

OCTOBER 2021



Martin and Ellie outside Somerset's best Village Pub

CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

Church Services at St. Mary's, Hardington.

Sun 10th Holy Communion St Mary's 11.00am

We are considering re-starting the Family Service in Church on the 4th Sunday of the month followed by coffee/biscuits. The Churchwardens - Daphne Creed 862363 and Richard Middleton 863812 would appreciate any comments of support for this.

Have you seen our beautiful new gates at St. Mary's (front and back) made and installed by Wyvern joinery Ltd of Yeovil? If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these - maybe in memory of a loved one - please contact one of the Churchwardens as above.

I will be collecting Shoeboxes again this year, which will be sent to children in need around the world. You can collect a ready decorated box from me at Springfield Stores with instructions for packing. Please return filled boxes to me by 8th November. Many thanks from Daphne.

St. Mary's is open each day from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for private prayer.

Church services at St Roch, Pendomer.

Sun 17th Holy Communion St Roch Pendomer 9.15am

Zoom Family Services from Pendomer Church will continue from October 24th.

Please watch out for invitations or attend in person.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 13th W.I. Meeting, Village Hall, New members welcome NOTE TIME 7.30pm

Tues 19th Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All Welcome 7.30pm

Wed 20th Garden Club, EAST COKER Village Hall, Guests welcome 7.30pm

OCTOBER 20TH LAST DATE FOR NOVEMBER MESSENGER

Please email contributions to hardingtonmessenger@rocketmail.com

Thurs 21st Moviola 'Dream Horse' Village Hall Tickets in advance from P.O. 7.30pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Fri Bell Ringing Practice, St. Mary's Hardington Mandeville 7.45pm

**Tues Ashtanga Yoga Village Hall, for full details please contact Rachel Parker
rachelparker.ashtanga@gmail.com**

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Ben and Charlotte Turner celebrated their marriage with a reception at their home, Lime Kiln Farm. We wish them every happiness for the future. Congratulations to you both.

Mike and Sonia Nitti have welcomed a new grandson. Born to daughter Hannah and her husband Russ, Sonny Alfred is a brother for Zac, Erin and Elliott.

James and Jane Patten celebrate 30 years of marriage while Mum Ros celebrates a significant birthday this month. Brian Bower celebrated his 90th birthday in September and Jake White turned 18 . Congratulations to you all!

BEST WISHES TO: Chris Searle, now at home following a stay in hospital, our good wishes are sent to you.

CONDOLENCES: It is with sadness we report the death of Julia Beckley. Julia and her husband, David, moved to Hardington about 20 years ago and quickly became a part of village life. Julia organising line dancing classes in the Village Hall and playing the ukulele and introducing other villagers to this instrument. Julia was also a member of the Players.

Sadly, a stroke a few years ago caused considerable disability and more recently a heart attack hospitalised her. Prior to this last illness, David had cared for Julia, enabling her to live at home surrounded by her dogs and friends, and pre-covid she was able to enjoy village events.

Our thoughts and sympathy are sent to David at this time.

GOODBYE: Three couples have moved from the village this month; all have lived in Hardington for some years. David and Cathy Bakewell who have lived in Beech Cottage, Rectory Lane for over 30 years, have moved to Hampshire to be nearer their daughter and family. It will also enable Cathy to travel more easily to London where she sits in the House of Lords. David has been a deliverer of the Messenger and involved with the Church zoom meetings and Cathy with the World Day of Prayer.

John and Elaine Gilmore have moved to East Chinnock after several years of living in two different homes in Hardington, the last one being Greenhow. They have been involved in the Players and Village Hall committee and in the past Elaine was President of the WI.

Finally, Jim and Karen Hawkins have moved from The Laurels, Barry Lane to new pastures close by. Jim is known to many villagers for his tree surgeon skills.

We send them all our thanks and good wishes for their new ventures.

