

Village Life

Harbertonford's newsletter

This month's edition is
sponsored by
Katie & Christie

Issue 302, April 2026

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

HSSG – VL 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 VL is available here: www.harbertondevon.co.uk/villagelife.htm

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

Easter Sunday service on 5th Apr (9:30am) at St Leonard's Church, Halwell.



St Peter's Church

Easter Service (with primary school pupils)

Wed. 1st Apr. (1:30pm)

Please join us. It's always a lovely service.

Holy Communion

Sun. 19th Apr. (9:30am)

Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

The church is open to all every day (9am-5pm). 3rivers.org.uk

P.C.C. lottery – thanks to everyone who belongs to the lottery. You can join at any time, £12/yr. It really does help to keep the church going. Phone Frances (732297).

Mar. winners: 1. Frances Harvey, Washbourne
2. Shelia Janes, Totnes 3. Debbie Sinclair-Jones, Moreleigh Rd

Lottery: 2026 renewal – a few 2026 payments of £12 are due. Please pay your usual collector. If you would like to join, please contact Frances (732297) or Sue Lethbridge in the shop.

Community Shop Manager – a very warm welcome to Fiona Jardine, our new shop manager (**Wed. 1st Apr.**). We are confident that Fiona's approach & experience will strengthen our great team of people, help drive new business and ensure that our shop continues to develop and be a great place for customers and all involved.



Recycling and waste collection

Collection dates over the Easter period (as per the SHDC website):

Usual day	New day	Usual day	New day
3 Apr.	7 Apr.	9 Apr.	11 Apr.
6 Apr.	8 Apr.	10 Apr.	13 Apr.
7 Apr.	9 Apr.	13 Apr.	14 Apr.
8 Apr.	10 Apr.	14-17 Apr - all are one day late	
w/c 20 Apr. – normal service			

Note: **May BH (4-8 May)** – all collections will be one day late.



Opening times for Good Friday & Easter Monday:

- Good Friday (3rd): 9am – 1pm (shop only)
- Easter Monday (6th): 9am – 1pm (shop only)
- Otherwise, normal times

Whist drive – the fourth Monday of each month (7:30pm). At Halwell & Moreleigh Village Hall.

The Flower Club morning meetings restart this month. So we meet on **Wed. 8th & 22nd (from 10:30)**. All are welcome to join us or just come and see what we do and have a cup of coffee. Info: Pauline 01803-732393

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at our Village Hall on **Tue. 14th Apr. (7:30pm)**.

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thurs., 6-7:30pm) – it's H/F's Youth Club. Usually every fortnight, at our Village Hall.

This month: **Apr. 16th & 30th** Info: deekelly.traye@gmail.com



Open Mic, Fri. 17th Apr. (7:30pm) @ VHall. March was another great night with the icing on the musical cake being the surprise set by techno wizard Rory with his dad - stunning! We are calling for all types of performers young & old, experienced

or starting out! You have all helped to make this such a special atmosphere. Book a slot or take your chance and rock up! Why not, eh...?! Contact Gavin - middlewoodart@gmail.com

Melvyn's Bingo - the next event @ Halwell & Moreleigh Village Hall is on **Fri. 17th Apr. (7:30pm)**.

<https://www.facebook.com/melvynsbingo>



Coffee morning - Tue. 21st Apr. (10:30am)

In the Village Hall. Only £1.50 for coffee & biscuits.

Raffle, jams etc.(often), lots of chat (always!)

Do come along – you are very welcome. To ensure that the coffee mornings can continue extra helpers are needed. Could that be you? If so, please let Frances (732297) know.

Quiz

Village Hall Quiz

Fri. 24th Apr. (8pm)

Quiz

A FUNDRAISER FOR ST PETER'S CHURCH

Our church needs urgent repairs, so your help is needed! A friendly, fun quiz. £2pp. Max. 6/team. No team? No problem - we'll sort it out!! Bar open. Vicki Taylor: vct.wrns@yahoo.com

!!SUPPORT ST PETER'S!!

Contact your local MP, Caroline Voaden, for help with an issue that you are facing. As part of her remit, Caroline can assist with anything that is the responsibility of a national government department, such as pensions and benefits. You can: email her at: caroline.voaden.mp@parliament.uk or phone her office at: 01803-658461.



The Harbertonford Community Limited (THCL)

Post Office & Store

3rd Annual General Meeting

Venue: H/ford Village Hall, Woodcourt Rd, H/ford TQ9 7TY

Date: **Wed. 29th Apr. 2026 at 7.30 pm**

The bar will be open from 6:45pm for drinks with snacks on the house! Members (shareholders) of THCL, and everyone interested in the future of our Community Shop/PO are welcome.

Some of the committee will be up for re-election and we are keen to encourage those of you with skills that could benefit the enterprise, to consider joining us. If you would like to stand for election, please contact Steve Woollett, Chair of THCL Management Committee:

07870-587713 or stevewoollett@hotmail.co.uk

In March, twenty willing parish residents took part in a Devon Community Resilience Forum (DCRF). The group discussed what had/hadn't worked well in recent flooding incidents. Looking ahead they suggested the following actions:

- Create an emergency plan
- Establish a *WhatsApp* group
- Communicate the need for personal resilience to residents
- Ask DCRF to explore the possibility of a single point of contact with external agencies for any emergency
- Ask DCRF to see if the Devon County Council report can be made available

The Parish Council pages have the summary notes from the forum. Also there's a mailing list so that people interested in staying in touch with the outcomes of the meeting can sign up: <https://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org/flooding/>

There will be future opportunities to get involved, please come along. All welcome.

