

APRIL 2026

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with
SOMERSET MOVIOLA
proudly presents

The Jungle Book (U)

Come and enjoy this entertaining and family friendly 1967 Walt Disney animation of Rudyard Kipling's classic story.

Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther have a difficult time trying to convince the reluctant Mowgli, a boy, to leave the jungle and join human civilisation before he is found by Shere Kahn the Bengal tiger.

There will be only one showing at 2:00pm, doors open at 1:30pm. Refreshments free.

Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 9th April.

Tickets: £3.00 in advance from Springfield Stores
(01935 862363) or on the door

Visit our website at: www.Hardington.net



HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with
SOMERSET MOVIOLA
proudly presents

Fiddler on the Roof (PG)

This Oscar winning musical is a timeless classic that beautifully portrays the struggle between tradition and progress. Released in 1971, the film is a heartwarming adaptation of the Broadway musical, set in pre-revolutionary Russia. The story revolves around Tevye, a poor Jewish milkman, trying to marry off his daughters while maintaining his cultural traditions.

Due to the length of this film, there will be only one showing at 6:00pm, doors open at 5:30pm.

Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 16th April. Licensed bar available.

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

Visit our website at: www.Hardington.net



Please support this dual programme

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: James and Jane Patten have become grandparents and Ros Patten a great grandmother for the first time. Jane and James' son Will and his partner Katie had their son, Arthur James a little earlier than expected but all is progressing well. Congratulations to you all.

CONDOLENCES: Sylvia Burns, long term resident of Rectory Close died recently following a long illness. Our condolences are sent to her husband Bob and her family at this sad time.

JOAN WHITEMAN

Peter, Elaine ,Dyane and family would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts messages of sympathy, well wishes, and generous donations. Joan's / Mums goodbye service was planned to be a personal and loving tribute to her and we were all very grateful to everyone who helped us to achieve that , it was a perfect goodbye for a lovely lady, thank you all.

LONDON MARATHON

Hi I'm running the London marathon for Thrive, a charity which supports people in the community in Somerset. I would be very grateful if you could sponsor me on the internet/Facebook. I would happily come and collect your donation so I can say thank you in person.

Alison Clarke. 07960557651

Village at Home AFTERNOON SOCIAL 15th April

Our next social gathering for a coffee/ and a natter is at Windmill Cottage, the home of Sue Phillips, at 2.30-4pm on Wednesday 15th April. In case anybody doesn't know where this is located you will find it at the top of the High Street. All are invited and you will be assured of a very warm welcome, especially if you are new to the village. We look forward to seeing you.

Pauline Grassam

W.I.

The WI met as per usual at 19.30 on this, the second Wednesday of the month in our Village Hall. A minute's silence was held for longstanding former member Joan Whiteman. This was the Annual Meeting and very well attended. WI Members were given the annual health check reports of its WI, involving the Presidents, Trustees, Activities and Treasury reports. As with any multinational organisation, there are always opportunities for efficiencies, and these were put to members and subsequently agreed.

The ongoing vacancy of the WI Secretary was discussed further, potentially meaning the closure of this WI after 85 years as the vacancy had been unfilled for the best part of a year. Thankfully, 2 members have agreed to continue in their temporary roles for one further year to allow others members to be recruited onto the committee to fill this position. In the longer term, all members were encouraged to consider stepping forward for this. Birthday flowers were handed to 5 lucky recipients and thanks made for the president's flowers. This month's presentation was by two WI members, Rowena and Alex Murray, who gave a fascinating insight into their 2-week trip to Kenya, working on a Massai dining hall for young Maa Girls who are either victims or at risk of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) or Early Childhood Marriage (ECM). They can access a safe space to recover and rebuild their lives whilst also, when safe and appropriate, rebuild bridges with their families. The supporting Charity – Mission with a Vision, also supports these young adults and girls, to learn a trade so that they can be more financially independent and not so dependent on male members of their society. Traditional and culturally, men and women have very defined roles, women have little if any opportunity to be anything other than be wives, mothers or victims of servitude and abuse, so Rowena and Alex were able to explain about their fantastic opportunity at making a real difference to some young lives and also getting to know them socially. Alex and Rowena were welcomed by the local hosts of the Massai – even becoming honorary members- and were very eager to try the local traditional meals of Goat and mush! Should anyone be interested in finding out more, and or supporting Mission with a Vision, details can be found at their website www.misionwithavision.net

The meeting ended with a reminder, that April's meeting is the 85th Birthday event for the Hardington and Pendermer WI and will be celebrated by an amazing meal prepared by the expert culinary hands of the Landlord of The Royal Oak, Martin.

