

JULY 2025



A convivial village coffee morning in the sun with hosts Nigel and Sue.

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Apologies to Pauline Grassam whose 'extra special' birthday was missed from the June Messenger. We hope you enjoyed the celebrations with your family.

For the first time in about 20 years, we had a baby born at home here in the village. Fynn Riley was born in June, a first child for Kiri and Richard Griffin of Nursery Gardens. Gilly and Nigel Timmis recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Many congratulations to you all.

GET WELL: There are several people from our community unwell or receiving treatment currently, we send our good wishes to them all.

CONDOLENCES: Sadly, we report the death of Mike Doyle. Mike and Kaz moved here almost 4 years ago just a few weeks after receiving the devastating news that he had Motor Neurone Disease (MND). I'm sure those who had the pleasure to meet this couple know how bravely they faced this terrible news. Despite Mike's reduced mobility, Mike and Kaz joined the Village Hall committee and Mike was the first person to run the films for Hollywood in Hardington, a role he continued until his illness prevented him from doing so. Our thoughts are with Kaz and their son and daughter at this sad and difficult time.

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

Many thanks to those who helped and supported my coffee morning for Christian Aid. We now know we raised £269 on the day. This with monies collected from around the benefice amounted to £1,129.83. Thank you all for your support.

Sue Phillips & Richard Middleton

Village at home Coffee Morning July 16th

This month we move down from the Mandeville to the Moor. Our hostess is Theresia Goodger who lives at 10, Nursery Gardens. The time is 10.30 to 12 noon and the date is Wednesday, July 16th. Do join us for an informal natter over a cup of coffee, whether you are a regular or haven't joined in before. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

Pauline Grassam

HARDINGTON & PENDOMER W.I.

On the 11th June, the Hardington and Pendomer Branch of the WI met as usual at 19:30 in the village hall.

Our president presented 4 birthday bouquets beautifully crafted and much appreciated by the lucky recipients. The branch minutes were agreed and updates from the various groups given; pleasingly, both skittles teams had a successful month, winning their matches. The village hall and the Street Fayre were discussed , as usual the very popular WI bottle stall will be present on the day (5th July) and donations are kindly requested to be delivered to the Post Office in Hardington (a labelled box will be evident). Film night, showing The Complete Unknown about the early life of Bob Dylan will be shown on 19th June and the village hall coffee morning on 28th June in the village hall, proceeds of the above support both the village hall and our Church .

All members were reminded of the urgent search for a new secretary and treasurer, needed for the continuation of this WI, further information can be given by any of the committee members .

The WI were treated to a demonstration workshop by Kate Lynch, an esteemed local charcoal artist, inspiring group members to have a go with some outstanding results. Basically the art is like drawing a negative photograph, with the only equipment needed being charcoal for tone and texture, a cloth for blending and a rubber for highlighting ; it was fascinating watching images develop and enjoyed by all.

The meeting closed with some delicious cake, home made obviously, and a refreshing hot beverage.

9th of July sees the WI Garden party, kindly hosted this year by Angie Mead, members are asked to bring a plate of food contribution as well as their chair and a glass!

New members are always welcome, our next meeting is on 10th September at 1930 in the village hall.

Ally Howard

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Thank you all once again for continuing to support our monthly village hall coffee morning in so many different ways. Dy Catford and her team look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next coffee morning which will take place at Hardington village hall on 26th July 2025. Family and friends are very welcome so please bring them along.

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. There will also be a raffle. Just to remind you that the coffee mornings 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, please contact Dy Catford on 07956448301.

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The final number is in for the Plant Sale. We raised, net of costs, £1,065.60p. Many, many thanks for everyone's contribution, from those who helped set up, our plant growers, cake makers, tea servers, to those that came and bought, and those who helped clear up everything at the end. It was a great team effort which now ensures we have enough money to help our village causes as well as funding our ambitious speaker programme for next year. Thank you.

This month the club will be holding its summer social event on Wednesday 23rd July at 6pm at Wynyards, Penn Lane, the home of Kate and Andy Palmer who are very kindly hosting us. Partners are welcome. It's a bring and share event and we would appreciate it if you could please email Kate at hardingtongardenclub@gmail.com to let her know if your dish is going to be sweet or savoury. Please can you bring your own cutlery, plates and glasses, and do bring a bottle too!

Looking ahead to August, we have our annual Flower Show on Saturday 23rd August, in the village hall, 2-4pm. There are lots of fun categories to enter, so do pick up a schedule from Springfield Stores. Raffle tickets will be delivered across the village at the end of July and this year we have some great prizes, all helping us raise funds for this year's charity, ARK - Acts of Random Kindness, which is based in Merriott, along with our village causes.

Sally Thompson

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The 100 Club draw took place on 4th June and the winners were: 1st prize Amanda Davey, 2nd prize Viv Cherry, and 3rd prize Rob Curtis. Congratulations to you all and thank you for supporting the village hall. The next draw will take place at the hall on 2nd July at 7.20pm and you are welcome to be present when the draw takes place.

