

JUNE 2025

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with

SOMERSET MOVIOLA

proudly presents

COMPLETE
UNKNOWN

(15)

In 1961, an unknown 19 year old Bob Dylan arrives in New York City with his guitar and forges relationships with musical icons on his meteoric rise, culminating in a groundbreaking performance that reverberates around the world.

in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 19th June.

Afternoon Performance at 2:00pm

Coffee, tea and cake available, doors open 1:30 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



Charity No 1107649

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Crawford Murray celebrated his significant birthday recently with friends. Margaret Casey has celebrated her special birthday in France. Congratulations to you both

GOOD WISHES: Alan Hawkins has been unwell recently; as has Ken Curtis: we send them our best wishes.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT/ SLINKY BUS

Community Transport meets the needs of individuals unable to access conventional transport. Currently our cost-effective transport is enjoyed by over 95 organisations, large and small, ranging from children's and youth services, social/statutory services, elderly care and many self-organised groups, clubs and local community youth groups. We also operate a demand responsive service which meets the needs of individuals who want to go shopping or attend medical appointments by using accessible vehicles and volunteer car drivers. In need of their services?

Who can use the Slinky

Slinky is a special transport service funded by Somerset Council. It picks people up from their homes and takes them to where they need to go. This service is for those who cannot use regular buses or trains. All the vehicles are easy to get into and use.

You can use the Slinky service for many things. It can take you to health appointments or exercise classes, help you visit friends or family, go shopping, or attend social events. You can also use it to connect to other public transport options.

You can use the Slinky bus if you do not have access to regular bus services, or if you are unable to use public busses for other reasons. This could include parents with young children, teenagers, students, elderly people, retired individuals, and people with disabilities.

If you are eligible to use the Slinky service, you need to register as a member first. To do this, you must fill out a registration form and send it to the booking office before you can use the service for the first time.

After you register, you can book a trip by contacting your booking office at least 24 hours before you want to travel. You can also book trips up to two weeks in advance.

Costs: Holders of Somerset issued English National Concessionary Pass and children up to 16 years are entitled to 50% reduction to the cost of the fare. You will need to show your pass each journey. Children under 5 are free. The service operates **Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Leaflets currently available in the Village Hall & P.Office.**

VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are always needed. All you need is your own transport; all mileage expenses are reimbursed and no minimum time commitment required.

Contact: [01935 477399](tel:01935477399) info@communitytransport.org.uk

FROG & TOAD PATROL

We would like to thank everyone for showing caution along the patrolling route where signs are displayed during February – April. These are in place to help secure a safe passage for our village amphibians travelling to and from their spawning ponds. Mostly Penn Lane and some on the High Street.

We are also very pleased to let you know that this year has seen a good increase of both toads and frogs. This year we helped 103 toads and lost 16 and helped 79 frogs and lost 10. Almost double since last year, which is very encouraging and proving successful. Our findings are submitted yearly for Hardington Mandeville to Froglife, where we are registered as a migratory site.

It is fascinating when they are spotted and helped, and we look forward to seeing them return.

The Toad Patrol

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

Many thanks to those who helped and supported my coffee morning for Christian Aid. We raised £204 on the day and have some envelopes to open and count still. I know it will be gratefully received.

Sue Phillips

Hardington's New Information Point

After a very long haul the concept of both improving the condition of the redundant telephone box and adapting its interior into a useful purpose has come to fruition. In the beginning it was even a case of tracing where the door was last seen on its way to be refurbished some one or two years earlier! Thanks to both Councillors Malcom White and Robert Hall, the restoration has gradually taken place with the latter spending some considerable time preparing the exterior paintwork ready for a fresh coat of genuine Post Office Red! Now looking anew, with its bright new gold crowns, it is hoped that the box now appeals as a restored piece of historical street furniture standing in a maintained area of grass. In the meantime, the interior has been fitted with a folding display of village property maps and a walker's cross-country map all to generate an information point for visitors to the area. The display was built by Mr. Ron Ahern; do stop by and view his handywork. Many of you will have purchased copies of the property maps that I drew and the cross-country map was kindly provided by Mr. Robin Carpenter. It is acknowledged that the Parish Council has been supportive of this initiative both in labour and necessary material finance.

Iain Thomas.