New members are very welcome to make contact and attend one of our monthly meetings

Ally Howard

OBITUARY

Joan Whiteman was born in Ullesthope, Leicestershire on 19th October 1932 but, moved shortly afterwards to a small village, close to the town of Rugby where she grew up in a cottage in the middle of a field with her parents and 5 siblings. Joan had to cross 3 fields onto the road to get to the village school, unthinkable these days. At an early age she sustained an eye injury by being pushed onto the tap of a water butt, causing her to lose most of the sight in that eye. By working age, the family had moved into town where Joan started work in the lamp factory and stayed there until marrying the 'love of her life', Peter in 1958. After buying their own home, and with the arrival of their 2 daughters Elaine and Dyane, Joan became a full-time mother and housewife.

Following a holiday in Corscombe the family felt this was the area they wanted to live in and after various visits found Bolshay in Bishops Lane and moved there around 1970 and felt it was the best move they ever made. Joan became involved in village life joining the WI and meeting her best friend Margaret (Marg) Partridge, (Marg died just the month before). They worked together travelling on mopeds to various farms to pick seasonal produce. Their next venture was catering for weddings, receptions etc, this lasted for a few years.

Joan enjoyed various sports including playing badminton in the Village Hall, skittles and short mat bowls followed by lawn bowls, which became her main sport, playing in the club teams around the West Country. Apart from being a wonderful cook Joan enjoyed knitting and continued knitting albeit only squares, almost to the end of her life. It was lovely to see some of her creations decorating the flowers on her coffin and on the vases decorating the Village Hall at the wake. For over 50 years Joan was a valued member of the WI having been on the committee for many of them and in charge of catering for quite a few of those. She enjoyed competing in the Flower Show often winning the Cookery cup. She was also WI skittles captain and orchestrated the provision of a runners up cup for the WI County Skittles competition, having felt disappointed when 'her' team lost in the final and only a cup for the winners was presented. Sadly, Joan developed dementia but was blessed to have her daughters and Peter care for her at home during her last few years. She died in February, at home where she wanted to be, having spent many happy years here in Hardington and even more years married to Peter. Always pleased to see friends, almost to the end she met one with a hug and a smile. A great friend to many she will be missed. We send our condolences to Peter, Elaine, Dyane and their families at this sad time.

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

We are delighted to be hosting horticultural royalty this month in the form of ten times Chelsea Flower Show gold medal winner, Neil Lucas of Knoll Gardens, near Wimborne. He is a world renowned expert on Grasses and is coming to talk to us about how we can weave grasses into our gardens along with other perennials to give a unique look that not only lengthens the months of interest but also helps us take on the gardening challenges of climate change. Neil is highly knowledgeable and also an entertaining speaker. He will be with us on Wednesday 22nd April in the village hall at 7:30pm. This is a ticketed event: £6 members; £10 visitors. Tickets are available on request at hardingtongardenclub@gmail.com and you can pay via BACS. We are really looking forward to seeing you all.

Meanwhile, I know our garden club members are busy sowing extra seed so that we have lots of wonderful plants to sell at our ever popular Plant Sale on Saturday 16th May 2-4pm at the village hall. Do make a note of the date to come along, as much of the money raised will be donated to our village projects. Sally Thompson

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

It was lovely to see you all at February's coffee morning and to see some new faces along with our usual supporters. Do join us for Dy's next coffee morning which takes place at Hardington village hall on 25th April 2026. Family, friends, neighbours and newcomers to the village are all very welcome. As usual, the hall will open from 10 am to 12 noon and there will be a variety of delicious cakes and savouries on sale for you to try including: bacon or breakfast rolls, bacon and cheese wraps, savoury scones, etc. We also offer a range of teas as well as instant or filter coffees. If you have any specific dietary requirements, please call Dy in advance and she will do her best to accommodate you. We also hold a raffle. Our village hall coffee mornings usually take place on the last Saturday of each month. If anyone is able to offer any help or is willing to make a cake for this or any future coffee mornings we would be most grateful so please contact Dy Catford on 07956448301.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The 100 Club draw took place on 4th March 26 and the winners were: 1st prize Penny Parrott, 2nd prize Sue DeBoehlmer and 3rd prize Jennie Trott. Congratulations to you all and thank you for supporting the village hall. The next draw will take place at the hall on 1st April 26 at 7.20pm.