We had a good turnout on the evening of 19th June for our film 'A Complete Unknown' and most people seemed to enjoy the film. There will be no film shown at the hall for the next few months whilst we take our usual break over the summer. Thank you to everyone who has helped us over the last few months to make these events a success. I think that Sian Jinks and Andrew Middleton in particular deserve a special mention. Our May film 'Conclave' made a profit of £304.79 for the hall which was fantastic.

Special thanks once again to Dy Catford for her hard work in organising the monthly coffee mornings and for donating £298.00 from the May coffee morning to our village hall funds.

Our May electricity bill amounted to £51.34 and so, as expected, the charges are beginning to come down as the weather has improved. We have also benefitted from a significant reduction in the daily standing charge since our new contract started.

As planned, further alterations/improvements started at the hall in June and you will see that changes are being made to both the front and rear of the hall. It is hoped that the changes being made to the rear will improve the car parking facility. Work is also needed on the garage at the rear of the hall in the near future. My thanks to both Tom and Rob who have undertaken general maintenance work recently.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome Sue Mead on to the Village Hall Committee as our new W.I. Rep. I am sure that she will enjoy working with our team and will gain a lot of satisfaction from the work that we do to benefit the community. Karen Dodge.



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROYAL OAK...

Thursday 17th July.

Acoustic Night

With DANIEL QUINTON!

Join us for a great night of music with the incredibly talented local musician Daniel Quinton!

Enjoy a couple drinks, a bite to eat and a brilliant evening at the local.

Friday 25th July.

Thai Night

Book now for our Thai Night! We'll create a fantastic menu full of authentic Thai dishes to really give you those beautiful tastes of Asia.

Come along with friends and make a proper Friday night of it.

Every Weekend

Specials

With the promise of even more glorious weather headed our way, be sure to keep an eye on our social media pages for our list of Specials.

Every weekend we put together a selection of mouth-watering fish dishes, superb shellfish and even local lamb and pork.

And when the sun is shining, that's when we can't resist those seafood platters, crab salads and moules mariniere.

We're excited, we hope you are too!

01935 862354

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JULY

Church Services at St. Mary's, Hardington

Sun. 13th	Holy Communion	11.00am
Sun. 27th	Family Service	10.30 am

Church Services at St Roch, Pendomer

Sun 13th	Family Service	9.45 am
Sun 20th	Holy Communion	9.15 am
Sun 27th	Family Service	9.45 am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JULY

Wed 2nd	Village Hall Draw and Committee Meeting, Village Hall.	7.20pm
Sat. 5th	Hardington Street Fayre, High Street, Hardington Mandeville.	12 - 4pm
Tues 8th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm
Wed 9th.	W.I. Garden Party, visitors welcome, note change of time.	6.30pm
Tues 15th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All Welcome.	7.30pm
Wed 16th	Village Coffee Morning, 10 Nursery Gardens.	10.30-12.00noon

JULY 20th LAST DATE FOR AUGUST MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardington.net

Tues 22nd	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm
Wed 23rd	Garden Club, Members Social Evening, Winyards, Penn Lane	from 6.00pm
Sat. 26th	Village Hall Coffee Morning, Village Hall, All Welcome.	10-12noon

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tues	Tai Chi/Qigong,	Village Hall.	6.30 pm
Fri	Bell Ringing Practice,	St. Mary's Hardington Mandeville	7.45 pm

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The June Meeting...

The meeting began with Tina Steele being co-opted to fill the remaining PC vacancy and she then joined the meeting.

Cllr Carpenter reported that he had met with Chris Turner, Cllr Patrick, and Lee Norman (Highways officer) in Hardington recently, and visited various sites to discuss road issues. Lee Norman will be writing a report on this meeting. Cllr Carpenter reported that unfortunately Moor Lane was not considered bad enough to make it on to the future jobs list, but Lyatts Hill surface issues will be repaired. Contractors have now carried out repairs to the bank collapsing at the bottom of Lyatts.

There will be a temporary Road Closure on the High Street, 3rd July 2025 (08:30 - 16:00) to enable Wessex Water to carry out 'frame and cover repair works'.

Chris Turner has decided to step down from Highways representative and the Parish Council would like to thank him for all his hard work in the last year.

Somerset Highway's team have said that due to funding they will not be able to repair the tarmac of the footpath from Moor Lane to the Village shop (Y10/51). (The Rights of Way also do not have the means to repair tarmac paths). The PC have therefore decided that the CIL money received for the land north of Tall Elms development could be used to repair this footpath. A discussion took place to decide whether tarmac or concrete would be more suitable. The Clerk agreed to seek a contractor's advice on this.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15th July, 7.30pm at 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: 07815 965113 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk