

Village Life

This month's edition is
sponsored by
The Flower Club

Harbertonford's newsletter

Issue 303, May 2026

Welcome to the May 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 the Flower Club for sponsoring this edition. Their generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.

Netta Griffiths, long-term resident of Marl Park, died peacefully in Torbay Hospital on 16th April. We plan to print an obituary for Netta in next month's newsletter.



St Peter's Church

Holy Communion – Sun. 17th May @ 9:30am
Everyone very welcome. Refreshments afterwards. The church is open to all every day (9am-5pm). 3rivers.org.uk

Annual Parochial Church meeting – Tue. 19th May (2pm) – in the church. If you have an interest in the future of St Peter's, we'd like to hear any suggestions you may have.

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).

Apr. winners: 1. Nick Attree, Packs Close

2. Alan Thorpe, Mill Meadow 3. Ruth Widger, Moreleigh

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.

Notice of Annual Parish Meeting

Harbertonford Village Hall, Tue. 28th Apr. (7:30pm)

Every Parish in England & Wales holds a Parish meeting as a means to keep elected councillors and interested members of the public informed of what's happening within the community. Organisations in the community who have agreements with, receive support from or have accepted grants from the PC are invited to the meeting to give an update of their activity over the past year. This meeting affords time to hear from these groups and to involve members of the community in discussion on some matters for which the PC seeks resolution. There will also be the opportunity for people to make comments or ask questions about other issues of importance to them. Refreshments will be provided, and it is hoped that people will come to share their views, meet each other and learn more about what is happening in the community.

Reminder!! - The Harbertonford Community Ltd (THCL)
RAGM is at the Village Hall: **Wed. 29th Apr. (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.

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



Recycling and waste collection

Collection dates for the two May BH's (as per the SHDC website):

May BH (4-8 May) – collections one day late that wk (on 5-9 May)
Spring BH (25-29 May) – also one day late that wk (26-30 May)



Opening times for Bank Holidays this month:

- **Mon. 4th & Mon. 25th May: 8am – 1pm (shop only)**
- Otherwise, normal times & normal service throughout May

Life on a Devon River; Sustainable Harbourne Valley's talk

& AGM - it's on **Tue. 5th May** at H/ford Village Hall. Join us and John Walters for stories of some of the plants, birds, insects & animals that live along Devon's rivers. From Dartmoor's sphagnum bogs and the caddis fly larvae on the river beds to our aquatic Dippers or Goosander ducklings to the eel-like Brook Lampreys in the river's gravel beds, we have tales of a diverse variety of life. Doors open @ **5pm** to view an exhibition of SHV's activities last year and our ideas for this year's river-based events. AGM starts at **7pm**. John Walters' talk starts at **7:30pm**

The Flower Club has these Weds. meetings @ **10:30am** this month: **May 6th** – “a form of transport”

May 20th – “an arrangement in a frame”

If you can't imagine what they may look like...come along and join us for a coffee.

Many thanks, Pauline 01803-732393

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at Harberton Parish Hall on **Tue. 12th May (7:30pm)**.

Harberton & H/ford History Society – we look forward to welcoming you to our next talk and AGM (H/ford Village Hall) on **Tue. 12th May (7pm)**. Graham Lovegrove will be speaking about events in 1942 at Slapton - 'Operation Tiger? Operation Disaster!' The AGM is at 7pm and the talk at 7:30pm which will be followed by refreshments. Members Free, Non Members £3.

For more info please see our website and new members will be warmly welcomed. <https://h3s-history.org/contact-us/>

Many thanks, Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com

Harbertonford; A Village History - we're delighted to let you know of our recent publication. Copies are £4 and can be obtained at our talk on 12th May or by contacting our website.

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thurs., 6-7:30pm) – our Youth Club. Usually every fortnight, at the Village Hall. Next dates: **14th May, 11th & 25th Jun., 9th Jul.** We will be off on trips with young people in **w/c 20th Jul.** Info: deekelly.traye@gmail.com

Open Mic, Fri. 15th May (7:30pm) @ VHall. There will be no Open Mic in June so be sure to come along and have a go before our big outdoor event on Sat. 18th Jul. As ever thank you to everyone who attended April's event, either in the audience or performing. We had two young performers making their debut appearances and they both went down a storm! A shout-out to our regular performers too - Rankin Roger, Boogie Pete and Blues Terry. It wouldn't be the same without ya!

