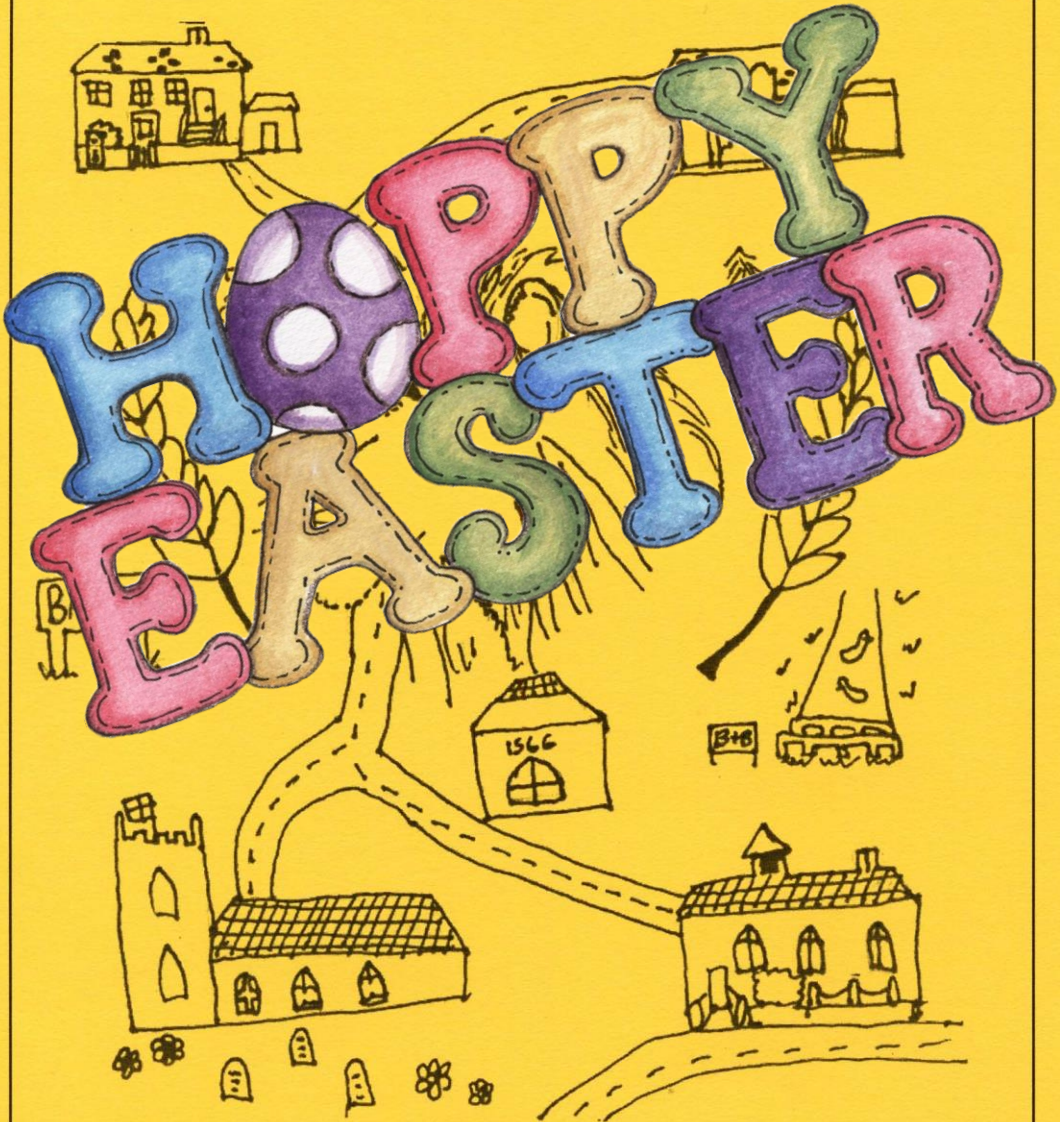


HORNINGSHAM

NEWS

ISSUE 201

April 2017





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EDITORIAL

Here we go - into our third century with Issue Number 201!

