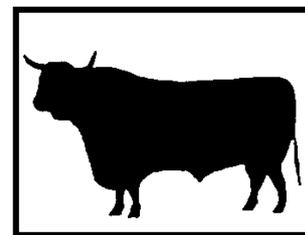


HORTON AND LITTLE SODBURY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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



March 2026

Editorial

Welcome back ! I do hope that you have enjoyed the 'mini editions', but now we are back to the full newsletter with all the pictures and back stories and quizzes

So, what's been happening with you ? Christmas, New Year and St Valentine's Day have come and gone, and soon it will be Easter! But between now and then, let us hope that things start to dry out – it's so wet! That said, I always eat shellfish when rain is forecast – it's the clam before the storm (here all week ☺)

Lots of things going on in and around Horton in the next few months. But if there is anything you would like included in the next newsletter or sent round in the local e-mail circle distribution ... 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 – 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

6 Nations rugby @ Horton Social Club	Sat 7th March @ 4.40pm (Italy vs Wales)
Bingo Night @ Horton Social Club	Fri 13th March @ 7:30pm
6 Nations rugby @ Horton Social Club	Sat 14th March @ 8.10pm (France vs England)
Board Game Afternoon @ HVH	Sun 29th March from 2:30 to 5pm
Easter Vigil Service @ St Adeline's Church	Sat 4 th April @ 7pm
Horton Spring Bull Run, starting at HVH	Sun 26th April @ 10:30am
Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM @ HVH	Mon 29 th June at 7pm
Feria Orchestra @ HVH	Sun 19th July (matinee performance)
Ninebarrow coming back to Horton	Sun 20th September at 2:30pm
Harvest Festival Service @ St James' Church	Sun 27th September

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

Pilates classes starting again – contact Sue Webb.

Zumba classes starting again – contact Andrea Benson to express interest.

What in the Diary in detail

Things happening at Horton Social club

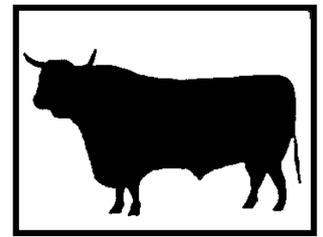
The 6 Nations

If you are thinking about where to watch the last two rounds of the Six Nations rugby tournament this year, think no further! The Horton Social Club has got you covered. Opening 30 minutes before kick off, there's beer; there's hot pies at half time; there's a big screen - what more could you want ?

The next game is on Sat 7th March, with Italy playing England - doors open at 4.15, with the game starting at 4:45.



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Bingo Night on Friday 13th March

HOUSE !!! The school are doing a fundraising Bingo Night on Friday 13th March.
All welcome. The event starts at 7:30, but we suggest that you get down there a bit earlier to warm up your dibbers !!



Board Game afternoon

Looking for something to do on a Sunday? Come along to Horton Village hall for a Board Game Afternoon on the 29th March. Doors open at 2:30 and will finish around 5pm.
Here's how the afternoon will work. Tables will be set up for 4-6 players (or more if a game warrants). Most tables will have a facilitator with their chosen board game. "Players" will choose a table based on the game they want to play. The facilitator will show them how to play it. There'll also be a pile of surplus games and some free tables where players can take a game of their choice. Oh yes ... and there will also be tea and cakes for sale, and I'm sure the bar will be open as well.
(Ed – Hope they have Scrabble. If they don't, I'll be lost for words !!)



Sun 29th March @ Horton Village Hall

Horton Spring Bull Run

Why not spend a sunny Sunday morning enjoying a scenic 4 mile run through the Horton countryside. Gathering at Horton Village Hall by 10.30 on Sunday 26th April, the Bull Run is a fun run catering for all abilities. And this year, owing to the number of potholes along our usual route, the organisers have decided to use a different course. Instead of starting at Horton School, the run will start at Bennett Engineering, but still finishing as usual at the Village Hall. It is now a "hybrid" course rather than a road course as there is a short section along the bridleway/farm track at the edge of Lower Woods.
Pre-entry is encouraged – Adult entry £12.00 and Child entry £8.00
More details available via <https://hortonbullrun.co.uk> or e-mail bullrun@halsvh.org.uk or by calling 07711 672007

Sun 26th April @ Horton Village Hall

But if you don't fancy running, then please come along to the hall and cheer on the runners. (there will be tea and cake and hot snacks available !!) Also, we are looking for helpers on the day - especially time keepers, race entry takers, and helpers in the kitchen.

If you are free, and would like to help, please contact Sue on bandsjarvis@gmail.com...



Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM

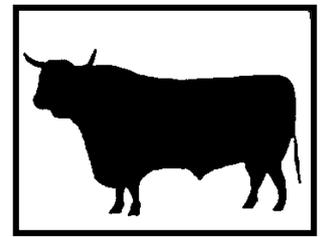
A definite date for your diary. ☺

The Horton & Little Sodbury Village Hall AGM is being held on at 7pm on Monday 29th June 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 ☺.)

Mon 29th June @ Horton Village Hall

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The return of the Feria Orchestra

Sun 19th July @ Horton Village Hall

OK ... so we are really planning ahead here, but this is well worth knowing about and getting in your 2026 diary. On the afternoon of Sunday 19th July, the acclaimed Feria Chamber Ensemble (including our very own Mike Lea-Wilson on French horn) will be coming to Horton Village Hall for a family-friendly afternoon of light music, including some tunes from film and the theatre.

Set in our beautiful 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.

Watch out for further details nearer the time.

Ninebarrow returning to Horton

Sun 20th September @ Horton Village Hall

Exciting news! Ninebarrow are returning to Horton Village Hall in September.

Details are still being worked out, but it will be a matinee performance, with doors opening at 1:45 PM and the concert starting at 2:30 PM.

And yes, obviously the bar will be open, even at that time! Plus, tea and cakes will be available. Watch this space !!

(Ed – last time they came it was an absolute sell out ... so as soon as details become available, we'll let you know so you can book your place.)



What's been happening

The 2026 Quiz nights



Yes, the traditional 'start of year' Horton Quizzes happened again this year. The competition was fierce (but friendly), the bar was busy, and the atmosphere was fantastic. Many thanks to those who turned up – for those who didn't you really did miss out.

Huge thanks to Patrick Williams & Tony Wake for providing the questions.

Rockhampton Wind Quintet Concert



On 8th February, Horton Village Hall hosted a fantastic afternoon of live music as the Rockhampton Wind Quintet delivered an outstanding performance. There was music for everyone - folk songs from England and Hungary, sea shanties with a comic twist, Sullivan (but no Gilbert) and even some Gershwin - each piece was played with skill and warmth. Their musicianship and teamwork captivated the audience throughout.

Once again, the Rockhampton Wind Quintet proved why they are a valued part of our musical calendar. A truly unforgettable afternoon—hopefully, they'll return again soon!

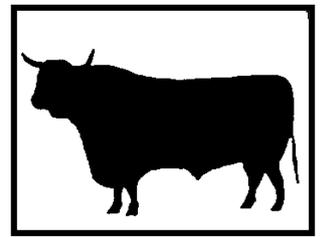
What's happening elsewhere

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

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Old Sodbury news and events

Linzie, from the Old Sodbury WI, writes :-

Old Sodbury WI meet on the first Wednesday of the month in Old Sodbury village hall.

A lovely hall with plenty of parking.

- We are looking forward to our March meeting where our speaker is Rachel from the Tetbury Flower Company. She is going to be telling us all about her experiences as a flower farmer. I'm hopeful we will pick up some tips so we can grow our own lovely blooms this year! We are also going to visit in the Autumn when the dahlias are blooming.
- Our book club is currently reading *Whistle in the Dark* by Emma Healey. A wry, poignant, and masterfully drawn story that explores the bonds and duress of family life, the pain of mental illness, and the fraught yet enduring connection between mothers and daughters, *Whistle in the Dark* is a story of guilt, fear, hope, and love that explores what it means to lose and find ourselves and those we love. I'm sure it will give us lots to talk about.
- Our craft group meets monthly and there are a number of social outings being planned, a friendly skittles match, trips to Kew gardens and Sherborne Castle, visits to the cinema, the theatre, lunches and afternoon teas.
- Our next big event is the Barn Dance on Saturday 21st March 2026. A very popular event which has previously been sold out! Music is by the 'Bees Knees' with a ploughman's supper, so reserve your tickets now! (*Ed: see poster at end of newsletter*)

If you would like to know more or to come along to one of our meetings, you would be made very welcome. For more information, give me a ring on 01454 320065 or email wieldsodbury@gmail.com

Linzie, Old Sodbury WI



Church News

Update from St James' Church, Horton

Tina and the Church Team (with some additional words from Martin May) write :-

All plans are in motion for the roof and other Church repairs, but life on that side of Church action is very slow. Thanks to Richard Winsborrow for completing an Expression of Interest to The National Lottery Heritage Fund. This is the first step in applying for funding in excess of £250000.

Slow progress on the tree work by the cemetery and car park, but you will notice the NT have started the work of felling the more dangerous ones.

Meanwhile, sadly, the Church catering team are going to hang up their Apron strings !! We will not be heading towards a Harvest lunch. Costs are so high, and putting it all together, laying up and clearing up is such a lot for us all. If anyone would like to take the Village Harvest lunch on, that is fine with us.

