

HORNINGSHAM

NEWS

ISSUE 192
May 2016





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EDITORIAL

The big story in the village has been the possible re-location of the Glastonbury Festival from Worthy Farm to Longleat in 2018. The Horningsham News Facebook page reached over 3,000 people with its links to a couple of local newspaper stories on the topic. However, Longleat CEO Bob Montgomery, while neither confirming nor denying the rumour, made it clear to the Parish Council (*Page 5*) that no decision has been made. He also said he was “lukewarm” about the idea. He said it was not part of Longleat’s core business and that Longleat lacked the infrastructure necessary for an audience of 150,000. If you missed this story as it was breaking in April, then that’s another reason to join our growing band of readers on Facebook – you don’t have to register with FB to read it – just Google “Horningsham News”.

There is much more than Glastonbury in this issue. As well as most of our regular contributions from village groups, there is a report on the memorable event Ros Algar organised (*Page 22*), In Mill Farm Chronicles, Margaret gives us an insight into the trials and tribulations of present day farming (*Page 14*). Ever wondered about those distinctive groups of trees outside the Bath Arms? Then take a look at the Then & Now feature (*Page 18*). Those of you who enjoyed Pip Utton’s memorable one-man shows will relish the final instalment of his trilogy “Playing Maggie” – the Hall’s big event of the month (*Page 25*). Arguably he has saved the best till last.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Sunday 15th May.

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team

Tim Hill	844365	Chrissie Buttery	844622
Helen Taylor	215906	Gill Courtney	844411
James Osborne (<i>Treasurer</i>) 844711			



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Facebook

We now have 406 “Page Likes” – more than double the number of printed copies!

Printed by Parish Magazine Printing (01288 341617) printers of community magazines.

CHURCH NEWS



Easter Sunday is the most important festival in the church calendar, so it was good to see so many people at the service, especially as there was a service in the Deverills at the same time. The church looked lovely with all the spring flowers: a big thank you to all the flower arrangers, especially those who have just joined us. Your arrangements were much appreciated by the congregation. We were very pleased that Alison Wadsworth was able to take the service for us. Alison kindly helps us at Easter & Christmas, for which we are very grateful.

I write this having just come home from Evensong. It has been many months, if not years, since we have had Evensong at Horningsham and it was a good way to end the day. The congregation were very grateful to John Budgen, who kindly agreed to take this service for us.

There are two services in May: Rogation and Benefice communion. Rogation is the one service in the year that is held outside at one of the farms in the village. This year we have been invited to visit John Whatley at Parsonage Farm. Hopefully it will be a fine evening (and a bit warmer!) and we can enjoy the lovely rhododendrons and the fine views across John's immaculate fields. Rogation is the time when we bless the crops and the animals, and we get to meet some young cattle and the hens (who are always a bit surprised when we sing hymns to them!). This is one of the highlights of our church year and is always much enjoyed; do come and join us.

Helen Taylor

Church Dates

8th May	Rogation at Parsonage Farm 6.00pm
29 th May	Benefice Eucharist at 10.30am

MARTIN PRING

Those of you with a long association with Horningsham will be sorry to hear of the recent death of Martin Pring. He was born in Horningsham in 1939 and left with his family eleven years later. Like so many of his generation Martin retained his deep affection for Horningsham and visited from Kent whenever he could, often to see his uncle Billy Rowe until he died in 2008. Martin and his wife Iris attended the village Reunion nearly every year and I always looked forward to seeing them. He was always bright, cheerful and a pleasure to talk to, often telling stories from his very happy childhood. We will miss him.

Dear Friends,

As a vicar I am privileged to be invited to accompany people during some of the most important events in their lives: marriage; thanksgiving and baptism for a baby; renewal of marriage vows on an important anniversary; and in the event of death, which will happen to us all one day however much we push it to the back of our minds and pretend it will not.



Last week my son sent me an email with an interesting link entitled 'Wait, but why' that directed me to a web page which laid out the human lifespan visually in the form of a number of grids. So for a 90 year lifespan, firstly there is a little grid, one little shape for each year; actually, when viewed in this way, 90 years doesn't look like much at all. Then the grid is enlarged a little to represent all the months in 90 years, then weeks, then days.

The person who put the website together writes: *'The days chart blows my mind as much as the weeks chart. Each of those dots is only a single Tuesday or Friday or Sunday, but even a lucky person who lives to 90 will have no problem fitting every day in their life on one sheet of paper.'* He then goes on to think about measuring life not in units of time but in activities or events. For instance *'I read about five books a year, so even though it feels like I'll read an endless number of books in the future, I actually have to choose only 300 of all the books out there to read and accept that I'll sign off for eternity without knowing what goes on in all the rest.'*

I read a lot more than five books a year, but still, the sentiment is the same, my life has a given time span and I am never going to read all the books I want in my life time; better get cracking on the good ones then.

All this set me in mind of one of the canticles we use on Monday mornings at Morning Prayer which is taken from Psalm 103 where we read that *'He (God) knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are but as grass; we flourish as a flower of the field. For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more.'* Nothing like hitting you between the eyeballs on a Monday morning is there.

Perhaps you find the thought that, even though people are living longer and longer, our given time on this earth is but a drop in the ocean of time and eternity a frightening thought. But if we flip it around actually, the knowledge that our lives are finite can help us focus on what is important and how we should order our priorities. I don't know about you, but it seems to me that the meaningful relationships we have with those we love should come top of the list. I leave you with another quote:

Priorities matter. Your remaining face-time with any person depends largely on where that person falls on your list of life priorities. Make sure this list is set by you - not by unconscious inertia. Quality time matters. If you're in your last 10% of time with someone you love, keep that fact in the front of your mind when you're with them and treat that time as what it actually is: precious.

Love and prayers,

Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Over Easter at the Chapel we were pleased to welcome a past Horningsham family at the Christening of Ivor Anthony Meek. The parents, Kevin Meek and Laura Jones now live in Oxford. The Jones family moved to Horningsham in 1957 and lived at 182 Chapel Street before moving on to Corsley in 1972. Many of the family still live around the Warminster district and attended the Chapel which looked lovely bedecked with Daffodils. Many of the flowers later adorned family graves in the Chapel cemetery. The service was taken by Rev. Angela Steele with organist Sue Priestner.

