

# THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



PUBLISHED FOR THE HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

January 2013

Deadline for articles for the next edition 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	WI Talk – The Silk Road to Mongolia – Caron Gay Hawkesbury Upton VH
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Quiz Night – VH, 7.30pm *
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Burns Night – VH, 7.30pm *
29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Annual Skittles Match *
5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	WI Talk – Osteopathy Louise Owen – HU VH
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Quiz Night – VH, 7.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	WI talk – Losing the Plot Fiona Warin – HU VH
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mothering Sunday, Afternoon Tea – VH, 3pm *
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Quiz Night – VH, 7.30pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Spring Bull Run – VH
27 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Barn Dance - VH

\* More information elsewhere in Newsletter

**Note:** See the Village Hall web site [www.halsvh.org.uk](http://www.halsvh.org.uk) for a full list of future events.

## HORTON AND HAWKESBURY WI

Our regular monthly meetings take place at 7.30pm at Hawkesbury Village Hall - however we do a lot more besides this! We have a walking group which meets the third Tuesday of each month and a book group which meets the second Tuesday of each month, we often have craft workshops and there are outings to the cinema most months.

Visitors are always welcome so if you would like to find out more do come along. If you don't want to go on your own then get in touch, there are several of us from Horton who are members and who get together to share lifts (For more information contact Lynn Edwards on 07973 166692 or view the website for the local group [www.hawkesburyandhortonwi.org.uk](http://www.hawkesburyandhortonwi.org.uk).)

Lynn Edwards

## CHURCH NEWS

Services take place as usual at Horton Church and Little Sodbury Church during January and February at 11.15 am and 6pm respectively.

## FOR SALE

### Ski Jacket & Gloves

Brand New men's ski-jacket size 46 (from Lidl) waterproof, windproof, taped seams, snow-belt, mid-blue, never been worn, tags still attached. Complete with ski-gloves, medium size, also brand-new and unworn. Surplus to requirements! £25 jacket and gloves. Available to try on by appointment – tel Caroline 312277

## NEWS ROUND-UP

### Closure of Hatters Lane

The campaign against the closure won the day and the Lane will remain open. The debate was a close thing though, which seemed to pit political allegiances against practical decision making, but the outcome eventually supported the view of the majority in attendance.

Despite the opposing views, both supporters and opponents of the closure are now working together to identify some simple action that may be taken to alleviate the safety concerns of local residents – just the way these things should work!

[http://www.gazetteseries.co.uk/news/localnews/yateandsodburynews/10076573.Victory\\_for\\_campaigners\\_as\\_Hatters\\_Lane\\_remains\\_open/](http://www.gazetteseries.co.uk/news/localnews/yateandsodburynews/10076573.Victory_for_campaigners_as_Hatters_Lane_remains_open/)

May I thank those who took the time to contact me after the recent posting and those who joined the 50 or so packing the public gallery at the Council.

Pete Adams

### Village Christmas Dinner

In a change from the norm, the Christmas Celebration was held in the Village Hall instead of an outside venue. The hall looked super, decorated with lights, a tree and the glitter balls, thanks to George and Ian. Barbera and Carol made a terrific job of creating a festive atmosphere, with place mats and table decorations, shown to advantage on the new tablecloths. Santa's little helpers, Catherine and Pat, were on hand to lay up and move the tables back and forth until the desired layout was achieved! The caterer, Niki, and her team made a good job of serving good food to 65 people and all that remains is to decide whether this format is preferred over the outside venue option, so any views would be welcome. Please either contact me directly or via the newsletter email address.

*2012 is over, onto 2013!*

Caroline Bannister

### New Year's Eve Party

A New Year's Eve party was held in the village hall and was attended by a full spectrum of people from playgroup members through to what can politely be termed the "Grandeers" of the village. Once again, revellers were invited to bring their own food and looking around the Village Hall it could be concluded that Horton reflects the nation as a whole in that chicken curry, in one form or another, is still the dish of choice for many people.

The intention was to transform the Village Hall into a local pub "The Bull" for one evening. The jury's still out on whether people were convinced by the illusion, despite a hand painted sign by Barbera Denton and the availability of a pool table and an (electronic) darts board. Perhaps a giant plasma TV screening the Sky Sports channel on full volume would have captured the true pub ambience. Nevertheless, the drink prices coupled with the efficiency and friendliness of the bar team under David Bannister definitely eclipsed that of any pub.

Although a cabaret was not staged this year, the tradition of Horton Woman and Man of the Year was maintained. For her tireless work as Churchwarden and organiser of many Church events and fundraising drives, Tina Hildick-Smith was deservedly named as Woman of the Year to tumultuous applause. A bewildered George Hammersley was called up to accept Man of the Year. He seemed overwhelmed and speechless, as well he might, to be following in the footsteps of such giants as Barry Cordy, Rex Isaac and Bert Gough.

Towards midnight, a small party of the bell ringing fraternity "peeled off" to give the now traditional 14 rings at midnight followed by rounds on the Horton church bells. Sadly, it seemed that the key to the bell tower was not in its usual key holder and a torchlight search in the nooks and crannies around where the key is kept did not bear fruit. Because of this, the bells remained silent, to the disappointment of many but no doubt to the relief of a few! In a twist to this story, the key surprisingly turned up the next morning on the floor in front of the key holder. If anyone can shed light on this mystery, please contact any member of the Horton Bell ringers – anonymity is assured of course.