WELCOME: Having bid farewell to three couples we have some welcoming to do. Kev Hambidge and Sue Netherton have moved into Greenhow. The new owners of The Laurels are Phil and Lucy. We hope you will be happy in your new homes in Hardington.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank those who keep the public footpaths beside their homes free of brambles and overgrowth. It is very kind of you and although the ranger does some clearing, I know homeowners keep the paths cleared in between the rangers' visits. It makes walking the paths so much easier.

Also, can I thank those who supported my table at the recent yard sale and to those who made donations. I was able to send £115 to Pancreatic Cancer UK. Sue Phillips Many thanks for the donations received this past month for The Messenger funds. We are grateful for your continuing generosity; without it the Messenger would cease.

Messenger Team

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

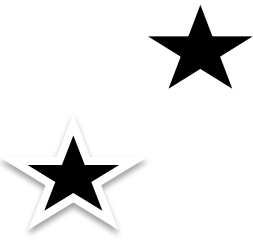
Our October speaker is Sally Nex who will be telling us about 'Year round vegetable growing'. This will obviously be subject to any Covid restrictions in place at that time. A reminder of the temporary relocation of inside meetings to **EAST COKER** Village Hall. Please bring your own non-alcoholic refreshments, as the kitchen may be unavailable to us. Remember to bring a face mask in case this is required too. Non-members are welcome to come along, £3 on the door. New members are always welcome, please contact Kate and Andy Palmer on gardenclub@hardington.net or another committee member for details. Also contact Kate and Andy if anyone needs transport to the meeting and we will see what can be arranged. Look forward to seeing you then.

Jacqui Watkins

MISSING CAT, AGAIN!!!

Our large friendly ginger cat is wandering again, and at the time of writing has been away for several weeks. He is 6 years old, is micro-chipped, very stripey except for a white tip to his tail, and a black nose. There have been a number of sightings, even photos of him, so a big thank you to villagers who have contacted us.

If you have an occasional stripey visitor, and wonder where he goes when he leaves you, please let us know, in case it is our Tigger. He is due his 3-monthly medications and a vet inspection soon. Thanks, Annie and Neil Dyer 01935 863706 or 07831 588924



HARDINGTON PLAYERS

YOUNG STARS



Calling all young people aged 6 and older! Hardington Players are staging a production of Roald Dahl's 'The Witches' in January 2022. The aim is to have as many young people in the cast as possible, particularly in the main roles. Don't worry if you would just like a small part: we'd love to see you as well.

There will be an introductory meeting in the Village Hall on **Sunday, 3rd October** at 3.00 pm, where we shall explain all that's involved and look at parts of the script. Everyone is welcome to come and find out more before you decide if you would like to take part. If you are unable to attend, please contact Jane Blomfield on 01935 862747 or Anne Lunt on 07769 678208.

LONDON MARATHON

By the time you read this the 3 Amigos, Nigel Stewart, Andrew Middleton and Jack Clotworthy may well have started the London Marathon. (Sunday 3rd October 2021). Training for this event over the past 16 weeks has resulted in some weekly mileage of up to 40 Miles and 3 or 4 runs a week. Most of you will be aware Hardington is not the flattest route so hopefully the tough training will help on actual race day. We would like to thank those that have sponsored us and those that attended the Auction of Promises. Many Thanks to Martin @ Sonny's for being the auctioneer and supporting us. The Auction of promises raised nearly £2,000. Thanks to all the businesses and individuals that offered something for the Auction. With other sponsorship we are very close to raising £7,500 for the 3 Charities.

#yeovilhospitalcharity #CardiomyopathyUK #Alzheimersresearchuk

If you have not yet sponsored us our sponsorship pages, which are on facebook, will be open for a few more weeks. Many Thanks for all your Support

Jack, Andrew & Nigel

YARD SALE

Thank you to everyone who supported our Yard Sale on 18th September. It was a lovely sunny and sociable afternoon. As a result, £250 has been sent to the local Motor Neurone Disease Association. From Jane and Daphne.

