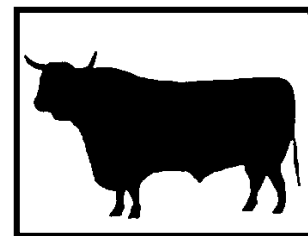


HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Edited by Horton and Little Sodbury Village Hall Committee
Further information of events and news on www.halsvh.org.uk



June 2025

Please send items for next newsletter by 21st July 2025 to newsletter@halsvh.org.uk

Editorial

It's said that nothing happens in a quiet village ... and yet, here we are with another jam-packed newsletter. From fun runs to singalongs, from workshops to golf days, beer festivals to chamber music - life in Horton is anything but dull. So pop the kettle on, settle in, and enjoy a little slice of Horton life.

If you have anything you would like included in the next newsletter ... from the school, from the church, from the Social Club, from local organisations and clubs, from anything happening in the village, then please let us know by 21st July 2025 – e-mails sent to newsletter@halsvh.org.uk

Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

Here is a list of what will be happening in and around Horton & Little Sodbury in the next few months
You can find out more details when you keep reading this publication.

Bingo Night @ Horton Social Club
Horton School Sports Day @ HVH
The Horton Garden Golf Day @ HVH
Feria Chamber Ensemble Summer Concert @ HVH
Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM @ HVH
Horton School Summer Play @ HVH
Horton School End of Summer Party @ HVH
Horton Beer Fest @ Horton Social Club
H&H W.I Coffee Morning @ Hawkesbury Upton
The Impossible Bomb –talk by Gareth Williams @ HVH
Cheese & Wine evening + Quiz @ HVH

Fri 6th June, eyes down at 8:30pm
Tue 17th June
Sun 29th June, starting at 2pm
Sun 6th July, doors open at 2:30pm
Tue 8th July, starting at 7:30pm
Thu 10th July, starting at 5:30pm
Fri 18th July
Fri 15th to Sun 17th Aug
Sat 30th August, starting at 10am
Sun 21st September, starting at 3pm
Fri 12th Dec – more details in next newsletter

Boxercise classes are every Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm at Village Hall.

Pilates classes starting again – see below or contact Sue Webb on sue@coreandmore.co.uk.

Zumba classes starting again – contact andrea.benson1@btinternet.com to express interest.

What's in the Diary in detail

Things happening at the Social club

Bingo Night at the Social Club

Get your dibbers out !!

Friday night is Bingo Night at Horton Social Club on Friday 6th June. Eyes down at 8:30pm

Fri 6th June @ Horton Social Club



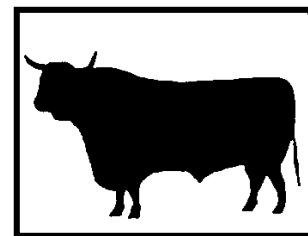
Horton Beer Festival

Fri 15th to Sun 17th August @ Horton Social Club

Yes, it's that time of year again. The annual Horton Beer Festival will be flowing from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th August at the Horton Social Club. There will be guest real ale, ciders, live music and hot food served every night. Open from 1pm all 3 days.

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Horton Garden Golf Day

Sun 29th June @ Horton Village Hall



This is exciting. For those with a good memory for village history, we are bringing back the Horton Garden Golf Day. Basically, you go to various houses in Horton, and you play golf (although strictly speaking, you just putt).

Tee-off from 2-3pm at the Village Hall where you will be given a map showing participating gardens and instructions. Return to the Hall for tea and delicious cake.

Winner is the one who plays the most holes with the least number of strokes. No need to book, just turn up!

Entry: £5 per adult and £12 per family (up to 2 adults and up to 3 children).

And just in case you are wondering, each venue will be providing golf clubs ☺

(Ed – If you don't fancy golf, just come to the Village Hall for tea and cake!)

Feria Chamber Ensemble Summer Concert **Sun 6th July 2025 @ Horton Village Hall**



Now ... you may have seen this previously as "The Carnival of the Animals Concert". Well, it has morphed !!