On New Year's Day morning, a hardy group undertook a 5 mile walk on the Bull Run route around Horton, starting and finishing at the village hall where on return, they were rewarded with gourmet quality bacon butties prepared by Tony Wake and Caroline Bannister. Fortunately, the bar was not drunk dry on the previous evening so there was an opportunity to further celebrate the start of 2013 in an appropriate but restrained manner.

### Table Tennis Table

Probably (!) an outdoor one although we have always kept it in the garage. It folds for storage. (No net or bats) Please ring Helen on 07799523722 if interested; **free to a good home**. To be collected from Little Sodbury End.

### Delicious Dorset Down Lamb

Our half lamb packs are available at £70.00. The lambs are reared completely naturally – as near to organic as you can get! 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. For more information or to order, please contact Jenny & Simon Pearce, Widdenhill Farm on 01454 318002 or email [pearce@widdenhill.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:pearce@widdenhill.freeserve.co.uk)

### 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. You can feed approximately 100-120 people for just £600. For more information please contact Phillip Dolman 07866 910447 or via [www.dolmancatering.co.uk](http://www.dolmancatering.co.uk).



#### BEAT THE POST CHRISTMAS BLUES!!

Come and join the Latin-inspired, easy-to-follo calorie-burning, dance fitness-party™. Feel the music and let loose!!!

#### Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall

Tuesday 6.30 - 7.15 pm

For more details contact:-

Andrea on 07970125353 or

[andrea.benson1@btinternet.com](mailto:andrea.benson1@btinternet.com)

### NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

This newsletter is distributed by email. The newsletter is also available on the Village Hall website. To be sure of getting future issues please forward your email address to the Newsletter Editor.

### CONTACTS

Contact details for members of the Village Hall Committee are available on the website [halsvh.org.uk](http://halsvh.org.uk).

For Village Hall bookings contact Emma Cordy-Rugman on 322879 or via the email address given on the website.

### NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions. News items should be sent to: [newsletter@halsvh.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@halsvh.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

Many people worked hard to make the event such a success including Barbera Denton, Lynne Hammersley, Tony Wake, Pat Gough, Carol Brodie, David Bannister, Jenny Febry, Dave Morgan, Mike Plows and others. Biggest thanks of all go to everyone who attended and for those who couldn't make it this year we hope you can come when we close the doors on 2013.

*From our undercover reporter.*

### Horton New Year's Honours List

**Gerald Ham** - for single-handedly (OK, maybe with the aid of *some* equipment!) making the ford at the start of Bushes Lane disappear - maybe forever. The Little Avon now runs through both pipes of the conduit under the main road and is rattling down a trench of Suez Canal proportions until it veers north-westerly across the fields. Hopefully it won't have caused any problems downstream as it flows past the village of Ham, near Berkeley, on its way to join the Severn.



Looking Up Bushes Lane Towards Horton Road

**Carol Brodie & Lynn Edwards** - for their efforts back in the summer (what summer?) to work a miracle and turn an extremely wet Walking Festival into one of the most successful fund-raising events ever for the Village Hall.

**George Hammersley** – for his unstintingly pursuing those responsible in his campaign to improve Horton's broadband provision.

Prepare your nominations during the coming year for Jan.2014!

MW

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### Horton Quiz Trilogy

The regular battle of minds will take place in three rounds over the coming months. You're good at Pub Quizzes, find general knowledge crosswords a walkover – my goodness we need you!

As usual these contests take place at the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm The dates for your diary are: 18<sup>th</sup> January , 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The entry price for a team is £5.

#### Annual Men's Skittle Match

The annual men's skittle match between Upper and Lower Horton will take place at the Horton Social Club on 29<sup>th</sup> January starting at 7.30pm.

Rex Isaac

#### Mothering Sunday Teas

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March [Mothering Sunday] is when afternoon teas will be served at the village hall. Do bring your mother and the rest of the family for afternoon tea to celebrate mother's special day Horton style. Further details will follow.

Carol Brodie

## **Burns Night At The Village Hall**

This event will take place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January at Horton Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30 for an 8pm start. There will be a bar, entertainment and a three course meal – rounded off with a single malt – in keeping with the occasion. And no event at the Village Hall would be complete without a raffle – so there will be one!

The menu for the evening will be as follows.

- Cock-a-leeky gruel
- Choice of Haggis, neaps & tatties or a veggie option
- Pudding
- Choice of coffee or tea.
- Single malt whisky

There are only 60 places available so book your tickets quickly. Tickets cost £15 per person. Profits will be split 50/50 between the Village Hall and a local charity. To book your tickets contact Bob Holloway on 01454 314 302 or via email [bob@woodlanedental.co.uk](mailto:bob@woodlanedental.co.uk). Bookings are cash only.

## **SECOND HORTON WALKING FESTIVAL**

This will take place on the last weekend of September 2013. Anyone interested in helping in any way with this event, including leading walks, please get in touch with either Lynn Edwards [office@lenergy-assessor.co.uk](mailto:office@lenergy-assessor.co.uk) or Carol Brodie [cbrosecottage@gmail.com](mailto:cbrosecottage@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

## **Safer and Stronger Community Groups**

Would you like to make your area a better place to live, work and play? Then why not get involved with your local Safer Stronger Community Group? It works with the Council, Town Council, Police, Fire & Rescue and Health Authority to do just that.

You can:

- come along to a meeting
- go on-line at: <http://groups.southglos.gov.uk>.
- call your Community Engagement Officer on 01454 864625
- email: [communityengagement@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@southglos.gov.uk)

*The next meeting for the Chipping Sodbury and the Cotswold Edge group is on Thursday 31st January 2013 7.30pm, Old Grammar School Rooms, Broad Street, Chipping Sodbury.*

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