We think there is plenty inside to interest you. The big build-up to Horningsham’s big event of the year - Horningsham Fayre – is well and truly underway. It’s hard to overstate the importance of the Fayre to the village. Not only does it raise a large amount of money for all the village organisations, including the Horningsham News, but it is the single event that brings the community together. If you are new to Horningsham there are so many ways to get involved and it’s a great way to meet other residents. The Fayre Committee are appealing for helpers (*Page 7*) and three of the most profitable stalls are also appealing for help (*Page 6*).

I know most readers will be disappointed that there is no Parish Council report this month because there was no meeting on which to report. However there is much else inside that might go some way to make up for that. Picking up the Easter theme from Pauline’s thoughtful letter reflecting on the meaning of Easter (*Page 3*), from Neil we have an especially heart-wrenching story of a Syrian family (*Page 13*). The latest instalment of Margaret’s “Mill Farm Chronicles” will captivate her host of loyal followers. There is a timely “Now & Then” on the empty Vicarage (*Page 13*). The series in which we tell, in the month 100 years ago that they died, the stories of the men on our War Memorial resumes with the loss of two Horningsham men in April 1917 as World War One drags ever on.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Saturday 15th April

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

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find us on

Facebook

We now have 496 “Page Likes” – well on our way to three times the number of printed copies!

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

CHURCH NEWS



A small but appreciative congregation attended a Prayer Book communion service in the Lady Chapel in March. We do not have the old-fashioned service very often and it is a long time since we had a service in the Lady Chapel; we were pleased to have this opportunity. I am sure we are all looking forward to April. It will be lovely to have longer days, sunshine and spring flowers. In church we will particularly welcome the flowers; after six weeks of Lent it will be good to see some flowers again.

We are pleased to welcome the Rev Di Britten back to Horningsham, after her six month break. Di has kindly offered to celebrate Easter with us. We do hope some of you will join us; everyone is welcome and there will be some refreshment afterwards.

Helen Taylor

Church Date

Sunday 16th April

Easter Day Common Worship

10.30am

Dear Friends,

I have thought a lot about what on earth I am going to say in this Easter edition of my letter. Easter, as we know, is about resurrection is it not, about hope and the promise of something beyond the darkness of suffering and death. As I write, the people of East Africa are facing imminent starvation; the news is full of terrible images of the effects of hunger. In Iraq and Syria ordinary people suffer as war devastates their countries and many people continue to risk their lives to escape that devastation, thousands of people languish in refugee camps. Where is resurrection and hope for these people? I just can't sit here and glibly write



about Easter hope without reference to the above and to be honest I don't know the answer to my question.

We live in such a ridiculous world really don't we? Everyday it seems there is another article in the newspapers about how the obesity epidemic is killing us. We are surrounded by a plethora of food, too much food, and we waste an absolutely colossal amount. You don't need me to tell you that something is wrong somewhere.

The Christian message is that Jesus came and lived among us to share what it means to be human and died and rose again so that we might have eternal life. What actually does that mean? What do we think eternal life is? Is it life after death, a nice cosy home with God in heaven when we die, and what or where is heaven? To be honest I don't know the answer to these questions either. I do believe that when we die in some mysterious way we are united with God but I wouldn't presume to know what that looks like.

So is that it, do you think? Is the idea of eternal life *only* about the hereafter, doesn't it have something to do with the now as well? In the Old Testament there is a very powerful imperative to care for the orphan and the stranger, to see that justice for the poor is upheld, essentially to love God and neighbour. Jesus took this one step further and blew apart the prevailing understanding of justice, which we find difficult to live by anyway because we are human and innately selfish. The stories that Jesus told and the way he lived show us that eternal life *is* very much about the here and now, it's about life in all its fullness for *all* people. Resurrection isn't just something that happened two thousand years ago, it needs to happen now and we all have a part to play in trying to bring about the possibility of resurrection for those who are in such dire need. Yes, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and disengage from what is happening but we who live such privileged lives surely have a part to play in bringing hope to those for whom all hope seems lost.

Sorry not to write about eggs and chocolate etc, of course there is a place for them too, and we should enjoy the good gifts God gives us, but let's not forget that Easter is for all of God's children and not just for us.

Happy Easter.

Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com

HORNINGSHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



We are enjoying the burgeoning of the Spring flowers around the Chapel from snowdrops to daffodils, and look forward to our Garden delighting us in future Months ahead.

Our service in April will be held on 9th April at 10am and taken by Andrew Coxhead.

All are welcome

Carol Cox horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk

INS & OUTS



Welcome to Barry Stapley and Lynn Walton who have moved into No.113 Little Scotland. Barry runs his own business: Stapley Building and Renovations Specialists. Lynn does residential housekeeping. They have 3 sons: Ben 25, Callum 21 and Ethan 16. Callum works for his father, and Ethan is at the Sporting College in Salisbury, they also have a Labrador and a Jack Russell. Originally from Salisbury they have lots of family living locally.

Maggie Osborne

WELCOME CLUB



We had some games of Bingo at our March meeting – prizes were won!

Because our next meeting falls in Easter Week an arranged speaker was unavailable. So, we have decided to have a quiz, which promises to be fun. This will be on April 20th.

Our first long awaited trip of the season is on Tuesday April 25th and will be a Mystery. Are you coming? Give me your name as soon as you can.

Chris Short 847373

SNOWDROP MEMORIES



This year has been an exceptionally good year for snowdrops, which triggered a memory from John Gooding, who attends Horningsham Luncheon Club with Pat. John is the son of Alonzo and Ada; his father was the head gardener in the walled garden during the War. John remembers his mother walking down Highwood to pick snowdrops. She packed them into a small box and posted them to London. The flowers were a gift to John's Auntie Lucy, whose children were evacuated to Horningsham. The snowdrops were a reminder of spring in the countryside. Today, this story reminds us of a time when Horningsham had two postal collections and deliveries each day, and letters and parcels were sure to be delivered the next day!

Leonie Taylor

HALL NEWS



The Village Hall Committee AGM will be held on Monday 10th April at 7pm. If you can spare an hour, please come along and support the Hall. We always welcome volunteers and new committee members, the Hall cannot run without local support. If you have ideas for the use of the Hall, or events you would perhaps like to propose, then please come along.

It's all eyes down for BINGO on Saturday 8th April open from 6.30pm to start at 7pm. If anyone has, or knows, of any prizes that can be donated for bingo then please let one of the committee members know.

We have our next Coffee Morning on Sunday 16th April, 10.30 until 12pm, and I believe there is cricket on in the afternoon.

On Saturday 6th May we will be holding a Table Top Sale from 10am until 1pm. Dig out all your unwanted items, it's £5 per table. Refreshments will be available.

Louisa Cruickshank

16th April
Coffee Drop In
Every third Sunday of the month - Free to all

10:30 - noon

- Fresh cafetiere coffee & croissants
- Bring the kids
- Local chat & good company

HORNINGSHAM VILLAGE HALL
Find us on Facebook



Village Fayre Plant Stall heads up



**Time to think about the Plant Stall!
How about growing some seeds or cuttings?**

Carole Hill 844365



CAKE STALL

Time to start thinking about this year's Cake Stall

Could you help on the day of the Fayre?

How about making something to sell on the stall?

You can make anything from a cup cake to a gateau, jam tart to a quiche, marmalade to chutney, in fact anything that is home made and delicious.

Susie Hilleary 844454



Any donations for this stall at the Village Fayre on June 11th will be very welcome.

Children's toys and games are very popular.

Please can we not have books or electrical items.

You can deliver to 15 Gentle Street or I will collect.

Margaret Long 844756



HORNINGSHAM FAYRE

Lots of progress was made in February and March on the Fayre. We have a great team putting this fabulous event together, if Ken ever sorts out his hearing and Helen gets control of her giggles we'll be dynamite!

I'm not sure what Susie Hilleary made of her first Fayre meeting but we were delighted to see her there. Susie is running the Cake Stall again this year. We also sell jam, pickles and chutneys on the Cake Stall so please get busy in the kitchen for Susie - there is freezer space in the village to handle your excess sponges but no soggy bottoms please.

Margaret reported that Bric-a-Brac donations have hit an all-time high - they are already using a second lock-up and Dolly's offer of some garage space has been readily taken up. That doesn't mean we don't want your offerings, but it does mean that more hands will be needed in advance to help sort and on the day to help man the stall. Margaret is a whizz at getting help, but on the off-chance she has not already signed you up, please get in touch if you fancy a stint on the most varied of treasure troves.