To book a slot contact Gavin on middlewoodart@gmail.com



Coffee morning - Tue. 19th May (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.

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.

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 Bus Times - from April '26

H/FORD to TOTNES		TOTNES to H/FORD	
Mon-Fri	Sat	Mon-Fri	Sat
164 06:31	7 06:29	7 07:02	7 07:05
7 06:33	164 07:56 H	164 07:10	7 08:05
164 07:31	7 08:18	164 07:50	164 09:00
164 08:11 hH	164 09:16	7 08:33 h	7 09:08
164 08:14 dH	7 09:18	7 08:33 k	164 10:00
149 08:20 d	164 10:09 H	164 09:00	7 10:08
7 08:23	7 10:25	7 09:10	164 11:00

There is a new timetable for the 7 bus, based on the old 92 bus between Totnes & Dartmouth. So now, Bus 7 runs up to every hour between Exeter & Dartmouth via Newton Abbot & Totnes, providing a number of new journey opportunities, with through tickets and no requirement to change buses. The new H/F timetable (excerpt above) is available in the shop (at counter).

Helfines Hassy & Chutney continue to thrive living wild on the allotments with one meal a day @ teatime. Please continue to donate food if you can; sachets or dried are most welcome & can be dropped to Bow Cottage, Bow Rd or Box Cott., Moreleigh Rd. You can also find me behind the shop counter (Thu. afternoons). Many thanks for your continued support. She, HAS-Sec.

Hello everyone, I am a local teacher offering 1 to 1 lessons in music and ceramics and have recently moved to the village. I teach piano, singing, clarinet & saxophone, and also offer 1 to 1 ceramics sessions, focusing on hand-building techniques and sculpture in a relaxed intimate setting. Whether you're a complete beginner, returning to something you used to love, or looking to build confidence, I'm happy to tailor lessons to suit you. Please contact me if you'd like more info: (e) findinglizzie@hotmail.com (m) 07843-858313

Citizens Advice South Hams has opened recruitment for new volunteers based at Follaton House, Totnes. Our fantastic volunteers are the lifeblood of our charity, helping local people overcome their problems. No previous experience is necessary as we provide all the training you need. We're particularly looking for people to help with reception (both on phone and in-person) who can identify issues and connect callers to the right advisers for their situation. Please visit our website at <https://southhamscab.org.uk/get-involved/> to find out more.

Taru Pilates – • Increase mobility • Build core strength • Improve posture. The classes are at Harberton Parish Hall (Thu. 18:30-19:30). To reserve your spot, contact Clare: tarupilates@gmail.com or 07546-684420.

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. 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!)

Devon County Show (DCS) - Westpoint Arena, near Exeter from Thu. 21st to Sat. 23rd May. For a fantastic day out for all ages, the DCS is the place to be.

Royal Cornwall Show - Royal Cornwall Events Centre in Wadebridge from Thu. 4th to Sat. 6th Jun. It features livestock, entertainment, and shopping across three days.

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!!

Taunton Flower Show – the oldest flower show in the country, set in Vivary Park, Taunton. Dates: Fri. 7th & Sat. 8th Aug.

Harberton Cricket Club (HCC) 2026 - for children & adults

• Our lottery is an invaluable source of income. If you would like to join (£5/month), please follow the link below to help HCC grow into the future & continue to provide cricket for all the community.

<https://draw.ourclublotto.co.uk/harbertoncc>

- The ground is looking great - as is the brand-new scoreboard!
- 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 (usually Fri.).
- 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, September tour to the Cotswolds. Contact me for more info:

Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876) or jamie_fitz@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 Sat. side's record to date is W5/D1/L8. They are 9th in Div.2.

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. Mar. winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Linda Allen/Dave Hammond/Chloe Jones/Graham Clayton/
Jake Harmieson/Jack Hopkins (Apr's draw not yet done)

Year planner 2026

18 Jul., Big Wide-Open Mic

19 May, Parochial church meeting

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 June newsletter is 20th May.