HARDINGTON WILDLIFE

This month has seen a change in the hedgerows around Hardington. The beginning of September saw a burgeoning of blackberries and sloes, while the creamy-white flowers of Traveller's Joy turned into wispy clouds of Old Man's Beard. This lovely climber is a type of wild clematis, its scented flowers beloved by bees and hoverflies and its fluffy seed heads a favourite of finches. The white trumpets of bindweed entwining the hedges are fading, though the candy stripe pink and white convolvulus can still be seen below.

It's all about spiders this month – love them or hate them, their silken webs strung between gateposts and laden with dew on a misty Autumn morning cannot fail to impress. I've seen countless orb web spiders, waiting patiently in the centre of their intricate webs for a hapless crane fly to career into their sticky trap. Many of these are 'garden spiders', easy to spot by the white cross pattern on their abdomen. Of course, not all spiders weave webs to catch their dinner - crab spiders, for instance, are small but mighty predators, who can change colour to match their surroundings and will sit 'invisibly' on open flower heads until an insect comes close enough to be caught in its powerful grip. I've spotted a few in the garden on late summer blooms; they really are fantastic creatures. Another of my favourite creatures has to be the goldfinch and it's been great to see them back in numbers on our garden feeder this month. You can often hear them before you see them, chattering away at the tops of trees in quite large numbers. A good place to see them at the moment is amongst the wildflowers in the middle meadow on the nature reserve, feasting on the seed heads there. You may know that a group of goldfinches is called a charm, the perfect name for these lovely little birds. Most will overwinter with us, but some will begin to migrate to Europe about now. We'll soon be saying farewell to our swallows and house martins too, as they ready themselves for their epic flights to southern Africa. They gather in restless groups on telegraph wires in preparation – we recently counted at least 120 on North Lane. I'm always a little sad to see them go.

As Autumn approaches in earnest, now is a good time to look for moths sheltering in long grass or camouflaging themselves against the leaves as they begin to turn. You may have noticed a number of magpie moths along the bridleway to Moor Lane recently, attractive black, white and orange moths often mistaken for butterflies. Also out and about are moth caterpillars, looking for a good spot to become chrysalides and spend the colder months hidden in vegetation. Both the Elephant Hawkmoth caterpillar, with its magnificent eye spots, and the Garden Tiger moth caterpillar, also known as a 'woolly bear' for its hairy appearance, have crossed our paths this month. Keep an eye out when you're walking the lanes – and watch where you tread!

Nicola Maybury

Spotlight On Jo-Ann Halliday

Meeting with Jo-Ann in her home, I am properly introduced to Rafe her Cairn terrier (“He’s named for the tennis player – after all, we all love a bit of eye-candy, don’t we!”) whom you will often see seated very sensibly on the foot well of her scooter as she pootles down to Daphne or The Creedy Mare. Jo-Ann is unashamed of loving living in Hardington. Having left Yeovil in the mid 1930’s, Jo-Ann’s parents returned after the war and set up a general store on Mudford Road when she was around 11 years old. The family would make trips out to the local area (some of the locals were customers of her parents) so she came to know the village quite well, although it was not until 1971 that she, her husband Roy and their two children, Karen and Simon, moved into the bungalow on the High Street, only a hundred yards or so from the cottage where her great-grandfather Levi Eglon had lived when he worked on a farm in the Marsh. Jo-Ann and Roy met at the Young Conservatives Club (the Yeovil dating agency of the 1950’s it seems) and they were married in 1959 at St John’s Church, Yeovil. They celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in 2019 with a big family party and a card from the Queen! Roy, a Lyme lad, had been an apprentice at Westlands. They lived in several places in Yeovil before moving into the village where they quickly settled into village life. A past reference from her secretarial job with the Somerset Fire Service refers to her as being an “efficient person, cheerful in manner and reliable at all times” who has “taken part and assisted in many social occasions”. This included being dressed up as Father Christmas and dishing out goodies as they paraded through the town. She has fond memories of the many and varied activities that villagers organised – she loves to participate and have a giggle but confesses to preferring participation to organisation. You may have seen a photo of her in the Village Hall, sitting in a bathtub, blowing bubbles surrounded by other women and with a row of handsome men behind in black tie. This was one of the Variety Shows put on by the Drama Group (pre-cursor of the Hardington Players) where skill was perhaps in less abundance than enthusiasm – but a great way of raising money for the village and having a fun night out! It seems that the role of the Royal Oak remains the same. Jo-Ann, Roy and village friends would meet up on a Saturday night and it was there that many a plan was hatched and gained momentum. Entering a float for Hardington or Yeovil Carnival, for example, or just having a quick game of darts, joining in with trips to the Theatre or supporting the cricket team... villagers have always congregated and gossiped here, (with outsiders preferring the smarter Mandeville Arms!) Despite not being able to make it down to the pub on an evening, Jo-Ann relishes the Sunday Lunch deliveries she has enjoyed more recently – a real treat (Thank you Martin and Ellie). As well as working as a secretary for the Fire Service, she also worked at the