Logistically-wise we are in pretty good shape. However it doesn't look like we'll get any help with the tents from the 1YORKS this year, nor sadly an Army display. There are cutbacks in the army, deployments overseas (Texas and Norway) and a rethink in community relations: all have affected their ability to support our Fayre. It was great while it lasted and we thank the 1YORKS for the help and support they gave us over the last few years.

This does mean we need some strong willing hands to help on Thursday/Friday to get the tents up. Please put this date in your diary now: 8/9th June - we'll confirm times nearer the date. We're hoping for help from the Cricket Club but we are 15 strong men down. Many hands and all that. Could you be one of them??

We also have our Fayre Quiz Night confirmed: it is Friday 19th May. It's a great night out. Topical questions provided by the 2Bobs, refreshments provided by the committee. Opportunity to sign up to help on Fayre day. Come along - get involved, flex your brain, have some fun.

We are also still looking for some local talent to perform a 20minute set at the bar. We are hoping for a revival of Graham and Brian's Duo but there is space for more talent. Do you play a bit, or know of a group who do? Get in touch!

Small stall space is available too - £30 for a pitch; we are looking for handmade, unique, local. We have some lovely jewellery coming from the Deverills and delicious hot sauces from Matt at the Walled Garden. As well as delights from Maiden Bradley and Frome. If you are new to the village and want to promote your business at the Fayre please get in touch. We would love to help.

Caroline Dykes chb.bristol@gmail.com or 07779 121228



HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS WEEK



What an amazing week we had learning about healthy bodies and healthy minds. As well as delivering our RSE curriculum, the children had lots of fun and exciting opportunities to find out about our bodies and the natural world. We are so grateful to everyone who came in to help the children. They loved asking questions to some of our parents about their babies (newborn and due) as well as meeting puppies and lambs! Our rotation day on Monday was great fun with the whole school working in 5 mixed aged groups doing gardening, relaxation, boot-camp, cooking and art. A feedback form will be sent home to complete now we've finished the RSE part of the curriculum — we'd love your views. Thanks to Mrs Lapham for organising a fantastic week!

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

A group of us went to a wheelchair basketball event this term. When we arrived we watched some of St Augustines students play matches and saw how to shoot



in the hoops. After that we got to have a go in the wheelchairs in our teams, Miss Evans even had a go. We had to get used to moving the wheelchair backwards and forwards, it was tricky but fun. We even had races! There were lots of different people at the event and it was great to try out a Paralympic sport. I would love to do it again! By Dylan Lodge



WORLD BOOK DAY

The children (and staff!) all looked amazing on World Book Day dressed as different book characters. We had a wonderful day and it was lovely having a group of parents come in and read to each class in the afternoon. We also had some very creative photographs of the children reading in interesting places!

OWLS IN THE BRECON BEACONS

What an amazing weekend for Owls at Tregoyd House in the Brecon Beacons, Wales. Pony trekking was a highlight for everyone, riding horses in the beautiful Welsh countryside. The weather wasn't the best, but nothing could dampen everyone's spirits as all the children threw themselves into the activities with great enthusiasm. Kayaking on the River Wye, rifle shooting, aeroball, trapeze, zip wire, sensory trail all have made this a truly memorable weekend for the children. What an amazing experience! A huge thank you to Mr Edwards, Mrs Lapham and Mrs Day for giving up their weekends to take the children away.



OWLS VISIT @ BRISTOL Owls had a great time at the Planetarium in Bristol as part of their Star Wars topic. They took part in science workshops investigating planets and space before exploring @Bristol interactive experiments. A really fun, science filled day!



HAPPY EASTER

Have a wonderful Easter everyone. School will close Fri 7th April- Mon 24th April.



Mill Farm Chronicles Feb – March 2017

Spring is here! It's my most favourite time of the year. I love seeing the daffodils coming to a head, the trees beginning to bud and hearing the birds singing early in the morning as the days get longer. This time of year fills me with optimism and energy and the urge to throw open the windows and have a blooming good clean.