2025 HARDINGTON MAPS

As most of you are aware three new 2025 individual maps of Hardington Mandeville, Hardington Moor and Lyatts, and Partway Outlying Areas have been available for purchase recently at "Springfield Stores". The drawings were the result of many months research, amendments, and checking of every property in the above-mentioned areas with the assistance of many householders who kindly explained details of their abodes and a lot more besides; I am very grateful for all their conversations! The concept of selling the maps comes as a consequence of originally producing them for the purpose of adapting the redundant 'phone box in Mandeville into an information point for visitors to the area. I am pleased to report that the map sales have been well supported to the extent of having to treble the initial print run; currently **SEVENTY-SIX** maps have now been sold with only the final two sets available! I would like to publicly thank Daphne for her help, invaluable advice, and her time in the actual sales of maps within her shop, all of which has enhanced the success of the venture. As the new maps are my contribution to Hardington's infrastructure I am very pleased to advise our customers that all the profits raised by the sales will be gifted to St.Mary's church bell's fund.

Iain Thomas

St. Marys' Church

We wish to record our grateful thanks for two grants we have received towards the refurbishment of the church bells; a grant of £2,300 from Benefact Trust, one of UK's largest Christian grant-making organisations and one of £2,100 from the Bath & Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers. We very much appreciate both these grants and also offer our heartfelt thanks for all the other donations which we have received towards the cost of this work.

Richard Middleton

Village Home Coffee Morning 18th June

Hopefully this sunny spell will continue for our next home coffee morning, especially as the views from the garden are spectacular. This is Swallows Dip, the home of Nigel and Sue Fowler, located half way up the High Street. The date is Wednesday 18th June from 10.30 to 12 noon. You will be assured of a warm welcome together with coffee and biscuits. Do join us for a pleasant social occasion whether it's your first time or you are an old hand.

Pauline Grassam

HARDINGTON STREET FAYRE

Children's Art Competition

We are hoping to get lots of children in the village and surrounding areas involved in this year's Art Competition, it is open to any child who would like to take part, so do feel free to get your grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces/nephews and anyone else who is willing!

Artwork will be displayed in the church as part of the Village Street Fayre, taking place on Saturday 5th July 2025. The theme is "Things I Love"

There are 3 age categories:

Age 4 and under (on the 5th July 2025)

Age 5 - 8 (on the 5th July 2025)

Age 9 - 13 (on the 5th July 2025)

Requirements: Flat, 2D Art only please. This can be a photograph, painting, drawing, collage, or mixed media. No bigger than A4 size. Artwork will be judged by a local artist and prizes handed out for the winning pieces. Artwork will need to be completed **NO LATER THAN 28TH JUNE 2025** and can be dropped off in the lidded box outside Dy Catford's house, or to Daphne's shop where a labelled box will be provided.

Please make sure the artwork is clearly labelled (on the back) with name, contact number and age. Charlotte Gillingham (on behalf of Street Fayre committee)

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

A massive thank you to all those that pulled together and helped to ensure that the April coffee morning went ahead as usual despite the fact that Dy had been taken ill earlier that week. All profits from the coffee morning go towards running and maintaining the village hall and a donation of £195.50 was made to the hall from the proceeds that month.

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 28th June 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.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The 100 Club draw took place on 7th May and the winners were: 1st prize Cecilia Dack, 2nd prize Liz Southwell and 3rd prize Halina Menhennett. Congratulations to you all and thank you for supporting the village hall. The next draw will take place at the hall on 4th June at 7.20pm and you are welcome to be present when the draw takes place.

Don't miss our next film 'A Complete Unknown' which is being shown at the village hall on 19th June. Described as an excellent music biopic, the film gives a detailed account of the first four years of Bob Dylan's career. There will be two performances of the film, the afternoon performance starts at 2.00pm and the evening performance at 7.30pm. The hall will open 30 minutes before each film starts. Do come along, have some cake and a drink and enjoy the film. This will be our last film for a few months whilst we take our usual break over the summer.

Many thanks to Dy Catford for donating £195.50 from her April coffee morning to our village hall funds. Our April film 'The Critic' made a profit of £179.21 for the hall. Thanks to the generosity of Leonardo's and their supporters (who gave us a Curry's P.C. World voucher) we have been able to purchase a new fridge and toaster for the hall.

In April 25 our electricity bill amounted to £361.75, so as expected, the charges are beginning to come down as the weather improves.

Following a request by the Garden Club and The Players I am pleased to say that we now have Wi-Fi installed at the village hall. I should like to thank all those that helped to arrange this and in particular to Mark Batkin and the Parish Council for their support. Further alterations/improvements are scheduled to take place at the hall from the end of June, the cost of which is being supported by Lottery funding.

Finally, don't forget that you can check details of forthcoming events by looking at the hall calendar which is on the village website www.hardington.net the hall is also available for hire via the website.