At 3.15pm on Sunday 6 July 2025, the acclaimed Feria Chamber Ensemble (including our very own Mike Lea-Wilson on French horn) will be coming to Horton for a family-friendly afternoon of light classical music.

The centrepiece of the concert will be Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals, a joyful and playful favourite featuring virtuoso piano soloists You-Chiung Lin and Stephan Dorré. The animals will be brought to life through poems written and performed by Dominic Lopez-Real. The concert will also feature Fauré's beautiful Pavane, Debussy's enchanting Syrinx, along with works by Bartok and some jazz pieces!

Set in our stunning village surroundings, this promises to be a magical afternoon of music - one not to be missed! And, as with all our events, the bar will be open, and there will be tea and cake available too

Door time: 2:30pm, start time: 3:15pm; tickets are £16.50 adult/£11 under 16s (inc booking fee), and are available via <https://wegottickets.com/event/660292>

Queries: contact chairman@halsvh.org.uk, tel 07711 672007

(Ed – This is going to be huge, in all senses of the word – so please book your tickets now.)

Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM

Tue 8th July @ Horton Village Hall

A definite date for your diary. ☺

The Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM is being held on Tuesday 8th July at the village hall. This provides a great opportunity to hear what has been achieved at the hall this year, and your chance to offer suggestions as to what can happen in the future. All welcome. See you there.

(Ed – and don't worry – attendance doesn't mean that you are automatically co-opted onto the committee ☺.)

The Impossible Bomb – talk by Gareth Williams **Sun 21st Sept @ Horton Village Hall**

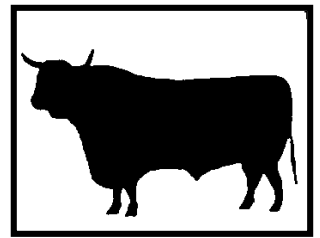
Six brilliant physicists: two Nobel prizewinners, three Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany and a hot-tempered Australian. You probably won't know their names, but they changed the course of history. Without them, the Manhattan Project and Los Alamos would never have happened and no atomic bombs could have been built during the Second World War.

Piqued your interest ? What to know more ?? In which case, please come to Horton Village Hall on Sunday 21st September at 3pm to hear Gareth Williams talk about the remarkable story of the top-secret British nuclear programme, set up in 1940 and codenamed 'Tube Alloys'.

(Ed – This sounds amazing. More details in the next newsletter.)

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What's been happening

Horton Spring Bull Run



The Horton Spring Bull Run took place on Sunday 27th April, when more than 110 runners took to the streets and surrounding countryside of Horton. All the runners and their supporters had an amazing time in the sunshine, with the first runner completing the 4.26 mile course in just over 24 minutes.

Many congratulations to all involved in the organising of the event and also to the runners.

VE Day at Horton Village Hall

This is what Horton does so well !

Many turned up to Horton Village Hall on Thursday 8th May to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. There was lots of tea and cake, and the Horton Church Choir led the singalong of wartime favourites as we remembered this historic day. Many congratulations to all involved in the organising of the event.

(Ed – well done everyone ... and an amazing £300 was raised for charity)



Seagrass Footstool Weaving - One-Day Workshop

Alison Barlow writes :

Three village crafters attended the one-day course held at the hall on Saturday 17th May and had a most enjoyable day learning how to weave the seat of a footstool. We returned home tired & weary clutching our handiwork. A huge thank you to Fliss of 'Felicity Fran Upholstery' who says "You absolutely nailed the technique and it was quite relaxing for me to be able to take a bit of a 'standing back' approach." Whoop whoop ladies!!!

I would thoroughly recommend this workshop - it was friendly, relaxed and informative. Felicity was also supporting two ladies who were working on their own chair and stool and they too were very pleased with the finished results.

A great day.