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).



Energy Local
Totnes

Energy Local Totnes is a pioneering community energy club helping residents of Totnes and surrounding areas to buy and sell locally generated renewable electricity at a fair price. By using locally generated electricity from the hydro plant at Totnes Weir (with solar now also integrated) members help to keep more energy spend within the community, reduce their carbon footprint, and save up to 30% on their energy bills (when compared to the average UK electricity price). To learn more, visit: www.tresoc.co.uk/elt

Harberton & H/ford History Society – please join us for our AGM and talk on **Tue. 12th May (7pm)** at the Village Hall. Graham Lovegrove's talk (+ contemporaneous equipment!): 'Operation Tiger, Operation Disaster' (Slapton events in WW2) describes the tumultuous events of 28th April 1944. All welcome. Members free, non-members £3. If you are interested in local history and would like to join our enthusiastic committee we would love to hear from you. Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com
<https://h3s-history.org/contact-us/> Many thanks

Harbertonford Allotment Society (HAS) - we're busy at HAS getting plots ready for new tenants in the Spring....why not be one of those new tenants? Never had an allotment and don't know where to begin? No worries; there's plenty of experienced growers to offer advice, share seedlings and be supportive. You don't even need to buy tools – we have a good selection to borrow from in our communal shed. A visit can be arranged for you to see what's on offer. Key contact: has-sec@outlook.com

Debt Awareness Week took place last month and Citizens Advice South Hams are shining a light on debt-related issues and encouraging anyone who is struggling to seek the support they deserve. Our specialist debt advisers are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and can help with all aspects of debt – from Debt Relief Orders and Debt Management Plans to negotiating with creditors and dealing with bailiffs. If you or someone you know is struggling with debt, please don't hesitate to get in touch on freephone 0808-278-7948.

Big Wide-Open Mic – it's on **Sat. 18th Jul!!** This outdoor event will take place outside of the Village Hall (the bar will be open) from mid-pm into the evening! We stage this with the welcome support of H/ford Primary School who will no doubt be providing plenty of performers for your entertainment. If you' to reserve a slot at this inaugural celebration of village talent please get in touch. As ever ALL ages and abilities are very much welcome! Mail me middlewoodart@gmail.com Cheers, Gavin (& Guy!)

Get Ready for Growing - Let's get Sowing – H/ford Flower & Produce Show 2026 on **Sat. 1st Aug.** So, time to get the potatoes chitted and the sweet pea and sunflower seeds sown!!

Dog owners!! – in the past month we've had complaints from locals about dog mess on the village green. It's not an isolated incident - one complainant spotted dog mess on five areas on the green. It's a danger to health (especially for children) and it's totally unnecessary. Could dog owners please make sure that they clean up after their pets? Many thanks

The Totnes Household Waste Recycling Centre site on Babbage Rd. Industrial Estate, has re-opened after maintenance & engineering works.

Totnes Chess Club - we are a friendly club open to chess players of all ages/abilities. Beginners to experts can play in our internal leagues and we host regular blitz evenings - very fast and great fun! The club fields teams in competitions run by the Torbay Chess League and the Devon County Chess Association. We meet @ **6:30pm on 1st & 3rd Tues. each month** from Sept. to May. **Venue:** Assembly Room, Seven Stars Hotel, Totnes. Also: casual chess open to all in the Totnes Cinema café @ **10am-1pm every Saturday** throughout the year. For enquiries contact Martin Quinn: quinnmtavi@gmail.com or 07871-076291

Harberton Cricket Club 2026 - for children and adults

- We have re-entered junior teams in the Devon League. We have U13s and U12s hardball teams and an U10 softball team. Plus we have ECB *All Stars* & *Dynamos* for 5s-10s.
- We are considering an informal friendly women's/girls' softball cricket session one evening/week through the season. We have a core group interested in starting up but we are looking to gauge further interest. DM me if that's something that interests you.
- For adult cricket this summer we have a full schedule of friendly cricket - matches most Weds. & Suns. Also, tours to West London and the Cotswolds. Contact me for more info: Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876) or jamie_fit@hotmail.com
www.harbertoncc.com

Harbertonford FC – the Sunday side are in the Devon County Sunday Senior Cup final (Newton Abbot, **Sun. May 31st**). Their opponents are Queen & Constitution, Plymouth. The Saturday side's record to date is W4/D1/L8. For results, fixtures & news: www.bit.ly/hf-fc
Info: John Mills (j.mills@nhs.net), Mike Bishop (07813-120390).

The football field is a Community Landing Site for the Devon Air Ambulance. Please store loose equipment (inc. practice goals) to the sides of the field after use. Many thanks.

Football club lottery: £160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/mth.
Feb. winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):
John Mills/Matt Monaghan/Ben Davies/John Mills/
Pauline Overton/Debbie Sinclair-Jones
(Mar's draw not yet done)

Year planner 2026

18 Jul., Big Wide-Open Mic

29 Apr., THCL AGM

1 Aug., Village Show



This newsletter was printed by MAP Accountants, whose offices are in Harberton. Please phone Melanie Allday (01803-867655) for details of MAP's services

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