

Village Life

Harbertonford's newsletter

This month's edition is
sponsored by
Ian & Ros Wood

Issue 289, March 2025

Welcome to the March edition of *Village Life*, in which we try to keep you informed of local news & events. It's delivered to your door each month by volunteers.

HSSG – *Village Life* provides news and information to every household in the village, so get in touch if you have any information or events that you would like included.

A downloadable version (PDF file) of *Village Life* is available on these two village websites:

- www.harbertonford.com
- www.harbertondevon.co.uk

Sponsorship – many thanks to Ian & Ros for sponsoring this edition. Their generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.

However we need more sponsors – each edition of *Village Life* costs £10 to print. We've nearly run out of sponsors. So if you'd like to help out please contact Graham Clayton (732603).

G Geoff Broom died in Somerset on 5th February. Geoff & wife Lynda lived in H/ford for many years. Geoff's wake is in Ditcheat (Som.) on **Thu. 6th Mar. (3:30pm)**. His obituary will be in April's newsletter.



St Peter's Church service:

Sun. 16th Mar. (9:30am) – PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME - followed by refreshments. You are assured of a warm welcome. The church is open to all every day between 10:30am & 4pm. 3rivers.org.uk

A very big thank you to everyone who supported last month's Bingo evening in Moreleigh. £1,200(!) was raised to be shared between Halwell, Moreleigh and H/ford churches.

P.C.C. lottery – thank you to all who support the lottery. For anyone who has not paid for 2025 (£12) please contact your usual collector or give your money to Sue Lethbridge in the shop. Any problems - please contact Frances (732297). **Feb. winners:**

1. Suzette Symons, Woodcourt Fm., £30
2. Ann Bowhay, Bow Rd., £20
3. Michael White, Bow Rd., £10

Give & Take Morning - (Sustainable Harbourne Valley [SHV]). It's on **Sat. 1st Mar. (10am-noon)** at Harberton Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome and everything will be available free of charge if you can make good use of it. So come and have a rummage. To make this possible, please bring your unwanted items to donate - clothes, household items, garden tools, children's toys etc. We do ask that things are clean and in good condition, please, as it makes it easier for our volunteers to donate on unwanted items at the end of the morning. There is a clothes swap with the opportunity to try items on if required. Refreshments available for a small charge to cover costs.

Also **at the same event**, we host SHV's second TREE GIVEAWAY. **Free of charge** - small locally grown crab apple, sweet chestnut, field maple, rowan, guelder rose, oak, hazel & blackthorn plants. Also available – stakes, guards & planting info.

The Flower Arranging group meets fortnightly in the Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to join, either making an arrangement or just watching. Tuition is available. Our next three meetings (**Weds. @ 10:30am**) are: **5th & 19th Mar.** and **2nd Apr.**

More info: Pauline 01803-732393.

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thursdays, 6-7:30pm) – it's H/F's Youth Club. Usually every fortnight, at our Village Hall. **Dates: 6th & 20th Mar., 3rd Apr.**

Easter hols (12th-20th Apr.) – trips/activities tbc

Key contact: deekelly.traye@gmail.com

SHV has borrowed a thermal imaging camera from SHDC – available to H/ford residents from **Thu. 6th to Sat 22nd Mar.** It provides a thermal image of a home/building which can then be used to identify heat loss areas, where remedial insulation or draught proofing would be most effective. Simple improvements can significantly improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel bills at little cost. It's straightforward to use, but provides the best results on a cold night. Contact Sue Ward (07719-995526) if you'd like to make use of the camera.

Village Brunch - Sun. 9th Mar. (10:15am - noon)

The Brunch Crew will be serving our usual selection of delicious, freshly-cooked food at the Village Hall. We hope to meet up with our regulars and if you have not been before you are very welcome indeed, even if it's just for a tea or coffee!

Harberton & H/ford Community Land Trust (CLT) has a short session at Harberton Parish Hall, ahead of the next PC meeting (**Tue. 11th Mar., 7-7:30pm**), to give those interested a brief update on the status of the CLT, and time to respond to questions. The District Councillor has been invited to attend.

