

THE HARDINGTON AND PENDOMER MESSENGER

MARCH 2025



PLEASE SUPPORT

STREET FAYRE 2025 JULY 5TH

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS: Jane and John Blomfield have welcomed a new granddaughter, Joanna Betty Price, 2nd daughter for Julie and husband Jack and sister to Jocelyn.

Ruth and Des Hill's son Ed and his wife Lois who live in New Zealand have recently had a 2nd son, Aubrey, a brother for Joshua.

Helen Parrott celebrated a significant birthday in February over a period of a few days with family and friends. A great start to the next decade!

GET WELL: Several villagers have been unwell in the past few weeks, either at home or in hospital. We send the following our good wishes in their recovery, Kim Manual, Anne Lunt, Angus Maclean, Yvonne Miller, Sarah Parsons , Joyce Ahearn and John Mitchell

CONTACT LIST: A revised contact list is now available on the village web site in the next couple of weeks. Should you wish to have a hard copy some will be available from Springfield Stores.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The service this year, arranged by the Christian women from The Cook Islands, is to be held at St Martin of Tours West Coker on Friday 7th March at 2.30pm. As we take part in this service, we are part of a wonderful wave of prayer which encircles the globe, praying with and for the Cook Islands and its people. Following the same service, starting as the sun rises in Samoa and continues to make its way around the earth until the sun sets over American Samoa. Through this service we hope people will be spiritually uplifted. **All** are welcome to join us for this service and for refreshments afterwards.

WDP committee.

RECYCLING MEDICATION PACKAGING

Did you know the squashy plastic packaging from medication can be recycled at Superdug store in Yeovil? By recycling this material, it prevents it from ending up in land fill. There may of course be other stores/pharmacies who offer this service, if you know of one please inform the Messenger Team.

FROG AND TOAD PATROL

As this goes to print the annual migration of frogs and toads has just started, unlike last year when the milder weather meant they had started their migration to their breeding ponds in January. By the time you read this no doubt the toad patrols will be well under way.

Most years it's inevitable there are some casualties which is always sad to see. Please be aware that over the next month or so there may be these amphibians making their way to and from their spawning ponds, mostly in Penn Lane but also the High Street down as far as the Church. They are easily spotted so do try to avoid them and better still move them to a safe place preferably in the direction in which they were facing. Signs are now in place, hopefully our new ones which we hope will last some years. We are very grateful to the Parish Council who have sponsored these new signs. **Very** importantly please be aware of people out on toad patrol. They should be easily seen with Hi Viz jackets, head torches and carrying buckets. Should you wish to join a team please contact, Steve Menhennett 863642 or Sue Phillips 862866

The Toad Patrol

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

It's "All about Dahlias" at this month's meeting on Wednesday 26th March at 7:30pm in the village hall. We are delighted to have Christina Angelucci, a noted Dahlia specialist coming to talk to the club. RHS trained and with a diploma from the English School of Gardening in Plants and Plantmanship, Christina has gone on to pursue her passion for Dahlias in particular by becoming a breeder. Every garden should have Dahlias to extend floral colour from June into late October. Christina will be telling us about her favourites and everything we need to know to become successful growers. There will be some lovely Dahlia tubers for sale on the evening. All welcome.

And as it's March, it really is time to get sowing. Don't forget to sow a bit extra for the Plant Sale which this year is on 10th May at the village hall.

Sally Thompson.

CONCERT AT ST MARY'S

SATURDAY 1st MARCH - Martock Orchestra with the Crewners Harmony Choir will be performing at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Songs from the shows, songs to join in with and sing along. Refreshments available. Free Concert with donations towards the Bell Refurbishment Fund.

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with

SOMERSET MOVIOLA

proudly presents

THELMA

(12A)

Thelma Post is a feisty 93 year old grandmother who is conned by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson.

She sets out on a treacherous quest across Los Angeles to reclaim what was taken from her.

**in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 20th March.**

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



HARDINGTON WILDLIFE

Neither Winter nor Spring, February this year has felt decidedly monochrome. But despite the shades of grey, a few splashes of colour can be seen around the village if we look hard enough. Robins are puffing out their red breasts and singing from the treetops, marking their territory for the breeding season ahead. The rosy red of the male chaffinch is another welcome addition, as small flocks gather on the ground to feed. Most impressive of all has been the male bullfinch, whose coral pink breast is a dramatic sight amongst the seedheads! I've been looking out for them after hearing their soft calls all around the village.

