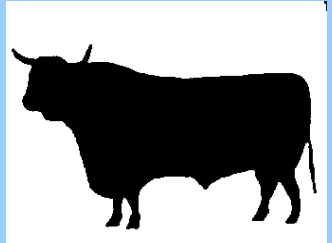


THE HORTON & LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED FOR THE HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE



Special points of

interest:

Village Hall 25th
Birthday
Celebrations

From the editor:-

Dear Readers,

We have a packed newsletter this month, thank you for all the articles that you have sent in.

Hope you enjoy this edition.

Happy reading!

Katherine

Dates for the diary...

Quiz trilogy:
Friday 27th March
Friday 24th April

Sunday 19th April 10.30am —Spring Bull Run (6k)

www.hortonbullrun.co.uk (see page 6 for more info)

Please check the website for updates between newsletters:-

<http://www.halsvh.org.uk/>

Horton's annual quiz trilogy - part 1

Friday 27 February saw the first in our annual quiz trilogy. The quizmaster was Paul Denton, who stretched our grey cells with a wide range of questions. One round even involved "identify the Pringle flavour" (with appropriate Pringle samples to assist our deliberations).

The result was a very close run thing, with a tie break between the 2 top teams.

The evening raised almost £200 for village hall funds.

The next quiz nights are on Friday 27 March and Friday 24 April at 7.30pm. We hope to see you there.

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

For any Parish Council issues please contact the Clerk to Horton Parish Council, Jo Baker, email Jo at:- india-jo_@excite.com

The Village Hall Celebrates its 25th birthday

On Sunday 22nd February the Village Hall Committee threw a tea party for the villagers to celebrate 25 years of the hall in its current incarnation. There has, in fact, been a hall there for over 80 years. The last one was wooden and burned down, so we built a new one which was officially opened in February 1990.

Pete Tily was the main driving force behind the rebuilding of the hall. His wife Pat cut our birthday cake. The cake was made by Carol Brodie and was iced by Lynn Edwards. The cake was just amazing - it was topped by a sugar paste model of the hall, complete with roof tiles!

Thank you to everyone made the party possible, to everyone who helped make the food, decorated the hall, donated raffle prizes or food, or helped serve the teas and drinks. And thank you to everyone who came to the party. The party raised over £400 for Village Hall funds.

Here's to the next 25 years!

The Village Hall Committee



Events from St James the Elder:- All services are held at 11:15am on Sundays

Sunday 15th March—Mothering Sunday at St James the Elder, Horton

Thursday 26th March - Horton School Easter Service at St James the Elder, Horton

EASTER SERVICES at Horton and the Benefice

Thursday 2nd April; MAUNDY THURSDAY- 'Eucharist of the Last Supper' at St James the Elder Horton at 7.30pm

Friday 3rd April; GOOD FRIDAY - 'Ecumenical Walk of Witness' starting at Yate Shopping Centre at 10.30am and finishing at the War Memorial, Chipping Sodbury at 11.30pm.

'Service of Reflection' at Old Sodbury at 12.00 noon.

'Liturgy of the Cross' at St John's, Chipping Sodbury at 2.00pm.

Saturday 4th April - 'Easter Vigil' at St Adelines, Little Sodbury at 8.00am

Easter Sunday - 'Holy Communion' at St James the Elder, Horton at 11.15am

There are Easter Services at all the other Churches in the Benefice at different times which are available from the Benefice web site svbcofe.org.uk





LOCAL HISTORY GROUP NEWS

Some of you new to the village may not be familiar with our group's activities. In the past we have done a lot of research about Horton's history, as shown in the Village Hall panels. This continues when new material emerges, but also we arrange talks and enjoy trips locally and further afield, which inevitably include a good lunch! Here are a couple of these from last year's programme, to give you a flavour of what we do. You are welcome to join us as guests on odd events, whether or not you decide to join our group.

In April we ventured to London to see *H.M.S. Belfast* and the *Cutty Sark*. We started at London Bridge, the site of the recently completed office, residential and hotel complex called 'The Shard', the tallest building in Western Europe. We then walked along the embankment to HMS Belfast. She was built by Harland and Wolff, in Belfast in 1936, launched in 1938 and commissioned on 5th August 1939. She was one of the largest and most powerful Light Cruisers ever built. Her main role was supporting arctic convoys and she was involved in the sinking of the German Battle Cruiser 'Scharnhorst'. In 1945 she supported the D-Day Landing for five weeks and is purported to have fired the first salvos of the invasion. She later did service in the Korean War from 1950 to 1952 and was eventually retired from service in 1963.

We then had an enjoyable lunch next to The Globe Theatre and proceeded by tube to Greenwich.

The Cutty Sark exhibition reopened in April 2012 following a devastating fire, beginning a new chapter in the extraordinary life of the last surviving tea clipper, the fastest and greatest of her time. She is a living testimony to the bygone, glorious

days of sail and, most importantly, a monument to those that lost their lives in the merchant service. She is now suspended above the dry dock and besides venturing aboard you can now walk beneath one of the world's most famous ships; walk along the decks in the footsteps of the merchant seamen who sailed her over a century ago; explore the hold where precious cargo was stored on those epic voyages, then marvel as you balance a 963-tonne national treasure on just one hand! In July we went to *Nailsworth Mills*. We started our day at the weaving shed at Gigg Mill, just outside Nailsworth, with a very informative morning about the history of weaving in the area. Our hosts, who were real enthusiasts from the Stroudwater Textile Trust, demonstrated the historic and modern looms in the shed, including a 1830s handloom which incorporates one of the earliest innovations aimed at automating the weaving process. Further innovation since then has led to faster and faster weaving: speeds today are almost unbelievable. To give us a real feel for warp and weft, our hosts let us have a go ourselves and we turned out some very fetching patterns (without the aid of automation) on an eight-heddle handloom.