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at Harberton Parish Hall on **Tue. 11th Mar. (7:30pm)**.
clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org

Sustainable Harbourne Valley (SHV)

House Martins, Swallows & Swifts – Wed. 12th Mar. (7pm)

Our well-loved migrant birds are struggling to survive. They were once far more numerous in our village. Come to our talk with John Walters and find out how we can help them. SHV hopes to map out their nests - past & current - and have plans to install new bird boxes. So come along (Village Hall) with any information or if you have an interest in hosting new bird homes.



Soup & Puddings - Tue. 18th Mar. (12-2pm), Village Hall. Join us for homemade soups and puddings and meet friends, old and new. Proceeds go to the church.

Do come along – you are very welcome. Frances (732297).

Sign up/Renew for SHDC's Garden Waste Collection - you can now sign up to/renew your sub. for garden waste collection for 2025/26. If you **sign up before 31st Mar.** you'll pay a lower 'early bird' fee of £65 - collections for one brown wheelee bin. After 31 Mar., the service costs £68. The quickest & easiest way to sign up is at: www.southhams.gov.uk/gardenwaste - the website is also full of information on the service.

The H/ford Allotment Society - a couple of allotment plots have become available. They're a perfect size for the novice gardener, tidy and ready to go in time for the spring. Please email has-sec@outlook.com to arrange a viewing.

Save the date!! – it's time to get out the seed packets; chit the potatoes; plump up the tubers; plan the handicrafts. Our Village (Flower & Produce) Show is on **Sat. 2nd Aug.**

Neighbourhood Plan (NP): update & photo competition -

We need your help! Please send us a photo or two that represents anything you love about our parish to Harbertonneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com by the end of March. We'll use a selection of what we receive in the NP and display them at our next consultation event. And there'll be a special mystery prize for the "best photo", selected by public vote. Details and NP update at <https://bit.ly/3EM6Q9u>

Village Hall bar & Sunday Skittles – Reminders

The VH bar is open every Friday evening from 7:30pm Skittles is every Sunday @ the VH, (7-9pm). All are welcome. Cost: £2 (inc. coffee/tea & biscuits). Info: John (732588).

H/ford-(H/F)-BUS-TIMES		
from Feb. '25		
Mon.-to-Sat. H/F-to-TOTNES	Mon.-to-Fri. TOTNES onwards-TO	Mon.-to-Sat. TOTNES-to-H/F
164 06:31 mfa	Paigntn Gold to Paigntn 07:33	92 07:00
92 06:35	Plymth Gold to Plymth 07:09	164 07:10 mfa
164 07:31 mfa		164 07:50 mfa
164 07:56 s-H		92 08:10 sh
164 08:11 h-H		92 08:20 Kd
164 08:14 d-H		164 09:00

Note!!: Some 164 bus times changed slightly in Feb. The new H/F timetable is now available in the shop (white paper).

Major change!!: The 20:50 bus from Totnes (Mon-Sat.) is now replaced by a taxi service (Fare Car F22 - from Totnes @ 20:55, £3 Ad/£2 Ch, passes not valid) – must be pre-booked with Price First Taxis (01803-322322).

Fledglings Stay & Play group (@ the village school) has a range of activities for babies & toddlers. **Tuesdays in term time (9:15-10:45am)**. It's run by one of the school's trained nursery staff. Tea, coffee & cake available!

Harberton & H/ford History Society – no news this month. Many thanks Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com

Community Speedwatch – no update for this month. Folks on holiday and awful weather has scuppered any sessions. Hope to get another one or two in March.

Thanks, Phil laurence.phil.dixon@btinternet.com



The Fish & Chip van (c/o K&S Catering) visits H/ford every Monday evening. Opposite the (ex)pub from 4:30-7:30pm. Last orders taken at 7:20pm.