This year's 100 club starts up again in May. We hope that you will support the hall by applying to join the club. Tickets and more information are available from Daphne at Springfield stores. The cost of a ticket still works out at less than 25p a week and you will stand the chance of winning one of three cash prizes each month.

As the Easter school holidays are approaching, we have decided to show an extra film 'Jungle Book' at the hall on Thursday 9th April at 2pm with doors opening at 1.30pm. Tickets will cost £3 and refreshments will be served. Our main film show this month will take place on 16th April when we will be showing 'Fiddler on the Roof'. This time there will be only one performance with a 6pm start. Doors will open at 5.30pm. Please see our posters for more information. We will have a break half way through the film to enable you to purchase cakes/refreshments and there will also be a bar.

The Committee would like to thank Dy Catford for donating £315 from her February coffee morning to our village hall funds. Our energy costs came to £898.45 for the month of February 26. It looks as though we have a problem with the inverter on our solar panels and this is being investigated. We were obliged to install a new fire alarm call point by the new exit door at the back of the hall and this work was completed on 3rd March at a cost of £293.76. We have not increased our hall hire rates for a few years now and due to the increase in running expenses our rates will be increased from 1st June 26. The Committee and I are very grateful for your continued support. Wishing you all a Happy Easter! Karen Dodge.

ZEN YOGA

The zen yoga classes have started and with good numbers and fantastic feedback to date. Thank you! If anyone is still interested there's room for one or two more! So please email me with any queries sherri2@gmail.com. Classes will continue with dates booked from April- June. On Mondays from 9.45am start.

*Please note if a Bank Holiday falls on a Monday there will be no scheduled classes on those dates.

Sherri

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The March Meeting...

Tina Chapman has handed in her resignation to the Parish Council, as she has recently moved to East Coker and is now very busy renovating her new house. The Parish Council would like to thank Tina for her time with the council and wish her all the best in her new home. The Parish Council will now advertise that a vacancy has occurred and if ten or more electors would like a by-election they can request this by writing to Somerset Council. Otherwise, the vacancy can be filled by co-option.

The ranger has rebuilt the edge of the lane over the drain, which discharges into the brook on the bridleway from North Lane to Moor Lane. This was being eroded by heavy rainfall. It was agreed to buy two bulk bags of gravel in order to help support the new wall, which covers the drain.

The Parish Council have recently been informed that horse riding was taking place within Hardington Moor National Nature Reserve. Horses and cycles are not permitted in the reserve, and English Nature will not hesitate to prosecute identified offenders. The remarkable flora is easily damaged by such use, and we ask that all riders respect the signage.

The Annual Assembly will be held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on the 21st April, 2026. Local groups from the village are invited to give an update on their previous year's activities. The monthly Parish Council meeting will follow this. 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: 07815 965113 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

STANDING WITH GIANTS - SILHOUTTES OF SERVICEMEN

‘Standing with Giants’ is a registered charity which creates large-scale outdoor remembrance art installations. The charity was founded by Dan Barton, a community conceptual artist who began the project in 2019 after creating several powerful displays to honour those who had served with the military. He refers to the silhouettes as **Giants** because of the enormity of the sacrifice made by the individuals they represent — a sacrifice that allows others to live in freedom. This year the silhouettes are being revamped by volunteers before being put on display in Normandy during the summer and in the autumn at Portsmouth. Part of the revamp entails replacing hundreds, if not thousands, of knitted poppies. The Hardington and Pendomer WI managed to make 76 four-inch diameter poppies, (plus the black centres!), in a very short timeline to help the charity. Having told you all this I am appealing to all knitters and crocheters who would be willing to help make poppies to accompany our own Giant in the church yard and for a display by the phone box this November. There is small variation of colours required; RED for the personnel, PURPLE for the animals, BLACK for the many coloured communities, and WHITE POPPIES for peace. If you need wool, a simple pattern or any further information or advice please contact me. **(07853420404) bijac@hotmail.co.uk**
Thank you. Jackie Thomas