For booking, email Fliss directly: felicity.tran@outlook.com



First Aid course

There was a First Aid course covering Emergency First Aid At Work that ran at Horton Village Hall on April 16th. The attendees received a certificate valid for 3 years.

Katharine Lea-Wilson writes:

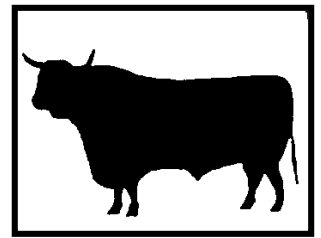
A group of 12 villagers assembled at the Village Hall just before Easter for a whole day of First Aid training. At the end of the day we took a test and were each awarded a certificate for Emergency First Aid at Work.

The trainer was excellent and kept us engaged, enthused and (sometimes literally) on our toes. We were also fuelled by tea and cake. One student wondered whether the trainer had a side-line as a stand-up comedian as her delivery was so good.

We learned all sorts of skills such as what a first aid kit should contain, how to assess the situation and the casualty when you are called to assist, how to do CPR, how to use a defib, how to place a patient in the recovery position, how to deal with wounds, choking, bleeding, bandaging, applying a sling and how to bandage someone's head. There was lots of opportunity to practise our skills on each other (in the case of bandaging, assessing a casualty and putting them in the recovery position).



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We used resus dummies to practise CPR and realistic but non-functioning demo defibs to show us how those work. People had various reasons why they were on the course - several of us from the Village Hall Committee thought it might be useful for us to have some first aid training, whilst others needed basic first aid skills for their work. Someone else wanted to learn about first aid before becoming a grandfather for the first time.

The trainer was so good that one person who did the course has already booked her again to present the course to a group of horse owners.

The course was oversubscribed, so we are thinking of running it again if there is sufficient interest. Please contact chairman@halsvh.org.uk if you would be interested in attending.

What's happening elsewhere

Church News

Update from St James' Church, Horton

The PCC writes :-

We have enjoyed a lovely Easter service, bells, choir singing an anthem and of course refreshments. Also the church has had two weddings, many congratulations to both couples.

Now that we are close to half way through the year, we are looking forward to Church Teas starting on 28th June and then every Saturday through to 2nd August. Doors open at 12.00 noon with "last orders" at 4.00pm. In addition we will providing refreshments on 20th September 10.00 till 4.00 and 21st September (after the service) 12.30 - 4.00 to support the National Trust with their open days at the Court. All welcome.

We recently held our annual meetings for parishioners and the PCC. Pleased to report that Tina Hildick-Smith has agreed to continue as Church Warden and the remainder of the PCC unchanged. However our secretary Richard Winsborrow has expressed his wish to stand down in 12 months time. Richard has carried out his duties for the past 15 years, for which we are eternally grateful. We will obviously need to replace Richard, so advanced notice that should anyone like to take on this role in 12 months' time, please come forward. If you want to know what the role entails please talk to anyone of the PCC and we will arrange a meeting with Richard for this to be discussed.

Pleased to report that our attendance for regular Sunday services has slightly increased over the past 12 months. This is due, in part, to visitors staying at the Court who come and join our worship and after service refreshments!

We are still looking for a volunteer to tackle the National Lottery grant application to fund our roof repairs. This is not an easy job, but we are certain there is someone in the village (or close by) that could help us.

Thanks go to all the people who make our Church so welcoming, what a team we have!..

Update from St Adeline's Church

Brenda Cordy & Linda Hurst write :-

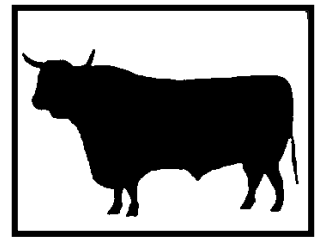
- The annual Church Council Meeting has taken place in St Adeline's and Brenda Cordy and Linda Hurst have been re-elected as Churchwardens.
- We have received a visit from members of the Diocesan Advisory and a Buildings Adviser to look at the essential repairs and installation of WC facilities at the church.