Our next Service will be on Sunday May 8th at 10.00 am

Carol Cox
horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk

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PARISH COUNCIL

Horningsham Parish Council met on Thursday 21st April at the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors, Tim Hill; Steve Crossman; Michael Trollope; Fran Chris; Emma Curtis; John Radley; Ken Windess; Matt Simpson; and Gerard Brierley.

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Mrs. Sarah Jeffries MILCM.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Dermot FitzGerald; Simon Millar.

Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed Mr Bob Montgomery (CEO Longleat) and Mr Michael Birnie (Land Agent) and invited them to tell Council about the rumoured move of Glastonbury to Longleat in 2018.

Mr Montgomery said that Longleat receives many enquiries about events it might host and had received an enquiry from Michael Eavis about holding the Glastonbury Festival at Longleat in 2018. No decision has been made yet and Mr Montgomery said they would need to understand much more about what it would involve. His own view was lukewarm to the suggestion as the event would have potential negative impacts on Longleat's core business. The Elton John concert was exceptional and was being held as part of the 50th anniversary of the Safari Park and should not be seen as setting a precedent. The Elton John concert is a one-off event with numbers limited to 15,000 Glastonbury involves an audience of 150,000. Longleat did not have the infrastructure that would be necessary. On the matter of where it could be located, Mr Birnie said that both a licence and planning permission would be needed and Historic England would doubtless have a view about using the Grade 1 listed park. Mr Montgomery assured councillors that he would liaise with the Parish Council over the proposal.

The matter of the signage at the Redway Lane entry to Longleat was discussed and Mr Montgomery said he wanted to replace the existing signs with the lion logo and he would pay attention to ensuring that the new signs did not obscure the line of sight for drivers in the way that the present signs do. It was suggested to him that using the Picket Post entrance directly from the roundabout would reduce congestion and mean that traffic entering Longleat would no longer have to turn right across traffic coming from Horningsham. In response he said he could sign no reason why this should not be implemented and would explore it.

The Chairman thanked Mr Montgomery and Mr Birnie for attending and for their full and frank responses.

Planning Applications

16/02502/FUL Location: Old Timbers Gentle Street Horningsham BA12 7LD

Proposal: Revised application for the replacement of modern lean –to extensions and internal alterations (resubmission of 15/04335/FUL)

Council unanimously decided to offer no comment.

16/02721/LBC Location: Old Timbers Gentle Street Horningsham BA12 7LD

Proposal: Revised application for the replacement of modern lean –to extensions and internal alterations (resubmission of 15/04335/FUL)

Council unanimously decided to offer no comment.

Planning Applications Considered Between Meetings

16/01787/FUL Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Installation of temporary sculpture for a period of 7 months from 16/03/16 to 16/10/16 on existing hard standing in front of Longleat House.

Decision: Supported

16/01076/FUL Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Car park alterations with new paths bridges and tree planting to create a new pedestrian route and entrance to the attractions at Longleat.

Decision: Supported

16/01608/VAR Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Variation of conditions 4 and 5 applicable to planning application reference W12/02208/FUL (proposed function room with associated landscaping, service yard and bin store) to enable the substitution of revised landscaping plans.

Decision: Supported

Planning Decisions

16/01787/FUL Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Installation of temporary sculpture for a period of 7 months from 16/03/16 to 16/10/16 on existing hard standing in front of Longleat House.

Decision: 22nd April 2016

16/01076/FUL Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Car park alterations with new paths bridges and tree planting to create a new pedestrian route and entrance to the attractions at Longleat.

Decision: Approved subject to conditions

16/01608/VAR Location: Longleat House

Proposal: Variation of conditions 4 and 5 applicable to planning application reference W12/02208/FUL (proposed function room with associated landscaping, service yard and bin store) to enable the substitution of revised landscaping plans.

Decision: Approved with conditions

16/000394/FUL Location: Longleat safari and Adventure park

Proposal: Replacement of 3 existing EE antennas with 3 new EE antennas, installation of 3 MHAs and ancillary works

Decision: Approved with conditions

16/00640/TCA Location: Old Timbers 14 Gentle street Horningsham BA12 7LD

Proposal: T1 and T2 Yew trees reduce canopies by 2.5m T3 Western Red Cedar fell in sections.

Decision: No objection

Parish Steward - Highways

The clerk reported on the Highways meeting she attended the previous night in Salisbury. Ringway would be in place within the next three months and that the parish steward scheme would be reintroduced.

Councillor Fran Chris reported that she had reported a water leak in Church Lane outside Park Farm to Wessex Water. Further water leaks were discussed and would be reported by Councillor Steve Crossman. Councillor Tim Hill would re-report the water leak near

Park Farm to Wessex Water as a week had gone by since Councillor Fran Chris had made her report.

Annual Litter Pick

The Clerk reported that the skip was over-loaded and contained fridges and freezers that were not permitted by Shandleys resulting in a final charge of £677.25. She also drew councillors' attention to the fact that the bags of litter collected by the litter pick could be removed free of charge by Wiltshire Council. Council decided to discuss at a future meeting whether to continue to provide a skip.

WW1 Commemorations

The Chairman reported that he had, as requested by Council, met with Michael Birnie about the area around the War Memorial. Mr Birnie said he would arrange for the remaining tree stumps to be ground out rather than pulled out as this would do less damage to the remaining ground. He said he would arrange for the Forestry Department to do this and to provide the tree trunk bench. He also said that he would arrange for the area to be seeded with grass.

Play Area

The Chairman reported that he, Councillor Windess and Councillor FitzGerald had attended the highly enjoyable "Headmasters on Tour" evening organised by Mrs Ros Algar at the Village Hall. The capacity audience greatly enjoyed the two gripping talks given by the Heads of Warminster School and Wellington College. The meal provided by Warminster School was of exceptional quality and the auction was lively. The whole event was a great success and has raised nearly £10,000 towards the Henry Worsley Play Area with, as Councillor Windess reported, money still coming in. It was agreed that Mrs Algar should be congratulated on her initiative in organising such a successful event that has got the fund-raising for the play area off to such a flying start. The next task for the Council will be to raise further funds and then, in the light of the funds raised, to decide upon the design and equipping of the play area.

Parish Plan

Councillor Steve Crossman reported that he had held a meeting of a core group of representatives (Bob Grove, Michael Birnie, Dermot FitzGerald). The meeting was very positive and the group are keen to move the planning process forward without further delay. They noted that the composition of the parish had changed substantially since the previous consultation exercise was held and decided that a fresh consultation should be held. This would be done both on paper and on the internet. Councillor Crossman will provide the questions from the group to the Clerk by 6th May.

Annual Parish Meeting 19th May

It was decided to again invite representatives from village groups and organisations to speak about their activities and any concerns they might have. This had proved interesting and useful when it was done last year. The Clerk would also invite the Longleat CEO and Land Agent.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 19th May following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30 in the Village Hall when all are welcome to attend.

WELCOME CLUB

We had an enjoyable quiz at our latest get-together on April 14th. Prizes were being battled for with just a single point between each of First, Second and Third places.

Our next meeting will be a few games of bingo with Tom in the Chair, which will, as usual, be fun! Eyes down at 2.30 pm on May 12th.

The report on our first trip will be found in the next issue, so all will be revealed later.

On May 17th there will be a slight change to the normal for our next trip. We will be spending a longer time than usual at Cadbury Garden Centre especially to give the gardeners amongst us the time to have a really good look around with the growing season in mind! Then on to Weston for the rest of the day. All welcome to join us, as ever.

Chris Short 847373



- Please deliver any unwanted pots and trays to Park Farm in Church Lane - it's potting-up time for the Plant Stall.
- Please also save any extra plants, cuttings or seedlings of flowers or vegetables to be sold on the Plant Stall.
- Any offers of help on the Stall on the day will be greatly appreciated.

Carole Hill (844365)

Cake Stall



This is a request for cakes, biscuits and preserves for the Famous Cake Stall which, as you know, has become well known for its variety and value. Please, if you could make some items to sell on the stall in the next months, we can find freezer space for them and if not, perhaps you would be prepared to help for an hour or so on the day.



Many thanks!

Susie Hilleary 844454

JANET SMY 1935 - 2016



Jan Smy's sad death could only be reported briefly in last month's Horningsham News.

Born in Cheshire in 1935, Jan left school at 15 and started training to be a secretary, until the principal of the college warned her parents that she wouldn't succeed because she couldn't sit still long enough! She studied hairdressing instead, which she loved, and eventually opened her own salon in Bournemouth. In 1961 she and Bill were married and went out to Australia, returning after 2 years. Bill, a qualified plumber, then answered an advertisement for a plumber for Longleat, and having got that appointment, Bill and Jan have lived here ever since, first at Stalls, until they moved to Little Scotland in 1983. By this time Jan was busy once again with her hairdressing, at Henford House and for many people, both men and ladies, in and around Horningsham (including among her regular customers an elderly brigadier). Jan also produced monthly a delicious recipe for Horningsham News.

Jan was always cheerful, kind, and a delight to know. For many years she was coping bravely with health problems involving periods in hospital, which finally defeated her. She leaves a family including 3 children and 9 grandchildren, and will be sadly missed by them and by her friends in the village, many of whom attended her funeral on 5th April. We all send our condolences to Bill and the family.

Maggie Osborne

HORNINGSHAM CRICKET CLUB



Following several weeks of rain, much of our sports field has been transformed into a bog. This can only mean one thing: the cricket season has started! Our first match was a gentle warm up against Chilmark, captained by a former Horningsham player and one-time manager of the Bath Arms, Peter Stevens. Chilmark were an ideal opposition, as they were willing to play, did not mind sinking ankle deep into the mud at square leg, and let us win. A big partnership by the ever elegant Angus Hilleary (48) and brutally destructive Harry Hatch (70) took us to a score of 174 which Chilmark never threatened to challenge. Our young bowling

attack was in excellent form, led by Henry Hockley, who deserved several wickets, and Connor Widdows, who bagged 2.

It was good to welcome Amanda Dye back to Horningsham, preparing the first of, we hope, another season of excellent teas. And I would also like to thank our new groundsman, Jack Crossman, for his excellent work making the field as good as it can be, in spite of the ground often being too wet to mow and too soft to roll.

James Osborne

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HORNINGSHAM FAYRE

Six weeks to go till the big day. Where has the year gone?! I'm not entirely sure if we're ready for the Fayre but I do know the sun will shine and it'll be another fabulous day in Horningsham.

As you read this we should have had the posters printed, booked the advertising to bring in the crowds and made the new road signage ready to install. As I write this in mid-April, most of that is still a work in progress. Eeek! With a few elements still to confirm before we can actually promote the Fayre it feels like we're cutting it a bit fine this year. We do have the Frukies of Frome confirmed to play a ukulele set or two, a tea party planned for a Queen in the Village Hall, the school dancers well practised for their big arena number and the stallholders all signed up to bring you a wide selection of craft to peruse.

We're going to open the arena events this year with an Elton John fancy dress competition. You can come as 70s, 80s or 90s Elton – just be there by 11am so you have plenty of time to parade your outfit for the audience before the judges decide who wins. Biggest cheer at midday gets the prize. Competition open to all - young and old - get your feathers out, dust off your straw boater and polish your glasses before you groove on down to the Fayre.



If Elton's not your bag, then visit the wonderful traditional marquees: this year we have some new rustic signage, handmade by Ken, to help you find your way around. Margaret says she has collected, sifted and sorted a bounty of treasure for the Bric-a-Brac but there's always room for more. This will be Carole Hill's last year running the incredibly popular plant stall so please pop by to say hello and pick up a bargain for your garden. We are also in need of bakers for the cake stall; harness your inner Nadia and show Susie Hilleary some support for her first year running the cake stall.

We will hold the incredibly popular dog show again with Steve Crossman on the mike as well as a re-run of last year's runaway success: the Plank Race. Will the Army win and retain the Crossman Cup or will the school kids be triumphant on the home straight?

Look out for our A5 poster in June's edition of the Horningsham News for a full confirmed programme of events. Raffle tickets will be on sale throughout May and we will be finessing the field for the day on Saturday 11th June from 10am. Hope to see you there to help get the Fayre set up, if not we look forward to seeing you at 11am on Sunday 12th June for the main event.

Caroline Dykes and the Fayre Committee.
chb.bristol@gmail.com 07779 121228



Our Exhibition

We had so many visitors to our exhibition for *Take One Book* and some amazing feedback. The children had work displayed from the Spring Term project where they had focused all their work on one book for each class. The exhibition was an opportunity to share our learning with the whole community as well as celebrate our achievements. We were thrilled that Helen Ward, author of *"Varmints"* (which was a book used as a whole school project) came to the exhibition. She was very impressed with all the work and very moved by how the children had responded to her own book. She spent time talking with some of the children and left with a sequel to her book written by Woodpeckers! She commented on the great writing and use of imagination and said how wonderful it was to see a school allowing the children to be so creative.



"James and the Giant Peach" by Robins Class
Giant peach and wonderful giant insects



"Varmints" by the Whole School

Global issues large canvass, poetry, wishes sculpture, wishes for the world

The hall looked wonderful and set up so that you would discover each book and related work as you moved around the room – lots of people were surprised to find themselves in *Wonderland* by the time they had reached the far end of the hall!



"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Woodpeckers Class

Wall hanging, clocks, teapots, menus, cups and life size Queen of Hearts!

The staff did a fantastic job in setting up the exhibition and devoted lots of their holiday time to make sure it was special.

It was all worth it when the children came in on the first day back and we saw their jaws drop and such excitement and awe and wonder at seeing their own work in this way. It was a great week and

we were all sad to take the exhibition down. We are currently putting together photos and information for our website to share the work with everyone who was not able to come along. A really big thank you to everyone who supported us.



"Carrie's War" by Owls Class
*Evacuee sculptures, wartime diaries,
toys for suitcases.*

Happy Birthday Your Majesty!

We all felt very patriotic celebrating the Queen's birthday; waving Union Jack flags we had made and singing the National Anthem.



Marlborough here we come!

We are excited to announce that we came second at the Tri-Golf tournament at Erlestoke Golf Club and as a result have qualified to go to this year's School Games at Marlborough College.



"The tri golf tournament was an enjoyable event where we learnt skills from secondary pupils by rotating around in different golfing activities to practise skills such as: long distance putting and accuracy when hitting the ball. To conclude we tested these skills against other schools." (Sam H, Y6). We will let you know how we get on!

Scotability

Tina Ward from Wiltshire Council ran 'Scotability' sessions with the children. Having practised: ways to stop, how to go around pedestrians and looking after our scooters, the children are now ready and raring to scoot!



Mill Farm Chronicles March-April 2016

I apologise now for this being a pretty negative report but I'm fed up. Life is full of ups and downs and we've had more downs than ups at Mill Farm over these last few weeks. Just so you don't fall into the trap of thinking a farming life is all baby animals, picnics on sunny days and happy ever afters like Countryfile would have you believe, I'm giving some of it to you warts and all!

To start with, we have been shut down with TB yet again. It was picked up in a barren cow that we sent to market last month. To be able to trade again and sell our calves we need a licence and then we can only trade through an Orange Tag market (TB holding to TB holding) To get a licence we have to have a whole herd test to "check our status" (May 2nd is the earliest we could get this done). If after this test we have more than 20 reactors then they are culled and we get compensated at less than market value and we are refused a licence to trade. If we have under 20 we might get a licence but then again we might not, it depends on how the Ministry feel at the time. If we are granted a licence then the earliest we can take calves to market will be the end of May so ultimately we have no possible way to produce any income until then. I think this is how it works but quite frankly the whole system is so complicated and I'm no expert so please don't quote me on this. It just seems to me that the Ministry is spending huge amounts of taxpayers' money on the effects of TB without sorting out the root problem. TB is not going to go away until the source of spread is removed, whatever that might be!!

Vegetarians stop reading now!

TB is a fact of life now so we have had to change the way we farm accordingly. Because we breed store cattle i.e. young cattle that go on to other farms to be fattened for meat, we are the sector of the industry that is hit the most by a TB breakdown because we are denied our ability to sell our "product". Consequently since our last breakdown we have kept some of our cattle and moved towards fattening them ourselves so that they could be sold direct to slaughter which means we are not restricted by live cattle movement licences. Obviously it takes years to breed a calf and fatten it to the size that the public dictate is the right amount of fat/ lean meat required. They have to have extra feed and extra care so it's not a quick fix at all but we were getting there.

Now we get to our next blip!

Our fat cattle were lovely, big solid creatures who were in our covered yard and were weeks away from being ready to go. One morning a week ago Steve went out early to check the cattle and feed them when he discovered 3 dead and 2 more in major distress. It transpired that the cows had broken into our stored wheat and gorged themselves with the corn. The corn had travelled into their stomachs and fermented and killed them. We quickly called the vet who came and treated the other sick ones with a drench which flushed the cows' digestive system through to stop the wheat poisoning them. Thankfully these two recovered.

Blip # 3!

The same day after a shaky start, Steve went up to Butchery Farm to feed the cattle there, only to discover a young bullock down and not well. The vet was duly called again and it transpired that it had contracted Tetanus and couldn't be saved so had to be put down.

Blip #4

Last weekend we lost a cow to magnesium deficiency which is commonly known as “grass staggers”. This usually affects cows that are feeding their calves and eating spring grass. There is little magnesium in new grass and the cow is losing magnesium through its milk that the calf is drinking so an imbalance occurs. This imbalance causes the cow to stagger around as if it’s drunk, get aggressive or suffer convulsions that may lead to death. Treatment is an injection of calcium & magnesium and if you get it into the cow quickly enough then the improvement is miraculous. Unfortunately this time we were too late and the cow died. Dotted around our animal fields you will see that there are white tubs that have a molasses mixture in it which also has added vitamins and minerals, one being magnesium. The theory is that the cows lick this mixture (a bit like you taking a daily vitamin pill) and so keep their magnesium levels up thus stopping grass staggers occurring. Unfortunately, to paraphrase a proverb “you can lead a cow to a tub but you can’t make it lick!”

Right, enough wallowing in self-pity, let’s have some positivity.

We’ve had 4 lovely healthy calves, the pond looks really lovely again. The grass is beginning to grow, the leaves are starting to come out and the swallows are back.

The new bed and breakfast room (we’ve called it The Cowshed) was ready for Easter and seems to be ticking all the boxes for our guests. Business is a tad slow at the moment which I hope is just because Easter was early and the weather is rubbish and not because people are saving money and not going away this year.

Steve didn’t have his operation on his knee. It was postponed indefinitely a few days before, because the surgeon and Steve decided to leave well alone on the basis that if Steve could live with the pain then don’t mess with it and possibly make it worse. This was probably a blessing in disguise considering the TB test we are going to have soon.