Cricket Club Training Sessions

With our fixtures due to start late April/early May, outdoor training sessions begin soon. (all subject to vagaries of the weather and condition of the Rec!). Our National ECB Programme offering All Stars (children ages 5-8) & Dynamos (children ages 8-11) runs on Friday nights from May 8th to July 3rd from 5-6pm. These are fun club nights with bar & BBQ, supported by Goose Slade Farm. To guarantee your space on the clubs national programme please go to <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> and search for West Coker & Hardington CC. Youth training for our league competitive U10, U12, U14 teams will run on Friday nights from April 24th to July 31st, staggered from 6-8pm. Our Women’s softball team will train on Friday nights from April 24th, and please email for more information on how to get involved. Adult hardball sessions are likely to take place on a Tuesdays from April 24th and please email for more information on how to get involved. New players are always welcome across the club and please get in touch by email or come and meet us on a Friday evening from end April. Just as importantly we encourage you to come down to join the fun and great company as a social member, giving you the chance to enjoy cricket, meet new people, rediscover old friendships and experience our inclusive community club – all this for a tenner. So, please come down and sign up on a training night or match day. Finally, we were very fortunate to have the support of 2 sponsors last year (Martock Dental Practice and The New Inn) and so as an individual or business you would like to hear more of the sponsorship options please get in touch via westcokerandhardingtoncc@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR APRIL

ST MARY'S HARDINGTON

Thurs 2 nd .	Holy Communion & Handwashing.	7.00pm
Sun 5 th	Holy Communion.	11.00am
Sun 19 th	Family Service.	10.30am

ST ROCH PENDOMER

Sun 5 th	Holy Communion	9.15am
Sun 12 th	Family Service	9.45am
Sun 19 th .	Holy Communion.	9.15am
Sun. 26 th .	Family Service.	9.45am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR MARCH

Wed 1 st	Village Hall Draw and Committee Meeting, Village Hall	7.20pm
Wed 8 th	W.I. Village Hall,	7.45pm
Thurs 9 th	Children's Hollywood in Hardington , Village Hall	Doors open 1.30pm
Tues 14 th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm
Wed 15 th	Village at Home Social Afternoon, Windmill Cottage,	2.30-4pm
Thurs 16 th	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall	Doors open 5.30pm
Tues 21 st	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All Welcome.	7.30pm

APRIL 20th LAST DATE FOR MAY MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardington.net

Wed 22 nd	Garden Club, Village Hall.	7.30pm
Sat 25 th	Village Hall Coffee Morning, Village Hall,	10.am -12noon
Tues 28 th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon	Zen Yoga, Village Hall	9.45am
Tues	Tai Chi/Qigong, Village Hall	6.30pm
Wed	Pilates, Village Hall.	10.00pm
Fri	Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's Hardington.	7.45pm

Hardington Village Hall 100 Club

Hardington Village Hall Committee invite you to join their “100” Club.

The cost this year is £11 per entry for the period May 2026 to March 2027.

You may have more than one entry. 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.

100 Club Application Form

Name : _____ Tel : _____

Address : _____

Email Address : _____

Number of entries _____ Total Payment : _____

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.

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

Charity Commission Number 304551



EASTER AT THE OAK

Saturday 4th - Kids Easter
Egg Hunt from 10am

Sunday 5th - Easter Sun
day lunch from 12-3pm

Sunday 5th - Easter Bingo.
Eyes down from 7.30pm

Saturday 25th April

Tipsy Tea Party

Back-to-back cocktails and
tapas for £40 per person.
From 3.30-5.30pm

What's On At The Royal Oak

Thursday 9th April

Quiz Night

Book Now for our monthly quiz
night. Raising money for charity.
Teams of up to 6 people

Thursday 16th April

Tastes of Asia Night

A stunning menu of
delicious Asian inspired
cuisine.

Come along and enjoy a
wonderful night of food
with some friends.

Don't Forget:
Thursday Lunch Club
£10 main courses
Served 12-2pm

CREAM TEA

SUNDAY 10TH MAY

2.30pm - 4.30pm



Ridgemoor, Hardington Moor, BA22 9NP
(if wet Hardington Village Hall)

All proceeds to the Street Fayre fund
in aid of the Village Hall and St Mary's Church

Tickets: £5.00

Available in advance from Springfield stores.