After a good lunch at Egypt Mill and a talk around its water wheel, we headed off to Dunkirk Mills, some of us by walking along the cycle trail. Here we saw the massive water wheel at work, the fulling stocks where the cloth was cleaned and beaten and a display of very fine cloth, some of it still made near Stroud and used on billiard tables and tennis balls. The day finished with a stroll back to Egypt Mill, this time via the string of privately owned ponds, which kept the millstreams supplied with water and are now a haven for wildlife. We had learned an enormous

amount about weaving and the history of this ancient industry in our area.

We are finalising this year's event list. Watch out for it in the next Newsletter. For membership details, contact Betty Iles: 01454-317408



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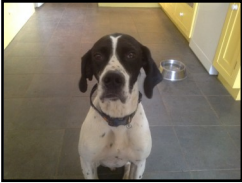
**Mrs B.A. Stafford Tel:
01454 324094**

Advance notice of an event at Chipping Sodbury Festival

Date for your diary:- Saturday June 13th, 7.30pm at Sodbury Town Hall. 'From Captivity to a Castle'

Tom Hart-Dyke (who has a famous sister) will return to tell us about being kidnapped while plant-hunting, and the subsequent result of a wonderful garden at his family home at Lullingstone, Kent. True story, but also real entertainment!

See the website which is still in the process of being completed :- chippingsodburyfestival.co.uk for all the other events planned from June 12th-21st.



Let me introduce myself - my name is Turner and I have just come to live with Jacki and David Hebblethwaite at Bushes Lane House. I am a rescue dog from English Pointer Rescue and my background is that of a working dog. I

am only 4 years old but my falconer owners decided that I wasn't quite up to the job so I was turned out.

Not being a pet, I have had a busy time getting to know people and learning to live in a real home.

I live with a dopey old retriever but we get on quite well. I like the fields around here and apologies if I come into your garden - just sniffing it all out.

Like all English Pointers, I'm happiest either running or sleeping by the Aga.

Hope to see you all around.



Would you like to raise money for your favourite charity whilst getting fit and having fun?

Entries for the 4th annual Hawkesbury 5K Run open on **1st March 2015**. Visit our website www.hu5k.org to enter and pay online or download an entry form. You can also download a sponsorship form to raise money for a charity of your choice.

Whether you are a regular runner, a beginner, or a family that want to get fit together we have something for everyone. Not run before but would like to take part or feeling a bit rusty and need some additional motivation? Visit www.nhs.uk/livewell/c25k/pages/couch-to-5K.aspx where you will find a 9 week training plan along with podcasts that you can download to give you your own personal trainer and some motivational music to train to.

Want to walk it? We'd love to see you too!

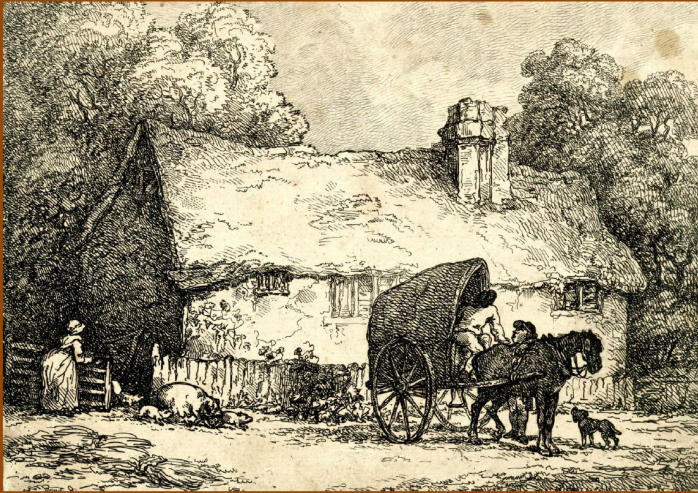
hu5k gets more popular each year and with this year's entries capped at 300 we recommend registering early, so book your place for **Saturday 20th June 2015** and come and join in the fun.

For more information, visit our website: www.hu5k.org, call Vicki Parker on 07824 640540, or email vicki.parker@ezek.com. HU5K is organised by Hawkesbury Primary School PTA, so all funds raised go to our village school.

A big thank you to the Hawkesbury Writers Group for their generous donation of £50. Additional corporate event sponsors are also needed – if you think you can help, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

WILD WEST?

The Wickwar Gang



In the summer of 1826, the local and national press were thrilled by the story of the Wickwar Gang, a group of 'banditts' who had terrorised South Gloucestershire for more than seven years. ROSE WALLIS, Senior Lecturer in British Social History at UWE, will tell us their story...

at **HORTON VILLAGE HALL**

7.30PM Thursday 19th March

Entrance £3 * Refreshments

The gang had robbed farmers from Wotton to Sodbury, secreting their booty in a 'subterranean cave'. On their capture, rumours abound connecting these miscreants with 'many a tale of terror and blood'.

Drawing on research conducted for the Victoria County History of Gloucestershire, this talk offers a new take on the Wickwar Gang; unpacking their story and considering the relationship between the landscape, communities, crime, poverty, and policing.

Rose Wallis is a Senior Lecturer in British Social History at the University of the West of England and a contributing editor to the Victoria County History of Gloucestershire (VCH). Rose specialises in historical perspectives on crime, protest and local authority, and is currently working on new histories of Yate and the Sodburys for the VCH.

We hope this arouses your interest! **Horton Local History Group tel. 01454 314436**



DON'T MAKE A DRAMA OUT OF A CRISIS!

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www.hortonbullrun.co.uk

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 www.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.

Items for inclusion in the newsletter should be sent to: newsletter@halsvh.org.uk.

Katherine Standerwick

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