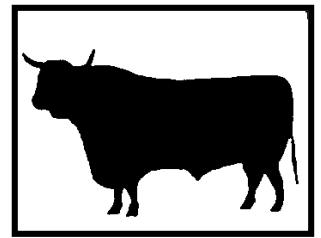


# HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Edited by Horton and Little Sodbury Village Hall Committee  
Further information of events and news on [www.halsvh.org.uk](http://www.halsvh.org.uk)



October 2025

## Editorial

And suddenly it's October ! The nights are drawing in, there is frost on the cars, and Christmas cards are flooding the shops. Where did summer go ... I say 'summer' ... a combination of glorious sunny moments, followed by torrential rain. Ah well, it keeps life interesting.

Speaking of interesting, there are quite a few things coming up in the next few months ... and a few things already planned for next year, so watch this space !

Also, we have a new feature in the newsletter – Recipe Corner, and for this edition, we have a recipe from Tina Hildick-Smith. Let me know what you think.

And if you have anything else you would like included in the next newsletter ... from the school, from the church, from the Social Club, from local organisations and clubs, or from anything happening in the village, then please let us know by 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025 – e-mails sent to [newsletter@halsvh.org.uk](mailto: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.

*Zumba Fitness Class @ HVH*

The KNEAD bread van @ HVH

Harvest Festival @ St Adeline's Church

Harvest Festival @ St James' Church

Harvest Lunch for St James' Church @ HVH

The KNEAD bread van @ HVH

Craft fair @ HVH (in aid of St Adeline's Church)

All Souls Service @ St Adeline's Church

Remembrance Service @ St James' Church

*Sodbury Slog*

Cheese & Wine evening + Quiz @ HVH

Carol Service @ St Adeline's Church

Carol Service @ St Adeline's Church

*started Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> September*

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> October from 10 till 11am

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> October

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> October

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> October from 10:30 till 11:30am

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> November at 10am

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> November

*Sun 9<sup>th</sup> November*

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec – more details in next newsletter

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11:15am

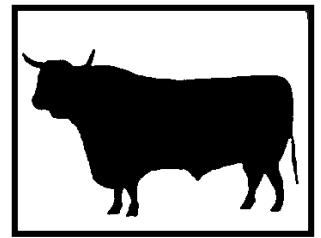
**Boxercise classes** are every Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm at Village Hall.

**Pilates classes** starting again – contact Sue Webb on [sue@coreandmore.co.uk](mailto:sue@coreandmore.co.uk).

**Zumba classes** starting again – contact [andrea.benson1@btinternet.com](mailto:andrea.benson1@btinternet.com) to express interest.

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## What's in the Diary in detail

### **KNEAD Van back at the Village Hall !**

**4<sup>th</sup> Oct + 26<sup>th</sup> Oct @ Horton Village Hall**

There are 2 opportunities for you to get your artisan patisserie, buns, bakes, cakes, savouries, coffee and sourdough in October:

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October - from 10 till 11am and

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October - from 10.30 till 11.30am.

The van only stops with us for an hour, so don't be late!

See [www.kneadbakery.co.uk](http://www.kneadbakery.co.uk) for further information about KNEAD.

The Village Hall receives a share of the profits that Knead make during their visit, so by buying from them you are supporting your village hall.

*(Ed – I had to tell you that they were here ... it was the yeast I could do 😊)*



### **The Sodbury Slog**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November**



For those who don't know about the Sodbury Slog, it is quite simply a lung-busting, trainer-ruining, hill-climbing, multi-terrain, 10-mile challenge held over and around some of South Gloucestershire's most stunning countryside. Mud is not optional.

It attracts runners from all around and the race is run each year on Remembrance Sunday. So on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November from about 11am till about 3pm, there will be around 1,300 runners starting at Chipping Sodbury School, running down the High Street, past Waitrose, traipsing across the

common, through Little Sodbury End and Little Sodbury before returning to Chipping Sodbury School.

This will mean several road closures around that time, so be warned !!

*(Ed – why not go out and support the runners – there will be several familiar faces to watch out for.*

*Check out the route on <https://sodburyslog.co.uk/event-2025/> )*

### **Cheese & Wine Evening + Quiz**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December @ Horton Village Hall**

It's never too early to talk about Christmas !!

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December, there will be a cheese & wine evening at the village hall ... but basically it is just an excuse for a pre-Christmas get-together. There will also be a bit of a quiz as well.

More news will come out in the next newsletter, but please put the date in your diary.

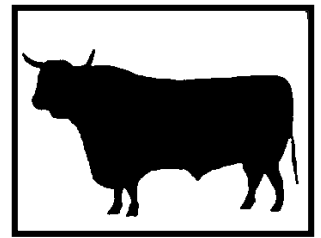


Also, that night, we will be launching the traditional Village Christmas e-Card, which, this year, will be supporting St Peter's Hospice – a local charity that provides free adult hospice care for everyone that needs their support, ... and one that is very close to the hearts of a number of us.