Whilst they were there they commented favourably that the churchyard was an old fashioned burial ground, full of snowdrops, crocus, primroses, cowslips and bluebells, and that the grass wasn't mowed to an inch of its life.

They were also pleased that we observe 'No Mow May', although we intend to have a churchyard working party in June to clear some of the debris and tidy things up.

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- Our thanks go to Dave Ferris who very kindly locks the church in the evening and unlocks again in the morning. We regret having to do this but after a very unpleasant incident we were advised by the police to lock the church at night.

Church Wardens
Brenda and Linda.

School news

Update from Horton School

Catherine Coster (Governor) writes :

Sadly this term we say goodbye to our headteacher Mrs Nicola Berry who is retiring after 17 years as our executive headteacher. Mrs Berry has been such an inspirational and effective headteacher of our two federated schools and has been particularly concerned to maintain the caring ethos of our village school. Here the children thrive in a happy community and benefit from a stimulating curriculum, individual support where it is needed, a variety of after school clubs and Forest School which they particularly enjoy. This term there was a visit to the Hippodrome in Bristol where the children enjoyed a production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat"



At Easter the children led a service at the Church where they shared the Easter story with parents, grandparents and visitors in a thoughtful and moving way and with some inspiring singing. Ofsted have also paid a visit and we eagerly await the written report due any day now. The Bishop's visitor also came to the school and in his letter, spoke in glowing terms about the school.

"I was taken around this small but beautiful School by the Headteacher, Nicola Berry. To say this school is good, is an understatement, it is beautiful and rich in its academic learning and the Christian message is everywhere to be seen all-around the school. All the children are integrated so well; it is a pleasure to see.

The children are very respectful to each other and to all the adults and there is a general feeling of calm and warmth. This doesn't mean that there isn't excitement, in fact there is. In each classroom there was a palpable excitement of learning which was fabulous to experience. Clearly the children love their school and it was beautiful to see. There is so much to say about this school which is so good, that picking out a few highlights has been very difficult.

This is truly a very special Church School which in every possible way conveys the love of God. Thank you so much to all the staff for the welcome shown to me and especially the Head Teacher Nicola Berry, who by her inspiration has led this school to a very enviable place."

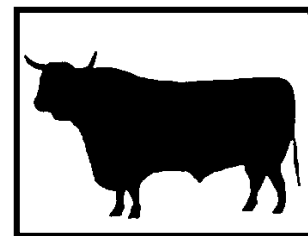
In September we look forward to welcoming Mr Dean Hudd as our new headteacher

Dates for your diary from Horton School

- 17th June Sports day at village hall (reserve day 1st Jul). Cake stall and refreshments for sale.
- 10th July School Summer Play at village hall 5.30pm start time (or 8th for dress rehearsal afternoon)
- 18th July End of summer /Yr 6 Leavers Party (fun rides and food available for sale)

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Hawkesbury Upton Village Hall news and events

If you want to know more about that is happening in Hawkesbury Upton, then please check out their newsletter by contacting Colin Dixon on colindixon365@btinternet.com

Hawkesbury Horticultural Show on Saturday 30th August

Vicky Rispin (Show booking secretary) writes

Hawkesbury Horticultural Show will take place on Saturday 30th August at Hawkesbury Village Hall and rec. Gates open at 12.30pm. Discounted advance tickets will be available in Hawkesbury Stores, on High Street and in Hawkesbury Post Office on Back Street, from July 1st. Show schedules will be available from both locations at the same time. Entertainment this year is the informative, but amusing SHEEP SHOW, and the STREETCRED dance troop from Chipping Sodbury will be performing vibrant and lively dances in the central arena. There will be FREE face painting and the WILD WILLOWS FOREST SCHOOL will be providing lots of activities, for free, throughout the day. Regular attractions will be on the rec once again - Rogers Fairground rides, the beer tent, Pimms tent, hog and deer roast, show marquee and a quiet refuge in the village hall, where refreshments will be served all day. The carnival procession begins with the crowning of the Carnival King or Queen (yet to be selected) at Hawkesbury Upton's war memorial, then travels along High Street into the Showground. For visitor's safety, High Street will be closed to traffic between 12.30 – 1.30pm.