My mum celebrated her 87th birthday on 14th April. We gave her a little afternoon tea party for family and friends in the communal hall of the flats where she lives. For a bit of entertainment we hooked up a TV and let everyone pick a runner from the Grand National. I then provided prizes for whoever had picked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd - we all got very excited!

Jack’s been involved in the live shows at Longleat that saw Ben Fogel and Kate Humble revisit their time there with Animal Park. The shows were brilliant, funny and informative. Steve, Amy, Ivy and I went “back stage” after the show to meet up with Ben and Kate and reminisce. They haven’t changed a bit, still as nice and approachable as ever.

I gather that 5 new episodes of Animal Park have been commissioned later this year to coincide with Longleat’s 50th anniversary so that’s something to look forward to at least.



Margaret Crossman

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Sarah McQuaid www.sarahmcquaid.com

SATURDAY 7 MAY 2016

Deverills Performing Arts

Longbridge Deverill, Warminster

7:30pm (Doors 7pm)

deverillsfestival.com

Sarah McQuaid in Concert, The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill Tickets £10 / £5 Under-17s

"A captivating performer of an original fusion of jazz and folk, Sarah McQuaid will seduce you with cheeky banter and stories from the road, as well as with stunning musicianship. A soulful singer, smart and sensuous songwriter, and scintillating guitarist." Huffington Post

For more information: www.deverillsfestival.com

Tickets: 01985 844385 | email: info@deverillsfestival.com

INS & OUTS

This has been a good month with 4 new families arriving and only one leaving.

Welcome to Denise Stockford who has previously lived in Devon and Bristol, and has moved here from Mells to settle in 176 Chapel Street. She is a manager in Social Work. She is very interested in vintage clothing and in bric-a-brac.

Welcome to Brian and Patricia Rogers, a West Country family, who have moved here from Shaftesbury to settle at 98 Lodge Field with the aim of enjoying their retirement in Horningsham. Brian's career has been in the aviation industry, in later years working for the US Air Force. Patricia was a career civil servant. They are both much involved in training gun-dogs, with 4 Golden Retrievers and 2 black Labradors, and think the terrain here will be ideal for the purpose.

We are glad that Simon and Alex Lloyd have moved into the village and now live at 78 The Island with their sons Jack (14) and Tom (12). Alex has already been working at Longleat for two years while they lived in Tetbury, and she has now been appointed General Manager. Simon is Marketing Director for AXA having previously been with Virgin Atlantic. He is a keen sportsman involved in shooting, fishing and golf. The boys are at boarding school in Bristol where Jack is in the Academy rugby team. He and his father are both willing to be involved in Horningsham cricket. The family includes Murphy, a black Labrador.

Lastly, a welcome to the Stanton family who have moved into 142 West Common, by the sports field. Dave and Jackie are both working at Center Parcs, Jackie in the Sports Café and Dave in the American Restaurant 'Hucks'. Their son Danny and daughter Leyna also work there, Danny in Starbucks and Leyna in retail. Their other son Dean has a job at the Bath Arms. Jackie used to work in knitwear design at Rowan Yarns, and Leyna also designs and makes knitwear products; they would like to meet anyone else involved in this field. Danny, Dean and Leyna also run a semi-professional band called 'Robinson Stone'. They are all keen tennis players.

Out

Chris and Lynda Moore have left 180 Chapel Street. We miss her and her 4 dogs on their daily walks round the village.

Maggie Osborne



Wanted!

Any saleable items (not electrical) for the Bric a Brac stall at the Village Fayre on June 12th.

**Please contact me and I will arrange collection or you can deliver to
15 Gentle St.
Margaret Long 844756**

THEN & NOW



1916



Not much change at the Bath Arms in the 100 years that separate these two photos. The coat of arms on the front has been moved up to allow for an extra window in the middle of the first floor and there are new doors to what used to be the Public Bar.

According to Historic England, the Bath Arms is listed Grade II and the building dates from the 17th Century and was substantially extended in the middle of the 18th Century. Originally it was known as the New Inn but later became the Weymouth Arms and then, after 1789 when Viscount Weymouth became the Marquess of Bath, it became the Bath Arms.

In the 19th Century alcohol featured prominently in Horningsham. There were no fewer than four pubs in the village as well as an off-licence, though the population was then over 1,200. Just across the Common from the Bath Arms was the “George & Dragon” at No.108. At the other end of the village, No.9 was the “Holly Bush Inn” while down the road at No.15 Gentle Street stood the “Royal Oak Inn”. In Chapel Street No.190 was “The Crescent” which operated as an off-licence.

Clearly visible in both photos are the two groups of lime trees. Twelve at the side known as “The Twelve Apostles” and four more in front, known as “The Four Disciples.” They were already old in the 1916 postcard for in 1793 Thomas Davis, Steward to the 1st Marquess, recorded in his accounts: “Paid Benjamin Edwards for watering the young trees near the New Inn - 1 shilling”. In fact two trees in the centre of the group of twelve were planted in 1977 as replacements for two missing apostles.

For once, the back of the postcard is almost as interesting as the front. It was sent to Miss E Legg in Wandsworth bearing this message: “My Dear Elsie, This is a photo of the place where we had tea on Saturday. With much love, yours ever, Don.” But what makes it really interesting is the postmark – it was posted at Sutton Veny Camp at 7 pm on Monday 14th August. Sutton Veny Camp was an enormous camp where soldiers trained before going off to fight on the Western Front. One can imagine this young soldier walking over to Horningsham, having tea at the Bath Arms, buying this postcard, then walking back to the camp where he wrote it and posted it to his girlfriend in the camp Post Office.



MAIDEN BRADLEY SHOP

April was quite a month! We found a new Manager, a new Saturday Assistant and installed the awning! But firstly an update on the Shop AGM which was held at the end of March and introduce the new elected shop committee members.

As Chairman I thanked the staff and the volunteers for all their hard work during the course of the year. The financial position at the end of the financial year last September was disappointing although an improvement on the year before. We have put in place various changes to address this and the financial position of the shop to date is much improved. However we need to keep working hard to balance our books and we need your help to keep this very valuable amenity going.

A quote from the report given by Rupert, our Treasurer: *'Imagine, driving to and from Frome or Mere each day to collect a newspaper. The distance is about 7 miles, the average car today does say 40 miles per gallon and at current fuel prices this would be a cost of 80p each way, £1.60 per journey or £11.20 per week'*. This also applies to any item which one has run out of or has a sudden need for. Rupert added that if we could attract 50 new customers who would spend just £5 a week in the shop we could increase our profit by £3,000 a year. Food for thought!