Karen Dodge.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE

Church Services at St. Mary's, Hardington

Sun. 8th	Holy Communion	11.00am
Sun. 22nd	Family Service	10.30 am
Wed 25th	Morning Prayer.	9.30 am

Church Services at St Roch, Pendomer

Sun 8th	Family Service	9.45 am
Sun 15th	Holy Communion	9.15 am
Sun 22nd	Family Service	9.45 am
Sun 29th.	United Benefice Open Air Service - bring a picnic.	11.00 am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JUNE

Wed 4th	Village Hall Draw and Committee Meeting, Village Hall	7.20 pm
Tues 10th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30 pm
Wed 11th	W.I. Village Hall, New Members and Guests Welcome.	7.30 pm
Tues 17th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All Welcome.	7.30 pm
Wed 18th	Village Coffee Morning, Swallows Dip, High St.	10.30-12.00noon

JUNE 20th LAST DATE FOR JULY MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardington.net

Tues 24th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30 pm
Wed 25th	Garden Club, Village Hall, Guests welcome.	7.30 pm
Sat. 28th	Village Hall Coffee Morning, Village Hall, All Welcome	10 - 12 noon

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Hardington Wildlife by Nicola Maybury

The village is full of the delicious scent of blossom from lilacs, roses, jasmine and the last of the wisteria. What a glorious month of warm sunshine it has been! A drive to the coast shows the full beauty of England in May – red campion, white ramsons, bluebells. All along the green rolling hills, hawthorn is bursting with blossom. Masses of bright yellow buttercups gleam in the grassland and cow parsley sways thick in the verges. The hum of insect life busy refuelling with nectar is such a welcome sound at this time of year.

Back in the garden, damselflies have been active over the pond since early May but the arrival of broad-bodied chasers marks a turning point in the season. Soon darters will appear, followed by the most majestic of all dragonflies, the hawkers. You can hear them before you see them, their impressive wings twisting and turning in a feat of aerial acrobatics. If you have your own pond, you might be fortunate enough to witness the emergence of new life as the aquatic nymph transforms into a creature of the air. During their first few hours, dragonflies and damselflies are iridescent, their newly-minted wings glittering in the sunlight. Keep an eye out in the coming weeks!

Among the long grass, I've come across several nursery web spiders, each carrying a huge, round, cream-coloured egg sac, perhaps on their way to establish a nursery. The female carries the egg sac in her jaws for three whole weeks until she detects her tiny spiderlings have hatched, at which point she weaves a silken tent on the top of nettles or long grasses into which her offspring can safely emerge. She keeps watch over her nursery for several days until the last spiderling leaves to make its way in the world – a touching display of maternal care!

No sign yet of hummingbird hawkmoths in our patch, though perhaps others have spotted some zipping around the red valerian? We have seen a couple of may bugs clattering about the hawthorn at nightfall, as well as the first thick-legged flower beetles basking on the oxeye daisies.

There's so much to enjoy at this time of year that we're spoiled for choice, but here are a few things I'll be looking out for in June:

- Pyramidal orchids popping up in the nature reserve, providing a good source of nectar for night and day flying moths.
- Fledgling birds taking their first tentative steps away from the nest – watch out for opportunistic sparrowhawks, magpies and domestic cats at this most precarious time!
- Elderflower coming into full bloom, meaning it will soon be time to pick a few heads for cordial.

HARDINGTON & PENDOMER W.I.

On Wednesday 14th of May the Hardington and Pendomer WI met for its Annual General Meeting, an important date in the WI diary. The ,business of the WI is discussed and put before the group for approval. Our WI is in the most fortunate position of being both financially healthy and having the support of a healthy membership of interested and interesting ladies . We are however facing a current challenge of having vacancies for both a treasurer and a secretary, members are encourage to express an interest for both as these positions cannot remain infilled , potentially jeopardising the future of this WI, so, should you be interested in these positions please make yourself know to the committee .

We have many active groups and interests; updates were given from the skittles teams- we have two; a recent theatre trip to Bristol to see Tina Turner, the musical was organised by Jane McLean , was fantastic and another trip is planned in 2025 to see The Bodyguard. Trips are also planned to Hinckley Point and more. The village Big Breakfast is a huge success ; massive thanks to Di and her army of volunteers for their huge efforts as this supports the village hall and Church. There is a WI quiz for the Crewkerne area and we are welcome to attend as well as a golf croquet event . Soon, the WI will be preparing for its Garden Party and a volunteer is sought to come forward and host the event . Plans for the Village Fete are under way ,an event enjoyed by many , but like all events needs the help and support of villagers to be a success .

Presidents and Birthday flowers were beautifully prepared by Jacqui Tomkins and Katie Palmer - thank you !