Over the past few weeks, bird song has definitely been on the increase. The song thrush is back, endlessly singing its many-varied melody in a bid to outdo the blackbirds. Both are doing an amazing job of weeding between our flagstones, although they're not very good at clearing up after themselves. Robins are actively displaying to females; bobbing, tail-flicking and wing-flapping. Siskins and blackcaps are visiting the feeders again, deftly avoiding the squabbles that ensue between our more regular clientele. Blue tits try to see off the longtails but there are too many of them to make a difference, they just keep coming in the world's cutest aerial bombardment. The robin of course is furious with everyone, hopping up and down on the slender branch holding our sunflower seeds, refusing to share.

Further afield, low Spring tides, when the greatest amount of shoreline is revealed, is a great time to get onto the seashore and seek out the creatures usually hidden from view. Rockpooling is one of my favourite Spring activities, there's so much to see if you're willing to get down to sea level. Velvet swimming crabs with fiery red eyes and a belligerent attitude, tentacled anemones, slender brittlestars, darting blennies, undulating sea slugs, periwinkles in an array of colours. Lift up a rock at low tide and you'll be amazed what you can find underneath! Broad Ledge in Lyme Regis is a good local spot.

Closer to home, here are a few things to be looking out for in March – Blackthorn buds bursting out in a mass of frothy white flowers.

The emergence of over-wintering butterflies: yellow Brimstones, neat little Tortoiseshells, jagged Commas and flashy Peacocks can all be seen in March sunshine, when it comes.

Listen out for the seesaw song of the first chiffchaffs, a sure sign that Spring is on its way.

Nicola Maybury

STREET FAYRE JULY 5TH 2025

This year's Street Fayre is back for its 15th year and taking place on Saturday 5th July 2025.

As part of the raffle this year, we are hoping to put together a couple of hampers; one food hamper and one non-food hamper. With this in mind, we would be very grateful for any donations of non-perishable food items ie. biscuits, cakes, chocolate, drinks, teabags, jams and chutneys, as well as pampering items ie. body lotion, hand cream, shower gel, bath salts, candles, smellies, etc.

These items can be dropped off outside Dy Catford's house (opposite the shop) between 9am-6pm where there is a clear plastic box. Alternatively, they can be placed in the box on Charlotte Gillingham's driveway at The Laurels, Barry Lane.

There will also be a box in the foyer of the monthly coffee morning if you would like to drop items there. Please make sure any food items have a long shelf life so they will still be edible come July, thank you.

Any support no matter how big or small will be greatly appreciated and will go towards making this event a huge success for our community. As I'm sure you are aware this is a charity event, raising much needed funds for the village hall and parish church. Thank you in advance for your help!

Charlotte and the Hardington Street Fayre Committee.

Village at Home Coffee Morning Wednesday 12th March

This month we move to a new venue, namely Sunridge, the home of Laurence Payton. It will be found on the left up the High Street just above the old chapel. Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.30 to 12 noon. All are welcome for a good old chin wag. And who knows, you may even be invited to play a frame of snooker.

Pauline Grassam

The driveway at Sunridge is long and steep, with no wall or handrail for support. If you wish to come by car, there is plenty of room to park up by the house. Then, to avoid the steps up to the front door (again, with no handrail), please come through the gate in between the house and the garage, make your way onto the patio, and then come to the door just after, and facing, the conservatory. Laurence

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

I should like to remind everyone that our '100 Club' is due to start again in May. 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 together with more information in this month's Messenger. I do hope that you will consider joining for another year 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!

The February 100 Club winners were: 1st prize Pauline Grassam, 2nd prize Robert Halls and 3rd prize Malcolm White. Congratulations to you all! The next draw will take place at the hall on 5th March at 7.20pm and you are welcome to be present when the draw takes place.

Our next film 'Thelma' will be shown at the village hall on 20th March. 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. I hope that you will be able to come along, have some cake and a drink and enjoy the film whilst supporting the Village Hall at the same time.

Hall Expenditure: The six monthly check of our fire alarm system was completed by SES on 13th January. One of the emergency exit lights has had to be replaced and two of the radiators in the hall are in the course of being repaired. Our electricity bill for January 25 amounted to £1224.99.

We are still awaiting the result of our application for a lottery grant which will enable us to make other improvements to the hall.

Many thanks to Dy Catford for donating £268.30 from her January coffee morning to our Village Hall funds. Thank you also to everyone who helps support Dy in making her coffee mornings a success.

On 30th January, the Rotary Club of Yeovil presented a cheque to the Village Hall in the sum of £500.50 following the sale of their Community Christmas Draw raffle tickets. I should like to thank the Rotary Club for their hard work in supporting charities, as well as all those villagers who kindly sold and purchased tickets in order to support our hall.

Finally, our fiscal year ends on 31st March 25 and it follows that we start a new year on 1st April. We would love to have a few more Committee members on our team so please let me know if you would like to join us or need more information as to what this entails. At the moment we don't have any representative from the communities at Lyatts, Pendomer or the Hill End/Hardington Marsh areas.

Karen Dodge

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

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 29th March 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.

All profits from the coffee morning go towards running and maintaining the village hall, so thank you all for your continued support.

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.



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROYAL OAK...

Thursday 6th March.

QUIZ NIGHT

Join us for another fantastic quiz night. Teams of up to 6 people, £2 entry per person.

All the money raised will go to charity.

Thursday 13th March.

Curry Night

Come along to a Royal Oak curry night. A selection of homemade curries and sides with authentic flavours and spices.

Available to eat in or takeaway!

Thursday 20th March.

Live Music from Jordan Lindsay

Join us for an acoustic night with the incredible Jordan Lindsay. Enjoy a drink in the bar, grab some food and listen to the fantastic tunes from this wonderfully talented local musician.

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th March

MOTHERS DAY

Saturday 29th – Book in for Mother's Day afternoon tea between 3&5pm. The perfect little treat for those wonderful ladies in your life.

Sunday 30th – Book with the family for a roast dinner at The Oak and treat mum to a homecooked meal (that she hasn't had to cook!) We have three sittings – 12 noon, 1.45pm and 3.30pm. Bookings are being taken now.

01935 862354

www.royaloakhardington.co.uk

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The February Meeting...

Cllr Carpenter announced that Richard Beatson has had to resign due to personal reasons and thanked him for his time with the Parish Council.

An application for a new bungalow and a detached garage on Primrose Hill was discussed. There were no known objections from nearby properties and the Parish Council passed a resolution to support this proposal.

Recently, there have been several large delivery vehicles using the area of 'adopted Highway' on the track between North Lane and Moor Lane. Unfortunately, this is fine, until they reach the bridleway further along which is not suitable for vehicles!! As several vehicles became stuck and the path surface was damaged, Cllr carpenter agreed to contact Somerset Highways for a 'No Through Road' sign to be sited near the community field entrance which will hopefully help prevent this happening again.

The area of footpath between Moor Lane to the Village shop has become damaged due to recent floodwater and it is no longer accessible for wheelchair users. Cllr Carpenter has contacted the County Rights of Way team regarding this but has so far had no reply.

Chris Turner presented a long list of village potholes and other road surface issues. Aware of the SCC budgetary issues, he has undertaken to make a comprehensive list to send to Somerset Highways, so that they can be asked to prioritise the worst and give us an idea of when we may see some improvements! Many will have noticed the recent arrival of a magnificent Funeral Bier in the village hall. Made for Hardington in 1856, it was left to rot in a shed in Barry Lane until the PC 'rescued' it some years ago. ````We are very grateful to Karen Dodge for masterminding its restoration, but we now need to find a suitable place for storage/display to keep it for posterity!

A member of the local 'Toad Patrollers' group asked the Parish Council if they would be willing to purchase signs to warn vehicles of 'Toads crossing' as the current signs are not very weather proof. These signs would be used for Penn Lane and the High Street. The PC passed a resolution to fund these signs to help save as many frogs as possible!

The next scheduled meeting is at 7.30pm on the 18th March 2025 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: 07815 965113 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH. Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Church Services at St. Mary's, Hardington

Wed 5th	Ash Wednesday . Ashes & Evening Prayer.	7 pm
Sun. 11th	Holy Communion	11.00am
Sun. 16th.	Lent Lecture (Evening Prayer).	6.00pm
Sun. 25th	Family Service	10.30 am

Mothing Sunday March 30th all Mothers,Dads and Children are invited to Tea and Cake at 3pm. There will be flowers to give out to all Mothers.

Church Services at St Roch, Pendomer

Sun 11th	Family Service	9.45 am
Sun 18th	Holy Communion	9.15 am
Sun 25th	Family Service	9.45 am

Sunday 30th March Benefice Holy Communion All Saints Cloworth 10.am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR MARCH

Sat 1st.	Crewners _Concert, St Mary's Church.	7.00 pm
Wed 5th	Village Hall Draw and Committee Meeting, Village Hall.	7.20 pm
Fri 7th	World Day of Prayer, St Martin of Tours, W. Coker. Refreshments	2.30 pm
Tues 11th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30 pm
Wed 12th	Village Home Coffee Morning, Sunridge, High Street.	10.30-12noon
	W.I. Village Hall, Members Night. All welcome.	7.30 pm
Tues 18th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All welcome.	7.30 pm
Thur 20th	Hollywood in Hardington, Village Hall, All welcome	2.00pm and 7.30pm

MARCH 20th LAST DATE FOR APRIL MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardington.net

Tues 25th	Choir Practice, 7.30pm Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30 pm
Wed 26th	Garden Club, Village Hall, Ticket Only Evening.	7.30 pm
Sat. 29th	Village Hall Coffee Morning, All Welcome.	

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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.

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 above 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