*(Ed – Christmas joke anyone ?? What do they sing at a snowman's birthday party? Freeze a jolly good fellow!)*

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## What's been happening

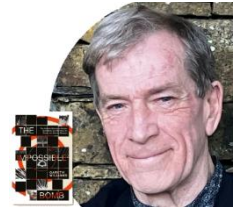
### **The Impossible Bomb – talk by Gareth Williams**

They do say that every day is a school day ... well, those who came along to Gareth Williams' talk on the 21<sup>st</sup> September on the subject of "The Impossible Bomb" were richly educated !

Gareth gave a quite brilliant talk on how six brilliant physicists changed the course of history. Their top-secret British nuclear programme, set up in 1940 and codenamed 'Tube Alloys', provided a vital stepping stone for the Manhattan Project and the making of the first atomic bomb. OK, so it was a 'dark subject, but Gareth's tale was expertly told, and the audience were left spell bound.

It is hoped that Gareth will come back again to talk about other fascinating topics (such as the Loch Ness Monster) – watch this space !

*(Ed – Gareth has written a number of books - "A Monstrous Commotion", "Unravelling the Double Helix" and "Paralysed with Fear" to name but a few. Check him out ... but make sure you select the correct Gareth !!)*



## What's happening elsewhere

### **Church News**

#### **Update from St James' Church, Horton**

Tina Hildick-Smith writes :-

By the time you read this , we should have seen quite a few visitors through the Church for coffee and cake following the open days at the Court. That should put a few more pounds in the bank account . Things are slowly moving as to the roof repairs, but nothing in the Church world moves at my speed, sadly, but our first steps are on the ladder now.

We are, though, pleased to mention that we now have a new sound system, which can also be used outside, and does many other things too. Thank you to Martin who has been in charge of this project, which has been on the "To Do" list for a long time.

We also had the most lovely Christening Service for a dear little baby boy, whose parents were married in the Church a few years ago. It was so nice to welcome them back on a gloriously sunny day !

#### **Upcoming Dates for Your Diary:**

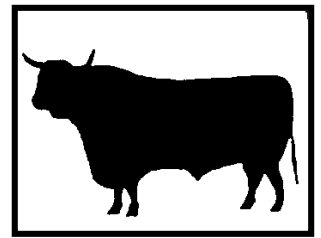
- The Harvest Festival Service is Sunday the 12th of October at 11.15.
- The Harvest lunch is Sunday lunchtime on the 26th of October  
If you would like to come please let me know on 01454 320380 or [tinahildicksmith@gmail.com](mailto:tinahildicksmith@gmail.com)  
It is a lovely menu, with all of the favourite usual things. £20 per person.  
Don't forget to bring some cash for the raffle ! 12.15 for 1pm sit down .
- Remembrance Service is on the 9th of November.
- The Carol Service on the Sunday morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11.15
- The Christmas Eve Communion at 5pm .

Also, there is a lovely book about to come out, at £20, with all of the proceeds going into the Church account . It is the original cookery book (which so many people have asked for), along with the history of the Church, the re-hanging of the bells, and the history of the Court, including more recipes.

It makes a super present. If you would like one, please let me know, on the details above.

I am only having 50 printed !

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I thank you all for your wonderful support, especially through the summer Teas, and these future Autumn dates.

With best wishes  
Tina and the Church Team .

## Update from St Adeline's Church

Linda Hurst & Brenda Cordy :-

St Adeline's church has had an eventful time recently. Firstly, the large, mature Beech tree shed one of the larger branches about four weeks ago and in doing so, damaged another large tree in the east side of the churchyard. We have had several quotes but have had to refer the issue to Gloucester Diocese. We have also had part of the ceiling in the vestry fall - oh dear!

We held the funeral of Richard Butt when the church was full to overflowing. We continue to hold his family and friends in our prayers at this sad time.

Our Harvest Festival will be held this year on Sunday 5 October at 6.00 pm. Refreshments will be served after the service.

On Sunday 2 November there will be a service of All Souls where we remember those we have loved but see no longer.

Everyone is welcome at our services.

Church Wardens  
Brenda and Linda.

## Hawkesbury Upton Village Hall news and events

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

## Parish Council news

### Suggestions for 'clearing up jobs' needed

South Glos Council have asked the Parish Council to suggest potential 'clearing up jobs' that Streetcare can do. Things like clearing ditches, verges, that sort of thing.

At the Parish Council meeting on 30th September the Parish councillors decided to seek suggestions from villagers as to what needs doing around the village. The 'clearing up' does not include potholes, sadly! That comes out of a separate budget.

Please e-mail Jo Baker, the Clerk, on [hortonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hortonparishcouncil@gmail.com) with your suggestions.

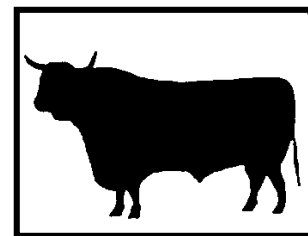
The last Parish Council meeting was on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at Horton Village Hall.