West of England Twine Works, West Coker, and was hugely amused to find that the desk she once worked on now adorns the office of the West Coker Twine Works Museum. Other jobs include a time as secretary to the Chief Flight Test Engineer at Westlands. Jo-Ann enjoys creativity – whether it is painting or more textural activities such as free knitting (“I’m not very good at following a pattern”), rag rugging, tapestry, pottery, spinning or collages. As a founder member of the Art Club (now developed into the Art and Craft Club), Jo-Ann demonstrates a free-spirited, light touch approach. This follows into the garden “I don’t do flower beds – too much hard work and too many weeds!!” and to her approach to life in general. Perhaps we all need to take a leaf out of her book.

Favourite view: I love the view from my lounge window looking across the Orchard and watching the beautiful sunsets.”

Person to have a meal with : **Matteo Berrettini** the young Italian tennis player – so handsome!

THE COKER BRANCH OF THE WEA

WEA provides learning across a wide range – practical courses in embroidery and art techniques, health and lifestyle, history and culture, languages and digital skills - which you can find at www.wea.org.uk/find-course

The Coker branch is holding a local course about **Lorna Doone by R D Blackmore** over 6 Tuesdays from 9th November. The weekly course starts at 2.00pm and finishes at 3.30pm and the course costs £36 to enrol. It is being held in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall.

‘Just over 150 years since its publication, Blackmore's Lorna Doone provides us with a novel set in the 17th century at the time of the Monmouth Rebellion. However, this novel offers more than this in that we can also see how the text is shaped by the cultural influences of the century in which it was written.’

If you would like more information on this course, look up **C3532922** on the website above or contact Viv Ford on 01935 863954 or Gill Evans on 01935 862703.

HARDINGTON & PENDOMER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We were delighted to be back in the village hall for our September meeting – the first time since March 2020. Angela, our president, welcomed many visitors who have moved into our village recently and several new members who have joined our WI this year. Our speaker was Nichola Penn from Boo Cottage Botanicals with her Tales of Somerset Soap. This small cottage industry, which she runs with her partner Ben, creates award winning small batch botanical skincare in their workshop in West Bagborough. Nichola, a self-confessed serial crafter, was intrigued as to how soap was made using the traditional cold pressed method. Having learnt how to make soap she wanted to create a skincare range that was completely natural, free from synthetic preservatives, foaming agents and artificial colourants and, instead, produce products that were packed full of plant-based ingredients. Nichola then gave us a demonstration of soap making, melting and mixing the ingredients before pouring the molten soap into a mould to set. Over refreshments, members were able to inspect the range of products they now create and several early Christmas presents were purchased.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 13th October at 7.30 pm. We will be welcoming Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance to talk about their work. No decision has yet been made as to whether this will be an open meeting where we invite non-members to join us as previous October meetings have been. Our membership has expanded considerably and we need to consider the number of members who will be attending first of all. Further details will be advertised on our WI notice board by the shop and on the Hardington Facebook page. Members will also be emailed further information before the event.