The group closed wishing to express its heartfelt thanks to the departing secretary Margaret and the Treasurer, Rowena for their hard work and dedication over recent years supporting this WI .

The WI meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 19.30 in the village hall, new members are always made welcome, if you are unsure, just come along and see what fun we have and how we and you can't contribute to both the WI and the villages .

Allison Howard

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The May Meeting...

Robin Carpenter was re-elected as Chairman, and other roles were shared among other Councilors as required.

Cllr Hewitson has stated that a permanent road closure TRO (Traffic Regulation order) has been issued by Somerset Council for Chinnock Hollow. The TRO can be reversed in the future if funding is found to reopen it.

Chris Turner's highways report stated that three issues were in hand, there were three that needed to be reviewed, seven have been rejected, and they were three marked as 'completed', but were still not completed!

There was good news that finally Somerset Highways will be addressing the collapsed verge issues and uneven surface issues on Lyatts Hill. Mr Turner, Cllr Carpenter and Somerset Cllr Patrick are meeting with Somerset Council Highways Representative in Hardington to discuss highways issues on the 5th June.

The Rights of Way team agreed to put a new pedestrian gate to replace the missing stile on Penn Lane footpath (top of Y10/20). It was agreed that the Rights of Way team will put a 'No Unauthorized Vehicles' sign at the end of the bridleway on North Lane (Y10/50) to hopefully prevent any more vehicles using it and becoming stuck in the mud!

The PC wrote to St Mary's PCC stating that they would ideally like to see the Village Bier stored in the Church. The Vicar has replied on behalf of the PCC stating that St. Mary's Church can't offer to accept ownership, or responsibility for the Bier. Other options were discussed including making space for it in the Village Hall garage and also seeing if there was any space to store it with Somerset Heritage.

There is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in finding out more about this, then please contact myself or another member of the Parish Council for further details. Also, if anyone within the village is interested in taking on the task of the 'Ranger', then please contact me or a member of the Parish Council.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17th June, 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



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROYAL OAK...

Saturday 7th June.

Seafood Supper

Join us for one of our famous Seafood Supper tasting menus. 6 beautiful courses of delicious fish dishes that will make your mouth water. Book Now!

Thursday 12th June.

Spanish Night

Book now for our Spanish night. We have a menu filled with fantastic Spanish dishes to choose from. Enjoy some sangria and (hopefully) sunshine; it'll be like you're sat at that Spanish tavern dining on the finest Mediterranean food.

Thursday 19th June.

Games Night

This one will be fun!

Gather your friends and come along for a night of board games and good old fashioned pub fun.

We will have lots of different board games and card games to choose from and you can enjoy a few drinks (maybe a bite to eat too) whilst partaking in some healthy competition with friends.

Thursday 3rd July

Pottery painting and prosecco

Come along for a fun night painting a plate and drinking prosecco (or gin) – this will be a great night out for a group of friends.

In association with Pot Doodles in Yeovil

01935 862354

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

Hardington Garden Club

Very many thanks to everyone who played their part in making our annual Plant Sale last month such a roaring success. We really appreciated those who helped set up in the morning; our village growers who this year provided a record number of plants to sell; our cake makers and sellers of teas and sweet things; and everyone who turned up to buy plants and raffle tickets. All of whom made the afternoon a fun and worthwhile event. We have taken over £1,000 so far and still counting! We will keep you updated about how much we finally raise and where the monies will be allocated in the village.

For June we have two events. On 4th June the club is off to visit Burrow Farm gardens, just over the border in Devon. This 13 acre garden, with spectacular views over the river Axe, has a wide variety of gardening styles including a formal rose garden, rhododendron and azalea glades, and wild meadows. There is an excellent nursery and tea shop too. It should be a lovely day out for us all. We have a group discount price of £10.50 to be paid in advance and, if you need a lift, just let us know at hardingtongardenclub@gmail.com.

On 25th June at 7:30pm in the village hall, we have this year's Gold Club speaker who is coming to tell us all about climbing plants. Often we forget the vertical dimension to our gardens but a climber can add a touch of structure and colour to bring a new aspect to any garden. Non members welcome. Sally Thompson



East and
West Coker
Branch



With your support we raised £1,013.

Our thanks to everyone who attended our VE Day Cheese and Wine evening, your generosity enabled us to raise the magnificent sum of over a thousand pounds, helping to support the armed forces community in Somerset.

A special thank you to the HMS Heron Volunteer Band for providing such wonderful entertainment.

I must acknowledge the hard work of the branch committee whose dedication in planning, preparing and delivering such a successful event made it all possible.

Thank you for being part of this special occasion.