Footpath - thank you to everyone who took the time to sign the representation to the PC to provide a safer footpath for pedestrians between the H/ford & Harberton. I am pleased to report that the PC is actively investigating all the possible options - so watch this space! Sue Groom (01803-732462)

Harbertonford Primary School is delighted to share and celebrate a highly successful Ofsted report following an inspection in December. It confirms that we remain a 'good' school that our community can be very proud of. We look forward to welcoming you in at your convenience to see what we do. Keep up with all that's going on in your local school through our website <https://www.harbertonford.thelink.academy/web/> and our Facebook page. Jack Pemberton, Academy Head

Citizens Advice South Hams - can you spare some time to help people in your community? We are looking for more volunteers to join our team helping thousands of local people overcome their problems and find a way forward through issues such as housing, debt, benefits and energy costs. No previous experience is needed as full training is provided and you'll be working as part of a friendly, dedicated team. For more information please see www.southhamscab.org.uk/get-involved/

Village Hall Quiz – many thanks to all who supported last month's quiz. £140 was raised for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Indoor Bowls @ Harberton Parish Hall - no experience needed. We are a mature mixed group who play competitively amongst ourselves. **Thursday evenings 6.45 to 8.45pm**. The weekly fee also covers tea & biscuits at the end of the evening. **Contact:** Brenda Ganter (01803-840980).

Youth cricket - Harberton Cricket Club (HCC) has indoor cricket nets for 10-12 year olds at Totnes Leisure Centre on the **first four Mondays in Mar. (5:30pm)**. Great intro. to playing with a hard ball. HCC's U12's & U11's are in a league for the first time, so new members are very welcome as there will be lots of cricket in the summer. **Info:** Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876)

Senior cricket – HCC is also offering winter nets for older players. It's at Totnes Leisure Centre (**Sundays, 12:30-2pm**) on these dates: **all Sundays in Mar. & 6th Apr.** Call Jamie Fitzpatrick for more info about HCC (07798-631876).



Shop takings since takeover now exceed £½ million!!!

The shop's been community owned for only 18 months!!

So thanks, as ever, for all your support – it means such a lot to shop/PO staff & volunteers to see & serve so many customers. **REFILLS!!** Don't forget that we can refill your own bottles with our *Bio D* liquids: ●Laundry - Unscented ●Laundry - Lavender ●Washing Up – Pink Grapefruit

All are priced in 500ml/1litre/1.5 litre sizes. Please ask in shop. Despite our good sales figures, running costs are high, so we still need volunteers to help ensure that the enterprise is financially sustainable. If you'd like to help out please call Belinda Burt: (07501-900027)

Diary date: note that the THCL (shop/PO) AGM is booked for **Thu. 24th Apr. (7:30pm)** in the Village Hall.

!!!! Support your community shop/PO !!!!

Harbertonford FC – the Saturday side's Lidstone Cup match has been postponed twice so far. Fingers crossed that it's dry on **1st Mar.** ... The Sunday side host Woodside FC in the semi-finals of the Devon County Supplementary Cup on **9th Mar.** For results, fixtures & news: www.bit.ly/hf-fc **Info:** John Mills (j.mills@nhs.net), Mike Bishop (07813-120390).

Football club lottery: £160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/mth. **Jan. winners** (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10): Nick Andrews/Luke Forward/Mike Bishop/John Mills/ Dave Hammond/Callum Payne (Feb's draw not yet done).

Village contacts

- ❖ **Police:** PCSO Russ Broadhurst 30534. Tel: 07703-886012 or russell.broadhurst@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
- ❖ **Village Hall bookings:** Jean Blackler (732588)

Year Planner 2025:	9 Mar., Village Brunch
18 Mar., Soup & Puddings	20 Apr., Easter Sunday service
24 Apr., Village shop/PO AGM	2 Aug., Village Show



This newsletter was printed by **Veaseys of Totnes,** printers & lithographers. veaseys99@hotmail.com **01803-863174**

Next issue – contributions to Graham Clayton (732603 or g1clayton78@outlook.com). The copy deadline for the April newsletter is 20th March.