If you want to know more about Horton Parish Council, then please check out their websites :-

- <https://hortonparishcouncil.co.uk/>
- <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/static/540adf2631e291767ecdc8db15767c3a/05-Horton-PC-following-amalgamation-of-Little-Sodbury-PM.pdf>

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## What else

### Please support Emma in the London Marathon.

Now, this is truly amazing. Emma Barlow is going to be running in the London Marathon in April 2026.  
Emma writes :

Hi all, I'm very honoured to be running the London Marathon 2026 for St Peter's Hospice.

I know April is yonks off but I'm sure it will come around quickly. I've taken out Nov / Dec as people are preoccupied with Christmas and then everyone is skint in Jan - so I only really have 3 months to get fundraising (yikes!).

Please take a read of my fundraising page below.

Every little helps towards an organisation very close to my heart

❤️👩🏻 Big love Xx

Please take time to read her fundraising page, and to read her heart-warming story.  
But more importantly, please donate as much as you can to St Peter's Hospice.  
Well done Emma, and good luck !!



This is Emma's fundraising page :

[https://2026tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/emma-barlow?utm\\_source=enthuse&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=f-growth&utm\\_content=page&utm\\_campaign=website&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=enthuse](https://2026tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/emma-barlow?utm_source=enthuse&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=f-growth&utm_content=page&utm_campaign=website&utm_medium=email&utm_source=enthuse)

*(Ed – Also ... please support Emma as she runs in the Sodbury Slog on the 9<sup>th</sup> November.)*

*(Ed – and P.S. if you are having problems getting to the fundraising page, please just contact Emma – she will be only too pleased to pass on the info.)*

## Recipe of the month.

So this is a new feature for the newsletter. In every edition we are going to have a recipe, and this month Tina Hildick –Smith has kindly submitted a recipe from her new book.

Tina writes :

It was suggested that I put a recipe from my forth coming cookery book into the newsletter, something suitable for the time of year ... so here is the first one.

If you would like to buy a book, please contact Tina directly ([tinahildicksmith@gmail.com](mailto:tinahildicksmith@gmail.com) or 01454 320 380).

### Courgette and Tomato Bake

#### Ingredients

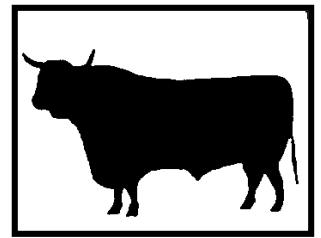
3 courgettes, approx 1½ lb, sliced a quarter inch thick  
4 large vine tomatoes, sliced a quarter inch thick  
2 Colman's packet sauce mixes. 1 cheese and 1 white  
Half to three quarters of a pint of milk  
One tablespoon of Dijon mustard.  
Salt and pepper  
2 oz of grated cheddar  
Freshly chopped parsley  
Fresh coriander to serve





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## Method

- Arrange half of the courgette slices in an ovenproof dish (the one in the picture is 10 inches). Season with salt and pepper.
- Arrange half the tomato slices in a layer on top of the courgettes and season to taste.
- Layer the remaining tomato and courgette slices in the dish and sprinkle with 2 to 3 pinches of the fresh parsley.
- Heat the oven to 190°C / 375°F / Gas Mark 5.
- While the oven is heating up, make your sauce .  
Cook the cheese and white sauce mixes with the milk and Dijon mustard.
- Pour the sauce over the vegetables making sure it has got through to the bottom.
- Sprinkle over the grated cheese and bake for 20 to 25 minutes until the vegetables are just cooked.
- Sprinkle over the fresh coriander but leave for 5 minutes at least before serving as it is too hot to enjoy - much better left for a while.



*(Ed – Tina talks about the book in her piece for the Church News above)*

## 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 events. 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/>

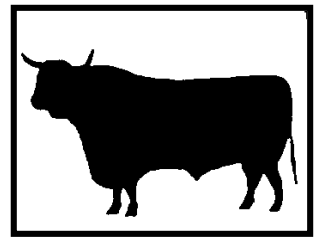
or contact Emma on [emma@halsvh.org.uk](mailto:emma@halsvh.org.uk) or 01454 322879 for further information and to arrange a visit.



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## Useful Local Information

### Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall

Web site: [www.halsvh.org.uk](http://www.halsvh.org.uk)  
Chair: [chairman@halsvh.org.uk](mailto:chairman@halsvh.org.uk)  
Hall bookings: [emma@halsvh.org.uk](mailto: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 quiz

We were looking for the first in the list alphabetically to these questions :-

1. Cities in England
2. Numbers 1 to 10?
3. The seven dwarfs
4. Shakespeare plays
5. Surname of Actors who have played James Bond (in the EON Films)

Bath  
Eight  
Bashful  
All's Well That Ends Well  
Pierce Brosnan

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

1. What is the more popular name for the portrait officially titled "La Gioconda," painted in 1503?
2. What star signs cover the month of September?
3. What was the first book published by Jane Austen?
4. What country consumes the most chocolate per capita?
5. How many children are in the Von Trapp family in The Sound of Music?

-o0o-o0o-o0o-o0o-o0o-o0o-o0o-o0o-