The new committee elected at the AGM is: Philip Henry; Sam Higgins; Elaine Lavender; Nigel Lavender; Liz Nixon; Rupert Scott; and John Somerset. Everyone will do their best to ensure that the shop continues to serve the community. We sadly said goodbye to Angus Hilleary who was our Horningsham representative on the committee. If anyone from Horningsham would like to join the committee they will be most welcome as we see you as part of our community. And we would also welcome a volunteer who could give an hour or so a week.

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Staff: Our new Manager, Sue Worrell, will be taking up her position on 1 May. We feel very lucky to have Sue as she brings experience from the retail and catering world. Sue and her husband, Richard, will shortly be moving into their house in Maiden Bradley from their present home in Trowbridge. Sue very much wants to continue the emphasis on community and undoubtedly she will bring some new ideas and changes to the shop. Do please go to the shop and introduce yourself to her as she wants to hear all your thoughts and ideas. We are also very pleased to have Tash Peck working for us on Saturdays until the end of May. Tash stepped in immediately when Melanie had to resign due to a shoulder operation. We wish Melanie all the best and hope she comes back to visit us.

And finally, we say goodbye to Amanda as she becomes a customer on the other side of the counter! We have appreciated everything she has done for the shop over the last 2 years and wish her well in her next ventures. In solidarity the till decided to give up too!

Liz Nixon

Tickets are selling fast *Historian, story-teller and world renowned expert on the Zulu War of 1879, Rob Caskie, starts his UK tour this year in Horningsham.*

With its military and historical focus and Rob already having a large following this evening of drinks and of story-telling promises to have a huge appeal locally, so don't be disappointed, book your tickets today.



The defence of Rorke's Drift
Alphonse-Marie-Adolphe de Neuville (1879)



Lieutenant John Chard VC
Royal Engineers

The focus of the evening will be on the exploits of a handful of colonial troops, four civilians and a small British force, consisting of two engineers and B company, 24th (2nd Warwickshire) Regiment of Foot, who were to keep a rampaging Zulu army at bay on the day, January 22nd, when the British Army had just suffered its biggest ever defeat. With a demonstration of guts, bravery, personal sacrifice and the humility of the Zulu's, this action would go down in history.

With the support of the regiment today known as The Royal Welsh, their museum in Brecon and in the company of their Commanding Officer and The Victorian Military Society's Diehard Company dressed in 1879 dress order, and with the regimental mascot, Fusilier Llywelyn and his Goat Major, Fusilier Matthew Owen in attendance on arrival, this promises to be an electrifying evening as the battle that went on well into the night, will be brought alive by one of the best raconteurs you will ever have the pleasure to be in the company of. One definitely for all the family.

The Evening : Saturday 25th June, Horningsham Village Hall : Drinks & Story-telling: 7pm for 7.45pm

This event is in support of the Solo Community Playground Appeal in memory of ex. Resident, Henry Worsley. There will a paid for bar available, but tickets @ £20 each will include a glass of wine or a soft drink and eats. Tickets are available by post making cheques payable to **Horningsham Village Hall/Rorke's Drift**; via an email confirmation (providing your name, address and telephone number to Geoffrey) and using the contact details below, or by simply using your credit card and clicking on the link [HERE](#)

Contact: Geoffrey Wheatng

Address: Rorke's Drift Evening c/o 121 Little Scotland, Horningsham, Wiltshire BA12 7NH

Email: robcastie@horningshamevents.co.uk



- ★ One hilltop post, hospital and one time mission.
- ★ Four regiments of Zulu warriors numbering 4,000
- ★ Against a thin red line of 139 solders, 11 colonial troops and 4 civilians, behind a mealie bag and biscuit box lines of defence.
- ★ Who by the time the Zulu's retreated, were down to their last box of 600 cartridges, after 7 hours of repeated attacks.
- ★ **The Place:** Rorke's Drift.
- ★ **The Honours:** 11 Victoria Crosses; still the largest number awarded in a single battle and with 7 to the 24th Foot, still the largest number awarded to a single unit.

Listen to Rob tell it his way: Click [HERE](#) or copy this URL into your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPFUew3uWfK>

FROM THE ATLANTIC TO ANTARCTICA

Henry Worsley Tribute

Horningsham Village Hall was packed on Saturday 9th April for the hugely successful sell-out event organised by Ros Algar. Originally the event was to have been a talk by Henry Worsley about his solo expedition retracing Shackleton's footsteps across Antarctica. When that trip sadly ended just 30 miles short of completion, Mark Mortimer, Headmaster of Warminster School and Julian Thomas, Master of Wellington College, stepped into the breach with an offer to give talks on their own exploits so that the fund-raising evening could still take place. Both had originally planned to come together to hear Henry Worsley.



On arrival, the guests were treated to a glass of prosecco before finding their seats for the two lectures, though the word “lecture” does not convey just how gripping the accounts were. Mark Mortimer recounted how he had rowed across the Atlantic in 75 days with a fellow army officer in the inaugural trans-Atlantic rowing race and then entered the very first solo race in 2004, in which he capsized after 35 days at sea. His talk, illustrated with his photos, conveyed the sheer boredom and occasional terror of his experiences at sea especially to landlubbers

in the audience. Mark's acute sense of humour was evident during his talk such that the audience was rapt throughout.

Humour, of a self-deprecating type, also ran like a thread through Julian Thomas's exciting account of how he trekked from the coast of Antarctica to the South Pole. From the age of 9 he had held the ambition of following in Scott's footsteps and so 38 years later he jumped at the chance to join an expedition to do just that. As *The Times* put it in a headline, he became “Swot of the Atlantic”! Like Mark, Julian conveyed the mixture of boredom and gruelling endurance, laced with frightening moments that the trip involved.





After much applause for the two speakers, the audience then stood for a whisky toast to Henry Worsley. Guests then enjoyed a splendid 3 course dinner prepared by Alex Rall, Head of Catering at Warminster School and wines donated by local suppliers, served by the Ros's children and friends. The evening ended with a fantastic and fast-paced auction.

The whole memorable event was the result of Ros's initiative and hard work and has so far raised an impressive £10,000 towards funding a play area for Horningsham in memory of Henry Worsley, a former resident of Pottle Street.