But we are planning to do some exciting things for our Harvest Festival Service that will take place a little earlier this year on Sunday 27th September – watch this space for details

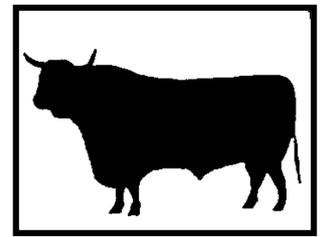
We just need the road to the Church to dry up, the mud to go away, and Spring to come.

The next big event in the Church will be Easter – more details to follow shortly.

With very best wishes to you all, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Tina and the Church team.

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Update from St Adeline's Church

Brenda Cordy & Linda Hurst write :-

- We recently welcomed Theodore Woodman and his family to church for his baptism service.
- On Holy Saturday, 4th April, there will be an Easter Vigil held at St Adeline's church - a chance to ring bells and rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus. All everyone is welcome. The service starts at 7.00pm.
- We are still awaiting a report from our Architect regarding the essential works required to both the church, but especially to the vestry which is in a parlous condition.
- For anyone who has visited the churchyard recently, the carpet of snowdrops and crocuses are a joy to see.

Church Wardens

Brenda and Linda.

The Village Agent Update

Andy Hiscox, our Village Agent writes:

We are now well into the New Year, and with it the physical challenges that some of us may face due to long term illness or ageing. As a sufferer of a chronic illness myself which impacts my life on a daily basis I thought about the challenges we all face personally with such issues and where we can get help when required.



The Celestine Centre is a fully adapted property located in Yate and the house has a variety of adaptations in a true home setting and is available for South Gloucestershire residents to visit and try out the various adaptations. The centre aims to provide solutions to help maintain independent living for people within their homes. Some of the adaptations include the following:

- Through floor lift and Stairlifts
- Automatic Wash Dry Toilet
- Fully adapted Kitchen with High/Low Kitchen Units
- Hoisting Equipment
- Aids to assist bathing
- Level access shower installation
- Ramp and Step Solutions
- Fully Automated Door Entry Systems
- Home Living Aids

The house is available Monday to Friday by appointment only. Please contact psehousing@southglos.gov.uk

If you do not have access to email, I can help you with this, or alternatively if you believe you need an Occupational Therapy Assessment, I can also sign post you to help.

Transport may also be an issue, and again I may be able to assist.

The Village Agent Service can make a real difference to the rural communities they support by working with local residents and agencies.

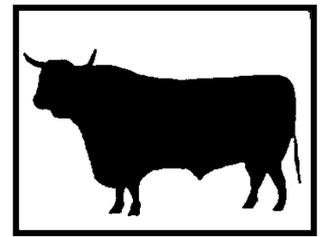
For more information on the Village Agent Service please visit www.wern.org.uk/village-agents

Or alternatively please contact myself on:

Mobile: 07795442272

Email: andy@wern.org.uk

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Want to hire out the hall ??

Are you looking for an event venue for 2026, 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 07766 524591 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 07766 524591

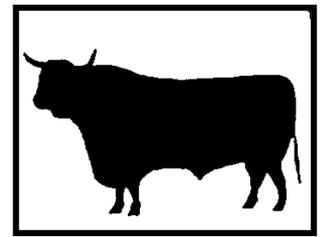
Village Agent

Andy Hiscox: andy@wern.org.uk or on 07795 442272

Horton Parish Council

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

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Quick Quiz

Answers to last edition's quiz

- 1.. What is traditionally hidden inside a Christmas pudding? **A silver coin**
2. According to the song, what did my true love give to me on the 9th day of Christmas? **Nine ladies dancing**
3. How many of Santa's reindeers' names start with 'D'? **3 (Dasher, Dancer, and Donner)**
4. True or false - Santa traditionally wore a green suit until Coca Cola changed it to red? **True**
5. When making mince pies which way should you stir your mincemeat for good luck? **Clockwise**

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

1. Which retail company was formed in 1969 by David Quayle and Richard Block?
2. By which four letter initials is the UK organisation based at "The Doughnut" commonly known?
3. The black-and-white wader also called a "sea pie" has a more common, and inaccurate, name?
4. Just a Minute panellists aim to avoid hesitation, repetition and what other offence?
5. Which mariner is the titular protagonist of a famous work published in 1719, considered to be the first English novel?

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The Poster section

Old Sodbury WI
Spring
**BARN
DANCE**
Featuring The Bees Knees Barn Dance Band
**Saturday 21st 7.30pm -
11pm**
MARCH
OLD SODBURY VILLAGE HALL
Tickets £15 including supper
BYO drinks
To Book Tickets
Linzie 01454 320065
wioldsodbury@gmail.com
Charity No:1019685