For information visit www.hawkesburyshow.org or contact enquiries@hawkesburyshow.org

Hawkesbury & Horton W.I

- The Great Big Green Week Coffee Morning on Sat 30th August from 10am-12pm at Hawkesbury Upton Village Hall - taking action to show our support for a greener, fairer future.
See poster at end of PDF
- Our next Hawkesbury & Horton WI meeting is on Tuesday 3rd June in Horton village hall 7.30pm and will be a talk/demonstration from Tetbury Flowers. Visitors welcome, £3 donation.

Old Sodbury news and events

Sam Newick writes :-

- Old Sodbury WI met on Wednesday 7th of May 2025 at Old Sodbury Village Hall. We celebrated our 106th Birthday with bubbles on arrival and home-made cake. We welcomed 'Drumnation', a drum workshop by Purple Josh, Harry, and Ryan. Well, what an evening! We were introduced to a variety of very different percussion instruments (including frogs) and had wonderful fun creating music together, ably instructed and conducted by a very energetic Josh.
- Our skittles team are through to the finals, and we wish them lots of luck. Well Done Ladies!
- Our book club is currently reading 'Behind the Seams' by Esme Young.
- Old Sodbury WI are looking forward to some events coming up this year including the Old Sodbury Village Day in June and Hawkesbury Fayre in August.
We also have lots of planned visits including Blenheim Palace, Bletchley Park, The Guide Dogs National Centre at Bishop's Tachbrook, Organic Blooms and Old Sodbury Tree and Plant Nursery.
- We meet on the first Wednesday of every month. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th June 2025 at Old Sodbury Village Hall at 7.30pm and we will be welcoming Sophie Higgins Wheeler who is providing an insight into 'The History of Graffiti Art, New York to Bristol'.

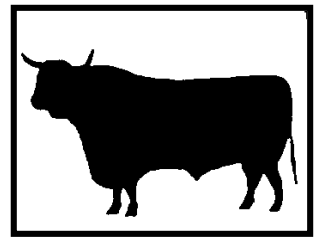
If you would like to know more or attend a meeting, do get in touch. You would be most welcome to attend one of our future meetings.

Sam Newick. Old Sodbury WI. 07534 930 630 wioldsodbury@gmail.com.



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What else

Congratulations to Paul & Barbera Denton

Barbera Denton writes :

Congratulations to Paul Denton for surviving 50 years of marriage with me on the 14th of June.



Congratulations to Stuart Cordy

Brenda Cordy writes :

Thank you to those that sponsored our son Stuart for the Tour de Bristol cycle challenge in aid of St Peter's Hospice. Stuart raised £1,243 for this amazing charity.



Defibrillator - now in Little Sodbury End

Many thanks to Dr Phil Thornley of Cotswold Medicals in Little Sodbury End for installing a defib on the outside of the garage at Coverdale House. It's clearly visible from the road.

The defib is there for anyone to use in an emergency. As we saw recently, when the Village Hall defib saved a life, these devices are literally lifesavers.

Coverdale House is near the crossroads and the cattle grid in the centre of Little Sodbury End, just uphill from what was the Baptist Chapel. Coverdale House is opposite the postbox.

Even if you've never had any training on how to use a defib, the machine talks you through what you need to do and performs its own checks to assess if the patient's heart needs a shock to restart it.

Better still, there are plenty of courses around where you can learn and practise resuscitation skills.

Want to hire out the hall ??

Are you looking for an event venue for 2025, then look no further than Horton and Little Sodbury Village Hall. Our village hall is perfect for birthday parties, wedding receptions, craft fairs, musical evenings, business meetings, off-site away-days, or team building event. Our rates are very competitive and you can host whatever kind of event suits your social or business needs.