Ros is to be congratulated for getting the fund off to such a splendid start.



PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL

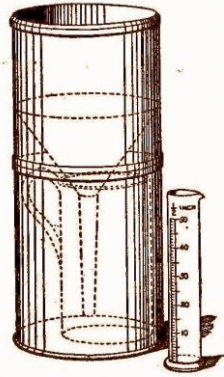


FIG. 151.—Standard rain-gauge.

What is the saying for March? “In like a lion out like a lamb.” Well, March started with frosts, very windy and a flurry of snow that covered the farm and hills. This soon melted and it was cold for nearly the whole of March, with a frost most mornings - good job my potatoes are not showing. (I have not planted them yet!!)

By the 21st it started to feel a little warmer during the day but still cold at night. We have had 3.29 inches compared to 0.92 last year. Giving a running total of 12.07 inches compared with 7.48 in 2015.

April has started with some very sharp showers some of which have missed the farm and fallen on the village. Between the 9th and 11th, we were treated to some very heavy rain, giving us 1.40 inches. So now we still seem to be getting some very cold nights, but the ground is beginning to warm up. I have not been brave enough to test it the old way if you know what I mean!

John Whatley



Sunday 15th May

10.30 – 12 noon

Horningsham Village Hall

Fresh cafetière coffee, teas and biscuits served till noon.

Everyone invited!



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‘Playing

Maggie’

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HORNINGSHAM HALL Thursday 12th May 7.30

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Refreshments Available

POLICE NEWS



REPORTED CRIME FOR THE WARMINSTER RURAL AREA MARCH 2016

Bishopstrow, Sutton Veny and Norton Bavant Non Dwelling Burglary Assault Burglary Dog worrying animals	Maiden Bradley and Horningsham Burglary
Wylve Valley (Corton to Bapton) Theft from motor vehicle Criminal Damage	Corsley (and hamlets) Non Dwelling Burglary X 2 Attempted non dwelling burglary
Codford and Chitterne Theft of fuel	Chapmanslade and Upton Scudamore Theft from Motor Vehicle Criminal damage
The Lower Deverills (Crockerton, Longbridge Deverill, Hill Deverill) Non Dwelling Burglary Theft from motor vehicle X 2	Heytesbury and Tytherington
The Upper Deverills (Kingston Deverill, Monkton Deverill, Brixton Deverill) Criminal damage	Upton Lovell and Knook

This is a case of “No news is good news”! Debbie Robbins, from our Community Policing Team, has said that the only crime in our box on this table was a burglary in Maiden Bradley and no crimes were recorded in Horningsham in March.

However, the police are reminding us that we should make sure we lock our garages and sheds, because at this time of year there is usually an increase in gardening power tools being stolen from insecure sheds.

If you have internet access, there is a fascinating crime map which covers our area showing where crimes have been recorded each month. Longleat, Center Parcs and Tascroft all feature much more often than Horningsham

<https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/ER/crime/+yDWBIs/>



BEAUTY OF LONGLLEAT

NOT SPOILT BY WAR RAVAGES

The grandeur of lovely Longleat has not been spoilt beyond repair. In fact, hundreds of acres of this great estate remain untouched by the axe of the tree feller.

Recently a wrong impression has been created by letters in the Press and idle chat that Longleat is no longer beautiful because, it was said that during the war the place was wrecked, either by military or R.A.F. occupation, or perhaps by the Americans, thousands of whom were nursed to convalescence at the large military hospital in Longleat Park.

The true story is that, unknown to the millions of people, during the war large quantities of timber were cut at Longleat and converted into charcoal, a vital war product.

The charcoal burning was done on the spot and from that charcoal were made ingredients that went into thousands of bombs that helped to wreck the vast German war machine. During critical days of the war, no estate was doing more to defend old England than lovely Longleat.

Restoring the Picture

Where acres of timber have been cut within half-a-mile of the ancestral mansion of the Thynne family, foresters have been busy replanting with spruce, larch, etc. The young trees are already standing up straight and presenting a green face where formerly stood giant beech, elm and oak.

In a few years the woodland all around Longleat will wear all its original glory. Already rhododendrons and azaleas are bursting into bloom in such quantities that here and there one can see flashes of colourful brilliance such as few parts of this country can produce.

To say Longleat has been robbed of its beauty is not a fact. Lord Bath and Viscount Weymouth are too proud of Longleat themselves to allow this gem of the countryside to vanish and be but a treasured memory.

H. C. G.

LONGLEAT NEWS

New Shakespeare Exhibition at Longleat

A portrait of Shakespeare which is believed to be among the most accurate representations of the great playwright has gone on public display for the first time as part of a new exhibition curated by Dr Kate Harris at Longleat House to mark the 400th anniversary of the poet's death.



