out for the first chiffchaffs this month; their distinctive song can be heard from high up in the canopies of trees in woodland, parks and gardens, although their nests are usually on or close to the ground, hidden away in shrubs or brambles. I know that many of us enjoy feeding the birds in our gardens, and calorie-rich food such as sunflower hearts, fat balls and suet nibbles, help them prepare for breeding. Let's do what we can to make this year a good one for wildlife in Hardington.

Nicola Maybury

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Church Services at St. Mary's, Hardington

Sun 12th.	Holy Communion	11.00 am
Sun 26th.	Family Service.	10.30am

Church Services at St Roch, Pendomer

Sun 12th	Family Service	9.45am	AND ON ZOOM
Sun 19th.	Holy Communion	9.15am	AND ON ZOOM
Sun 26th	Family Service	9.45am	AND ON ZOOM

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR MARCH

Fri 3rd.	World Day of prayer, St Mary's E Chinnock, all welcome	2.30pm
Tues 7th.	Village Coffee morning, Windmill Cottage, High Street	10.30-12noon
Wed 8th.	W.I. Village Hall, new members & guests welcome	7.30pm
Sat 11th	Annual Village breakfast, Village Hall, booking essential.	8.30-12noon
Tues 14th.	Choir practice, St Mary's Hardington tbc.	7.30pm

MARCH 20th LAST DATE FOR APRIL MESSENGER

Contributions to hardingtonmessenger@rocketmail.com

Tues 21st.	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, all welcome	7.30pm
Wed 22nd	Garden Club, Village Hall, guests welcome	7.30pm
Thurs 23rd	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall, The Lost King	2.00 for 2.30pm
	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall, The Lost King	7.30pm
Fri 24th	Street Fayre Quiz, Village Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Thurs 28th	Choir practice, St Mary's Hardington tbc	7.30pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday	Ashtanga Yoga Hardington Village Hall.	6pm
Friday	Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's Hardington	7.45pm

CONTACT LIST: The list of people running local organisations will be available on the Hardington website soon. If you need a hard copy there will be some in Springfield stores.



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROYAL OAK

Quiz night

Thursday 9th March

7.30pm

Gather your friends and come out for a great night at Duncan's charity quiz.

Teams of up to 6 people and only £2 entry per person.

Book a table in advance to guarantee a space.

Mr and Mrs Skittles

Saturday 11th March

7.30pm

Come along for a fun night of friendly competition and help Sara and Trudie raise money for Macmillan Cancer support.

£20 entry per couple which includes a light supper of sausages and chips.

The winning couple gets a luxury hamper worth **£100!**

The girls are undertaking another walking challenge at the end of April (60 miles around the Isle of Wight in 24 hours) and will be hosting a number of charity events before then. So, if you can, please come along and help us support such a fantastic charity!

Mother's Day

Sunday 19th March

Book in now for one of our 3 sittings and treat your lovely mum to a proper Royal Oak roast!

We will be taking tables at Midday, 1.45pm and 3.30pm

01935 862354

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

I should like to remind everyone that our '100 Club' is due to start again shortly, the first draw will take place at the Village Hall on 3rd May before the start of our monthly Committee Meeting. If you would like to apply to join the club, and to stand a chance of winning one of three prizes each month, you will find an application form in this month's Messenger. I do hope that you will consider joining as the 100 Club raises much needed funds to help run and maintain the Village Hall - the cost of a ticket still works out at less than 25p a week!

On 23rd March we will be showing 'The Lost King' at the Village Hall. There will be two performances of the film, the afternoon performance starts at 2.30pm and the evening performance at 7.30pm. I hope that you will be able to come along (perhaps with family and friends) have some cake and a drink and enjoy the film.

You may have noticed that the Committee have purchased new lamp shades for the hall and I hope that you agree that these are a great improvement on the old ones!

Work on the accessible toilets is at last starting to take shape, by the time you read this, hopefully the tiles will be up, the flooring down and most of the furnishings in place. I should like to offer my thanks to MDP Builders, P.D. Ford, GB Power, Stuart (tiler) and Nigel Fowler for their help on this project and special thanks to Topps Tiles and the National Lottery for their very generous donations.

Lastly, I have to say a big thank you to the Players and to all those involved in the pantomime 'Mother Goose', it was a fantastic performance and it was lovely to see the hall thriving with people and put to such good use.

Karen Dodge

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON
In association with
SOMERSET MOVIOLA
proudly presents

THE LOST KING
(12A)

In this inspiring true story, amateur historian Philippa Langley believes she has made the archaeological find of the century, the lost burial site of King Richard III. She takes on Britain's most eminent historians, forcing them to rethink the legacy of one of the most controversial rulers in English history.

in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 23rd March.

Afternoon Performance at 2:30pm
Coffee, tea and cake available, doors open 2.00 pm

Evening Performance at 7:30pm
Licensed bar available, doors open 7.00 pm

Tickets: £5.00 in advance from Springfield Stores
(01935 862363) or on the door

Visit our website at: www.Hardington.net


Moviola

Hardington Village Hall 100 Club

Hardington Village Hall Committee invite you to join their "100" Club. The cost is £12 per year per entry, you may have more than one. The Village Hall Committee raise valuable funds every year that are used to maintain and improve the hall.

The draw will take place each month at the Village Hall Committee Meeting. Fifty percent of the income will be shared between three lucky winners. The full rules of the 100 Club are displayed in the Notice Board at the village hall.

If you are over sixteen years of age and would like to participate, please fill in the application form below and return it to Daphne Creed at Springfield Stores, who will issue you with a ticket.

100 Club Application Form

Name : _____ Tel : _____

Address : _____

Email Address : _____

Number of entries _____ Total Payment : _____

Please be assured that your personal details will only be used to communicate with prize winners.

Charity Commission Number 304551