We have free high speed wireless internet and a screen for you to project slides or other presentations. The hall seats up to about 100 people theatre style, and about 60 cabaret style.

Outside we have space for a hog roast or a barbecue. Our well fitted kitchen means that food can be cooked on site if you wish. We have a plumbed in water boiler to provide copious cups of tea or coffee.

Tables, chairs, use of the kitchen, crockery, cutlery, glasses, teapots and cafetieres are included in the hire charge. And we have a bar area. No hidden extras.

Outside we have a patio, a large car park and also a large playing field where you could have teambuilding events. We are within easy reach of Bristol, Bath, Yate,

Stroud and the M4 and M5 motorways.

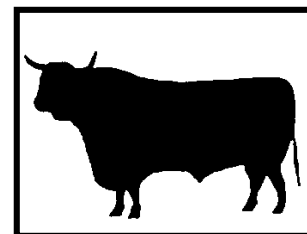
Check out our web site <http://www.halsvh.org.uk/>

or contact Emma on emma@halsvh.org.uk or 01454 322879 for further information and to arrange a visit.



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Useful Local Information

Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall

Web site: www.halsvh.org.uk
Chair: chairman@halsvh.org.uk
Hall bookings: emma@halsvh.org.uk or on 01454 322879

Village Agent

Position vacant

Horton Parish Council

<https://hortonparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Nearest Defibrillators

(<https://www.defibfinder.uk/>)

Horton Village Hall	BS37 6QN (available 24/7)
Horton School	BS37 6QP (restricted availability)
Little Sodbury End	BS37 6QE (available 24/7)

Quick Quiz

Answers to last edition's Easter related quiz

- 1.. Judy Garland and Fred Astaire starred in which 1948 springtime film? **Easter Parade**
2. On which day is a tradition to make pancakes ? **the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday**
3. What name is given to the Sunday before Easter? **Palm Sunday**
4. What lyric comes next in the Beatles hit: "I am the eggman. They are the egg men.."? **I Am the Walrus**
5. Which egg-shaped chocolate candy treat is banned in the United States (and why)? **Kinder Surprise egg**
It is banned because it contains a small plastic capsule with a toy inside. The ban stems from the 1938 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, which prohibits food products containing non-nutritive objects. The plastic capsule and toy inside are considered non-nutritive and pose a choking hazard for children

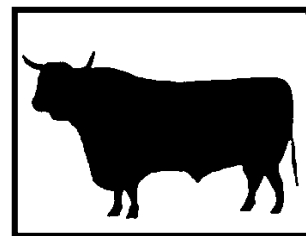
Five quick questions to test your knowledge ! Answers provided in next edition

1. "Biennial" – does it mean (a) happening twice a year or (b) happening every two years?
2. How many time zones are there in the world?
3. What's the main ingredient in tofu?
4. If you get an eagle in golf, how many strokes did you get?
5. What was the name of the first cloned animal?

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The Poster section

Hawkesbury & Horton W.I invite you to The Great Big Green Week Coffee Morning

Swap
Rail/Table -
bring something
you no longer
wear and swap it,
or make a
donation



pay
what you
can for
refreshments,
Raffle £1

Make do
and Mend,
Craft stuff
table

Help
a Hedgehog
Hospital,
Gloucestershire
Wildlife Trust

children's
activity &
competition
display*

seed swap
table and
more...

**Saturday 7th JUNE 2025
10am-12pm
HAWKESBURY UPTON VILLAGE HALL**

Start small - take action and #ShowTheLove for our planet.
Taking action to swap together for good shows our
support for a greener, fairer future.

***Competition:**

Design or Create a Useful Item From Recycled Materials
**Age categories for judging: pre-school-year 2, year 3-6 and
secondary school age**

**Write your name, age (and school) on the back & drop off to
Stone Cottage, 2 Back St, Hawkesbury Upton or to
Hawkesbury Stores by the 6th June(midday).**