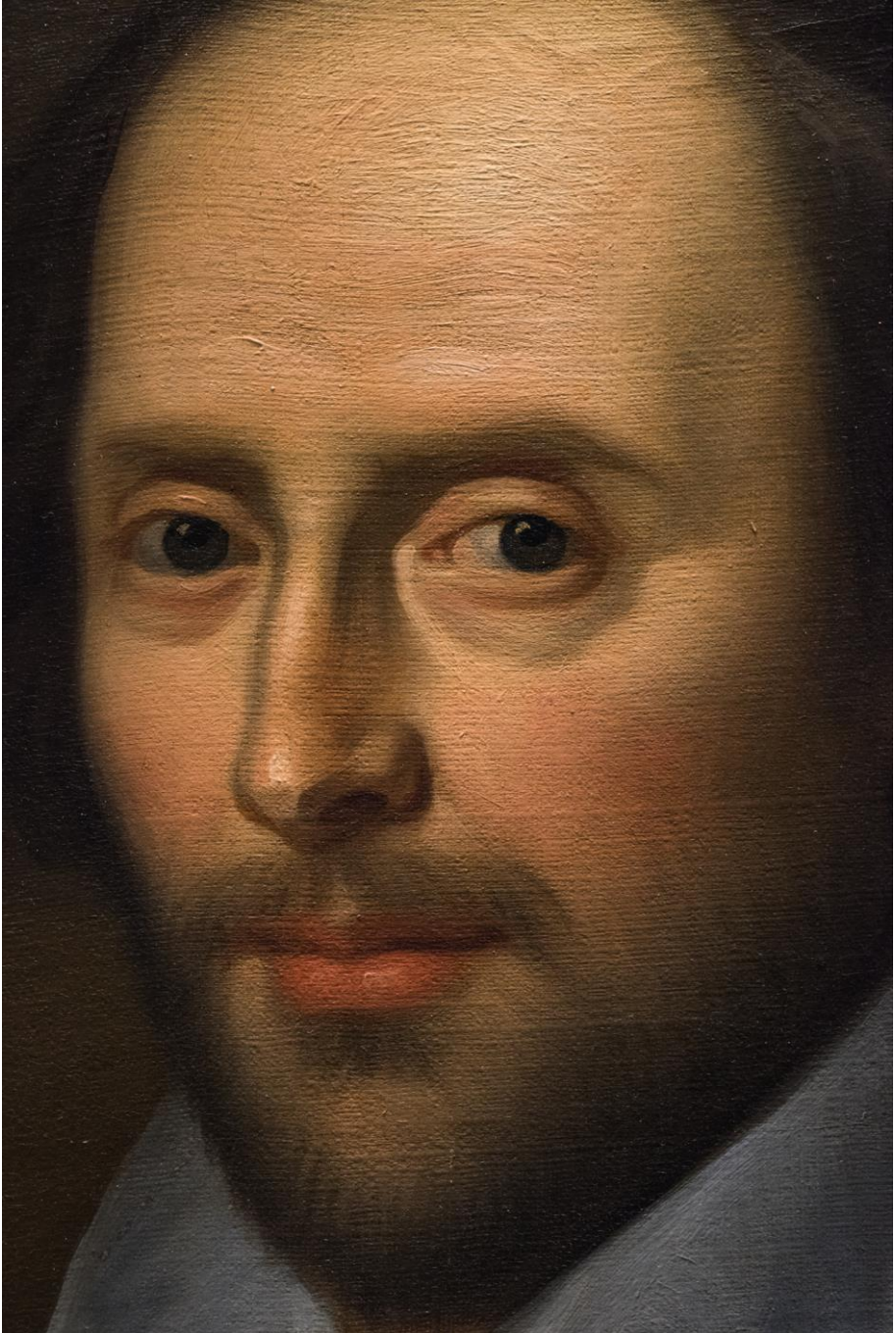
The virtually unknown likeness of the bard was created in 1704, and is documented as deriving directly from the Chandos Shakespeare - the one surviving portrait thought to have been painted during the poet's lifetime.

“What makes the Longleat version of the portrait so important is not any special skill of the artist concerned (the little known Thomas Robinson), but the fact that the work preserves the original appearance of the famous likeness, the Chandos Shakespeare, now in the National Portrait Gallery collection, as it was before it was irretrievably damaged by handling, over-zealous cleaning and numerous ‘restorations’,” said Longleat’s curator of historic collections.



The new exhibition also features Longleat’s copy of the First Folio, the first collected works of Shakespeare published in 1623, and one of only four surviving copies remaining in private hands.

“Shakespeare 400th Anniversary – Still Searching for Shakespeare” is on display at Longleat House until 31st October 2016.



Images copyright the Marquess of Bath



BUSES FROM BUS SHELTER AT THE COMMON

Salisbury every Tuesday **83**

Leaves Horningsham 09.35 *Holly Bush 09.37* Arrives Salisbury 10.30
Departs Salisbury 13.45 Arrives Horningsham 14.45

Trowbridge every Thursday **81**

Leaves Horningsham 10.03 *Holly Bush 10.01* Arrives Trowbridge 10.55
Departs Manvers St Trowbridge 13.10 Arrives Horningsham 14.04

Bath every Saturday **80**

Leaves Horningsham 10.05 Arrives Bath 11.00
Departs Bath Bus Station at 15.50 Arrives Horningsham 16.49

Warminster every Friday **82**

Friday leaves Horningsham 09.45 *Holly Bush 09.48* Arrives Warminster 10.10
Departs Warminster Coach Station 12.20

Frome every Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday

Wednesday **80** leaves Horningsham 10.06 *Holly Bush 10.01*

Departs Cork St. Car Park 12.15 and 13.45

Thursday **81** leaves Horningsham 10.03 *Holly Bush 10.01*

Departs Frome Market Place 13.50

Saturday **80** leaves Horningsham 10.05 and 14.05

Departs Cork St. Car Park 12.10 and 16.30



BLACK AND YELLOW PAGES

Black Boxes	Thursday 12 th & 26 th May Thursday 9 th & 23 rd June
Grey Bins	Friday 13 th & 27 th May Friday 10 th & 24 th June
Blue Bins	Friday 6 th & 20 th May Friday 3 rd & 17 th June
Mobile Library	Tuesday 10 th May Tuesday 7 th June <i>10.00 – 10.30 opposite the Hall</i>

Horningsham Outreach Post Office service every Thursday at the Village Hall from 1.30-4.30pm

Frome Hospital Minor Injuries		01373 454740
Community Police Officer	Vicky Howick	726818 ext 817
Wiltshire Police – non emergency		101
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Shattock	844197
Horningsham School		844342
First Steps Nursery		844942
Village Hall Hire		07541 211732
Longleat Estate Office		845535
Longleat Office	Accounts	844400
Longleat Clerk of Works		844304
Parish Council	Sarah Jeffries	213436
Congregational Chapel	Carol Cox	horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk
Horningsham Church Rector	Rev Pauline Reid	841290
Good Neighbour Co-ordinator	Emma Curtis	07557 922033
Warminster District Link Scheme		211655
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Stray or Fouling Dogs		0300 456 0100

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 12th May *Maggie* 7.30 pm at the Hall

Sunday 15th May *Coffee Morning* 10.30 – 12.00 noon at the Hall

Thursday 19th May *Annual Parish Meeting & Parish Council* 7.30 pm at the Hall

Saturday 25th June *Rorke's Drift* 7.00 pm at the Hall



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TUES 11.45AM - 1.45PM
WEDS 11.45AM - 1.45PM
THURS 11.45AM - 1.45PM
FRI 11.45AM - 1.45PM
SAT 11.45AM - 1.45PM

EVENINGS

MON 4.45PM - 9.00PM
TUES 4.45PM - 9.00PM
WEDS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
THURS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
FRI 4.45PM - 9.00PM
SAT 4.45PM - 9.00PM

SUNDAYS, 4.30PM - 8.30PM

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