Linda Lines

HARDINGTON FLOWER & CRAFT SHOW

A big thank you to everyone who contributed entries to this year's Flower and Craft Show and everyone who came along on the day to see the wonderful exhibits. We were very pleased with the number of entries and visitors this year that were on par with the last show in 2019. The organising team is always looking for new categories and ideas to bring to the show. If you have any ideas or want to get involved, please let us know. We do have a vacancy within the team so are looking for additional people to help share some of the organising tasks. We only have four meetings a year so the commitment is not big. Please get in touch if you would like to help towards the success of next year's show.

Stewart Ogden

sogden20@gmail.com

07837237842.

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The September Meeting...

A planning application for a rear single-storey extension at Hillcroft House, Broad Hill was discussed. There were no objections.

A parishioner raised the issue of the Chinnock Hollow road-closure (closed in February due to a land-slip). This has resulted in excessive traffic using Collarway Lane as an alternative route and frequent hazardous right-turns onto the A30. The recent closure of the A30 at West Coker added to this problem, and resulted in complete traffic chaos and gridlock on Hardington and East Chinnock Roads. County Councillor, Mark Keating responded that contractors who specialize in land-slip surveying were appointed in Spring this year but they are backlogged due to Covid and staffing issues. He has confirmed that the survey team's on-site start date is 18th October. It is not known how long this survey stage will take, but following this an 'options' report will be submitted to Somerset County Highways and further updates will follow.

An onsite meeting with SCC Highways was held to discuss the on-going drainage issues on Primrose Hill. As a result of this SCC have agreed to install a new gully to catch the spring water leaving the field, and will also add a 'raised patch' to divert water into one of the existing gullies, instead of running away from it, as it does now!

The Chairman thanked all those involved in the organisation of Hardington's first "Party-in-the-Park". It was an excellent event, enjoyed by the many who attended.

Following a recent incidence of a child's motorbike being ridden around the Community Field, it was decided a sign should be purchased to make it clear that motorised vehicles are not allowed on the privately owned land.

The next scheduled meeting is at 7.30pm on the 19th October 2021 at the Village Hall. Public attendance is welcome (although numbers will be restricted) and they 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

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with

SOMERSET MOVIOLA

proudly presents

DREAM HORSE

(PG)

A true story of a race horse, Dream Alliance, bred by Jan Vokes, a small-town welsh bartender. With no experience, Jan convinces her neighbours to chip in their meagre earnings to help raise Dream in the hope that he can compete with the racing elite. This is a truly heart-warming story that will lift your spirits and make you smile.

in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall

Thursday 21st October at 7.30 pm

Doors open 7.00 pm

Tickets: £5.00 in advance from Springfield Stores 01935
862363, numbers limited due to COVID restrictions

Licensed bar and refreshments available from 7.00 pm

Visit our website at: www.Hardington.net



Moviola
Charity No 1107649



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROYAL OAK

October Holiday

After a hard 18 months and a very busy summer this year, Ellie and Martin are taking a much needed week off in the sun.

This means that our kitchen will be closed for one week from
13th to 21st October

(Normal kitchen operating will resume Thursday 22nd)

We will still be opening the bar for drinks throughout that week, but our opening hours will be different to normal:

Wednesday 13th – 5pm -11pm

Thursday 14th – 5pm – 9pm

Friday 15th – 5pm – 11pm

Saturday 16th – 12 -9pm

Sunday 17th – 2pm – 8pm

Monday and Tuesday – CLOSED

Wednesday 20th – 5pm – 11pm

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

01935 862354

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk