

THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



PUBLISHED FOR THE HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

September 2011

Deadline for articles for the next edition 31st October 2011

SUMMARY OF FUTURE EVENTS

4 th Oct	WI, Indian Cookery, Hawkesbury Village Hall
13 th Oct	SSSG meeting *
15 th Oct	Horton Harvest Supper *
22 nd Oct	Horton Casino Evening*
30 th Oct	Horton Winter Bull Run, 11am from Village Hall *
1 st Nov	WI, Cracker Making etc, Hawkesbury Village Hall
4 th Nov	Horton Village Hall Bonfire Night fireworks
11 th Nov	Talk on history of Berkeley *
25/26 Nov	Hawkesbury's Horrible Histories *
26 th Nov	Horton Murder Mystery Play*
3 rd Dec	Horton Christmas Lunch *

* More information elsewhere in Newsletter

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Great progress is being made on the kitchen extension. Once it is finished it will be very much easier to cater for large groups as there will be much more room and better facilities too.

From 6th to 12th September the wooden ceiling of the hall is being redecorated. This is no easy task as the old varnish has to be sanded down and then the ceiling has to be coated with a special fire-resistant varnish. The team doing the work will also be redecorating the gents' toilets.

Once the work has been done, new fluorescent lights will be installed and eventually new, dimmable, uplighters will be fitted. The whole effect should be much nicer than it is at present.

As well as the work inside, repairs are going to be done on the outside roof, to prevent water coming in.

As you can see, a lot is going on in the next few weeks and of course it all costs money, so if you have any ideas for fund-raising activities, let us know!

Contact details for members of the Village Hall Committee are available on the website www.halsvh.org.uk. Also the website is useful for obtaining up-to-date information on local events and activities.

Peter Llewellyn (Secretary)

RECYCLING CARDBOARD

Paul Denton (Glen Cottage, 319889) has a stock of the new cardboard recycling bags issued by South Glos Council. They are similar to the plastic bottle recycling bags but are green instead. Contact Paul to pick up a bag and contribute to limiting the

NEWS FROM HORTON SCHOOL

What an amazing end to the school year we had with the production of Cinderella Rockerfella. The whole school sang and performed with such enthusiasm, to packed houses for both a matinee and evening performance. The confidence of the solo singers was much enhanced by the use of our new PA system (that includes radio microphones) kindly bought for us by the Friends of Horton School. We also benefited from the new staging in the Village Hall on which we managed to fit every child in school for the finale - thank you Village Hall Committee.



Year 6 Banner

In the last term of the year the children took part in a sports focus week which included our annual Sports Day, supported enthusiastically by parents and grandparents and even saw the rain holding off until just the last race! During sports week the children had experience of more unusual sports such as archery, tunnelling and climbing at Castle Quarry, Tytherington; also they took part in individual challenges to see who was fastest runner, most accurate thrower, the best hula-hooper, the skipper with the most stamina and the "keepie-uppy" champion of Horton!



Sports Day

The end of a school year is both a time for celebration of all the exciting things we have experienced and achieved and also a time for sadness as we see our Year 6 children move on to secondary school - this year our leavers have gone to various schools: Ben to KLB; Chloe G to Yate International Academy; Joachim to Hardenhuish and Chloe B, Casey, Mia, Max, Jasper, Tom M, Tom N all to Brimsham Green - we wish them all lots of success in their new schools. We also said goodbye to Juliet Richardson, one of our teachers who has gone on to become Deputy Head at Broadway Infants. Juliet had started her teaching career at Horton and has helped it become the outstanding school it is today - we wish her lots of success in her new school and know she goes there brimming with ideas built on the experiences she has had at Horton.

Don't worry if you have seen all sorts of strangely dressed creatures, birds, trees, fairies or woodland folk walking to/from school at the start of this term, carrying picnic lunches and teddy bears. It's our 'getting back to school' day and we begin this school year with a

amount of litter that blows about on waste collection days.

THE GREEN THING

In the queue at the shop, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologised to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day." The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment."

She was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery shop and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go a couple of hundred yards.

But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day. (It goes on .. Ed.)

HORTON CASINO EVENING

When the Village Hall Turns Into Vegas!

Saturday 22nd October 2011

Tickets £12, including starter gaming chips and a hot supper.

For more information and tickets contact Caroline Bannister (312277) or email boxoffice@halsvh.org.uk.

CHURCH SERVICES

Services take place as usual at Horton Church during September and October at 11.15 am. Services take place as usual at Little Sodbury Church at 6pm. There is a common Benefice Service on 30th October at St Adeline's, Little Sodbury at 10.30am.

Special services include:

Horton Church Harvest Service, Sunday 9th October at 11.15am;

St Adelines Harvest Service, Sunday 18th September at 11.30am, followed by a Ploughman's Lunch in the Church.

HARVEST SUPPER

The popular Harvest Supper will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th October, 7 for 7.30pm. Catering promises to be of the usual high standard. Proceeds will go to Church funds. Tickets, £14, are available from Tina Hildick-Smith (320380) and Pat Tily (319356).

COMING SOON

**Hawkesbury Theatrical Group present
HAWKESBURY'S
HORRIBLE HISTORIES**

On 25/26 November 2011 at Hawkesbury Village Hall at 7.30pm with a matinee on Saturday 25th.

Tables of 8 or individual seats: booking office 01454 238347. Ticket prices: Adults £7, children under 14, £3.

**HORRIBLE ENOUGH TO TAKE PART?
CALL 01454 238417**

Lots of fun for everyone

woodland-themed day. Weather permitting, there will be a tepee, camp fire, toasted marshmallows, totem pole design (the totem pole is being carved on Friday 9th September), woodland recipes being baked and messy natural art being created - should be lots of fun!

I would like to say a big thank you to all those of you who gave up your time to come along and share your experiences with us in connection with our study topics last year. Between September and December we are going to be studying woodlands - if you have any experience in managing woodlands; woodlands in other countries; an enthusiasm for woodland flora and fauna that you would like to share; skills in art linked to woodlands; cookery skills using natural ingredients; a knowledge of science study connected to woodlands...well, really, anything woodland orientated that you would be happy to come and share with us then we would love to hear from you - email jane.leo@southglos.gov.uk or call school on 01454 318834 and speak to Lesley our School Business Manager.

Jane Leo, Head of School

NEWS FROM HORTON COURT

We had a successful trial opening of Horton Court this summer. We opened for three hours a day, for eighteen days during July and August. During that time we had nearly two thousand visitors, and we believe that we have proved that there is an interest in the Court, and that based on this there will be a more formal seasonal opening next year. The cooperation of the Church, in providing tea and cakes, was much appreciated by visitors (as evidenced by their input via comment cards) and guides alike, and we hope that they will also be able to continue next year. We will be spending the winter analysing further this year's results, and preparing the ground for next year. I hope to be able to provide more detail of next year's plans for the next newsletter, and will continue with updates during the winter.

John Collin, Volunteer Coordinator Horton Court

VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT APPEAL

Many events at the Village Hall involve some degree of catering and this is likely to increase such as with the highly successful "dinner theatre" murder mystery evening held last winter. It was recognised that the kitchen space and facilities were inadequate to enable the preparation and serving of meals for the numbers of people at such gatherings. The Committee therefore decided to expand the kitchen area into the adjacent storeroom to provide a modern space for preparing food and the inevitable voluminous dishwashing that inevitably follows any catered event.



The new kitchen extension is shown in the diagram with this article and has involved forming a wide opening from the present kitchen, constructing new insulated wall linings and ceiling, a new window and a complete new safety floor covering the new and existing kitchen. Substantial electrical work has provided many new circuits for built-in and portable kitchen appliances. The heating and plumbing system has also been extended to provide services to new sinks and radiators. We are pleased to report that these works have now been substantially completed by and under the direction of Barry Cordy. The space is now ready for new stainless steel counters, sinks, shelving and commercial dishwasher all organised by Barbera Denton.

Although provision has been made in the electrical work, a number of items, such as a cooker hood and a hot cupboard, cannot be installed at this time because of budget limitations. The new extension, fitted with hygienic stainless steel, will contrast with the existing kitchen which is beginning to look a little "distressed", so there is a plan to upgrade this to the standard of the new extension.

HORTON MURDER MYSTERY PLAY

A second performance of the Murder Mystery play *Full Steam Ahead* will take place on Saturday 26th November. This will be performed by a well known local cast. A three course meal will be served between scenes.

More details to follow shortly. Tickets will be available from Monday 3rd October contact Caroline Banister on 312277 or on boxoffice@halsvh.org.uk

BURNING OFF THE POUNDS

There are a number of (fairly) local walking and running events in the next couple of months:

Kilcote Experience, the Hogweed Trotters annual Charity Day event with 5,7,12, 18 mile running routes from Beaufort Arms, Hawkesbury Upton on 25th September. For more information see the website www.hogweedtrotters.co.uk.

Where Ravens Dare, a walk/run with 15 ½ and 26 ½ mile routes in South Wales starting from Machen on 1st October. For more information see www.southwalesldwa.org/ravens/wrd.html

Tal y Bont Trial, a walk with 10 and 20 mile routes in the Black Mountains starting from Tal y Bont on 8th October. For more information see the website walk.to/nogs. Proceeds go to the Brecon Mountain Rescue Team.

The Winter Horton Bull Run, a multi-terrain run of c5 miles, is planned for 30th October. It starts from the Village Hall at 11am.

ANY OLD TOOLS?

Are you clearing out your shed or garage? Or even a sewing box for haberdashery items you no longer need or use? What about an old hand or treadle sewing machine or a knitting machine, (a complete one, that is)?

A charity regularly checks over all unwanted items (provided there is no woodworm in handles) and packs them off to East Africa.

They can use tools for electricians, plumbers, carpenters, leather workers, mechanics, car and cycle tools. Also, paraffin blow lamps, battery chargers, allen keys, grease guns, all saws, trolley jacks, small lathes, whetstones, tool belts, socket sets, rivetting tools, vices, builder's trowels, and garden tools but not anything for lawns.

Electric tools that are double insulated eg hand-held power saws, drills etc can be sent out. Medical equipment is excellent, too, but a phone call is needed to check this out, please. Tel: 01473 210220, or fax 01473 210293.

These items will go first to the Tools with a Mission HQ in Ipswich and then be shipped abroad. The delight and enthusiasm in the thank you letters coming back once the tools have arrived are wonderful. Sodbury Baptist Church is collecting anything you can offer at

As a means of funding for the kitchen, we are offering the opportunity to sponsor a tile which will form a top border to the tiles in the new kitchen. The idea is that each sponsor will provide a signature and a comment which will then be transferred permanently to a tile by a local ceramic artist. This is a *once in a lifetime opportunity* to have your name and generosity recorded for future generations of villagers at only £25 per tile.

We do hope there will be a good response to this and potential sponsors are requested to contact any member of the Village Hall Committee. As an added incentive, there will be a formal opening ceremony of the new kitchen and all sponsors will be entered into a draw – the winner performing the cutting of the ribbon which will be filmed and flashed around the world on “You Tube”. Don't miss out!!!

A TALK ON “BERKELEY - A TOWN THAT CHANGED THE WORLD”

For a small Gloucestershire town, Berkeley has had a huge influence on the World during its history, most notably through the Berkeley Family of Berkeley Castle and the town's most famous son, Dr Edward Jenner, who pioneered Immunology leading to the eradication of smallpox. The talk will explore the impact Berkeley has made on the global stage and how it is continuing to make its presence felt to this day.

The speaker, Tim Davies, runs Copper Phoenix, a heritage and marketing consultancy, and he has a genuine passion for history and heritage in all its forms. He has been employed in various roles in Berkeley since 2006, at both the Castle and the Edward Jenner Museum and has grown to appreciate the Gloucestershire town's historic importance. There are many historians who can give a more detailed account of Berkeley's past, but Tim hopes to simply provide an interesting and entertaining overview on a winter's night!

Horton and Little Sodbury History Group will be hosting this talk in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 11th November. Everyone is welcome to attend; light refreshments will be served. For further information contact Lynn Edwards, 01454 323 848, office@lenergy-assessor.co.uk.

THE SHERSTON MANGOLD HURL

From the mid-nineteenth century to just before the Second World War mangold hurling was one of the most popular sports amongst the villagers of north Wiltshire.

In our area, however, the events of the Alderton Altercation of October 1934 and the subsequent trials at Devizes Assizes the following May had a devastating effect as local landowners banned the sport from their fields and pastures. Only in Sherston did an ancient order of hurlers survive with their clandestine hurls keeping just one step ahead of the authorities. In recent years, restrictions on the sport have been lifted — at least in Sherston. Steadily the numbers enjoying the hurl have increased — with last year seeing those taking part approach well over seventy with an audience of over 300.

Members of the Sherston Order would dearly love to see teams from other local villages once again enjoy mangold hurling. So why not think about putting a team forward this year?

The event takes place on Sunday 2nd October from 12:00 noon to 18:00 at Sherston Village Hall and field. It also includes music, stalls, a bar, a barbeque, teas and so on. Entry and car parking are free. For more information contact Margot Holland on 01666 841019 or email mplholland@btinternet.com.

SURVEY ON FUTURE OF YATE MINOR INJURIES UNIT

The Primary Care Trust is asking residents about the current opening times of the Yate Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) and X-ray service at the Yate West Gate Centre so that they can ensure that they are meeting the needs of local people.

Since the Yate MIU opened in June last year the unit has exceeded the number of attendances that we originally anticipated and satisfaction levels are very high. The Yate MIU is currently open **between Monday – Friday 8.30 am – 7.30pm and Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays between 10am – 2pm.**

Over the past year, the X-ray service that runs alongside the MIU has mainly taken referrals from local GPs and is well used during the normal working week. However, in the out-of-hours service during evenings and weekends (after 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am – 2pm Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays) very few patients used the service.

At the end of June 2011, NHS South Gloucestershire and North Bristol NHS Trust took the decision to suspend the evening and weekend X-ray service and to review the opening hours that this service and the MIU operate.

Your views are very important to help shape these services so that they can ensure that they are meeting local people's needs and making the best use of NHS resources. To this end a survey is being conducted within the local community. The survey will run from **Monday 1st August until Friday 30 September, 2011.** A survey questionnaire is available online at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/yate.

the end of September. Office phone : 01454 313023 and you can try Jenny and Peter Llewellyn too on 318442.

WI EVENTS

For further information on WI events contact Lyn Edwards on 323848 or office@lenergy-assessor.co.uk.

HORTON CHRISTMAS LUNCH

I know it's too early to think about **Christmas**, but Santa and his elves *have* to!

By popular demand, we are returning to the Chipping Sodbury Golf Club. So make a note in your diary for Saturday 3rd December 2011!

The three-course dinner will again be £22.95 per person. Numbers are limited, so book your place early. Contact caroline Bannister via caroline@bannistersfamily.co.uk

MISCELLANEOUS SMALL ADVERTS

Delicious Dorset Down Lamb

Our half lamb packs are now available at £70.00. The meat is fully jointed and labelled by Artingstall's Butchers in Chipping Sodbury. Packs include shoulder and leg joints, loin chops, chump chops, breast, kidney, liver and mince. The lambs are reared completely naturally – as near to organic as you can get! First come - first served! For more information or to order, please contact us on 01454 318002 or email pearce@widdenhill.freereserve.co.uk.

Jenny & Simon Pearce

Mahogany Dining Table Set

An oval mahogany dining table (reproduction) with six chairs, extending to accommodate 8 people, for sale £200. Contact Mrs B A Stafford, Hillcrest, 01454 324094

Hog Roast and BBQs

Thinking of having a party, wedding or celebration? Why not consider a locally reared hog roast or BBQ? All our meat has been reared in your village, which we believe is the secret to producing top quality meat. You can feed approximately 100-120 people for just £600. For more information please contact Phillip Dolman 07866 910447 or via www.dolmanscatering.co.uk.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEWSLETTER

To be sure of receiving future copies of the newsletter please notify the Editor of your email address if you have not received this newsletter by email.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions.

News items should be sent to: newsletter@hortonandlittlesodburyvillagehall.org.uk

or call 324356.

Richard Winsborrow

Note: Unless explicitly indicated the contents of the newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Village Hall Committee, the Editor of the Village Newsletter or anyone else associated with its production.

Alternatively paper copies of the questionnaire should be available in the local libraries.

If you wish to be kept informed about the results of this questionnaire, you can contact Sue Pratt, Communications Manager at NHS South Gloucestershire, on 0117 330 2499 or email Sue.Pratt@sglos-pct.nhs.uk

If you need further information or survey forms, please let me know.

Cllr Sue Hope 01454 238673

UPDATE OF THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS

The annual process of updating the register of electors is now under way. The ways of making your input are: via the internet, text message, phone or post. More and more South Gloucestershire residents are registering to vote online, by phone or text. So far, 33,000 of you have registered in this way.

And with the annual process starting this month, you could also save time by registering online. Councillor John Goddard, Executive Member for Corporate Affairs, thanked residents who have already embraced this technology. He said: "In 2010, only our second year of using on-line, telephone and text registration services, a massive 33,000 households – that's 30% - confirmed their household registration this way. Wednesdays are far and away the most popular day to use these services with a third of electors making their return on this day of the week."

109,000 households will be receiving their electoral registration forms over the next few weeks, and I would encourage electors to try out the new registration methods wherever possible. Remember the services are available 24/7 not just Wednesdays!

Anne Bradbury, SGC

NEXT MEETING OF SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITY GROUP

**Do you care about your community?
Do you want to be heard and get things done?**

Then why not come along to the next Safer Stronger Community Group (SSCG) meeting for your area? SSCGs influence how services are delivered locally, establish longer-term plans to improve areas, help prevent future problems, and deal with current local issues.

The meetings are also attended by partner agencies, including South Gloucestershire Council, Avon and Somerset Police, Avon Fire and Rescue Service, NHS South Gloucestershire, Town and Parish Councils and other local organisations.

Some of the issues raised and tackled have included creating positive activities for young people, anti-social behaviour, school crossing concerns, speeding and parking. Community grants through the Safer Stronger Communities Initiative Fund have helped support initiatives raised at the meetings, such as Community Speedwatch groups, community garden work, youth engagement activities, park improvements, activities for older people, and equipment for walking buses to schools.

The next meeting for the Chipping Sodbury and the Cotswold Edge Group is: Thursday 13th October, 7.30pm at Hawkesbury Primary School, High Street, Hawkesbury Upton, GL9 1AU.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, or would like to read more about the work of your local group, each group has its own e-group page at groups.southglos.gov.uk. You can also become a member of the e-group which will ensure you receive the minutes and agendas directly via email. Alternatively, you can speak to a member of the Safer Stronger Communities Team on 01454 864625, or email directly to sscg@southglos.gov.uk.

And Finally

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PAT TILY

I would like to thank everyone for their help and support throughout Pete's illness and since. Also I would like to share with you the following poem which really summed up our thoughts over the years.

<i>Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better To paint a picture, or write a letter, Bake a cake, or plant a seed; Ponder the difference between want and need?</i>	<i>Dust if you must, but the world's out there With the sun in your eyes, and the wind in your hair; A flutter of snow, a shower of rain, This day will not come round again.</i>
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<i>Dust if you must, but there's not much time, With rivers to swim, and mountains to climb; Music to hear, and books to read; Friends to cherish, and life to lead.</i>	<i>Dust if you must, but bear in mind, Old age will come and it's not kind. And when you go (and go you must) You, yourself, will make more dust.</i>
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We used to miss out the last verse even though it's so true.