With that thought in mind I've decided that this year my mantra will be "a place for everything, and everything in its place" so a major sort and chuck out is happening at Mill Farm. We thought that we would hold a covered yard/car boot style sale to try to get rid of some of our unwanted items. Amy and Guy are moving house next week so they too had stuff not wanted on voyage so she joined me and several other intrepid ladies on a very wet Sunday morning in our shed. We were rather pessimistic about it being a successful sale and in the end we were proved right. We had about 20 people come and luckily buy a few bits but it wasn't a success so we will not be repeating it. In fact we've boxed up all the left over stuff and today are taking it to Standerwick Market to put it into the chattels market next Wednesday. One man's trash is another man's treasure!

The cows are continuing to calve steadily with one or two a day which is good for Steve. This year the bull calves and their mums are going up to Butchery and the heifers and their mums are staying at Mill. This system was working beautifully until we had twins . . . one of each!

We had the vet come out to operate on one of our steers last week. The steer had a tumour behind his eye so the vet had to remove it and unfortunately the eye too. Steve says it was an amazing operation to watch and caused the cow no distress at all. He is comfortable now and recovering well. Aren't vets brilliant!

The apple trees in the orchard have been pruned by a friend of ours who is an expert in such things so it's to be hoped that the cider apple crop will be a good one in the autumn.

The donkeys are out in the sunshine again. Rosie is looking rather dishevelled because she has managed to pick up a skin complaint over the winter. She is being successfully treated for it with the hair growing again but is unfortunately looking a bit bald in places.

We are playing host to lots of workmen at the moment. We have some specialist painters working for the Water Board near Codford, staying in the Old Piggeries and in the B&B we have some men who are at Center Parcs. They are working at night so have breakfast at 6.15am and sleep during the day. Trying to keep Steve and Jack quiet during the day is really hard. I spend a lot of the day whispering urgently "don't slam the door" but BANG!!!! . . . it's always too late! What with the boys, the geese fighting on the front lawn and the donkeys braying, I'm surprised the men get any sleep at all.

The weekend of 25th February proved to be very popular for social events. We had been invited to 4 different parties on that night, two 60th birthdays, one 30th birthday and a charity ball/casino night. One of the 60th birthdays was my lovely sister-in-law's. We drove to Hereford to stay with my brother for the weekend and join them and their family and friends for a meal in a hotel in Malvern. It was a really lovely happy evening with a delicious meal too and it was good to spend time with my family. Amy, Guy and Jack went to the ball held in Gillingham. It was organised by our niece Kate and her two friends. They are raising money for a friend who has Cystic Fibrosis. I hear it was a

fabulous night and the amazing sum of £6,000 was raised. We were sorry to miss the other two parties but sent our love and best wishes to the birthday girls.



Now, I've left the saddest bit of our month till last. Last week we had to say goodbye to our beautiful, darling Charlie. He was finding life more and more challenging, he couldn't stand up on his own anymore and was incontinent and in pain so we had to make the hardest decision ever. The vet came to us because Charlie hated going into the vets. I thought I would be able to stay with Charlie, but in the end I just couldn't, so Jack was with him while the vet and his assistant did what was necessary. I was so pleased that Charlie had someone who loved him, with him at the end. To say that we are all heartbroken is an understatement. The house seems so quiet and empty without him here. I try to console myself with the thought that Charlie is now in doggy heaven, having a lovely time running around in the sunshine with our other dog Nelson.

Dog's lives are too short, their only fault, really. 😊

Margaret Crossman

Accidental Volunteers 6

There's a lot going on in Greece, there's a little bit of movement amongst our tenants as some are bussed to Athens to begin the 8 week process of medical examinations and cultural education before being reunited with family members in other European countries. The UK is not one of them. The UK doesn't accept any of the people stranded in Greece. We've had some of our tenants begin that process in Athens and we've filled the ten apartments we rent with new families. They usually come through recommendations from our other tenants. We have the nicest group of people you could imagine. Of course they are very nice to us, they appreciate what we are trying to do for them, but over time it becomes more easy to form more genuine friendships.

One of our recent move-ins is a family from Damascus. Samir, his wife Aleya and their two teenage daughters, Shamir and Rewan. Samir's family were originally refugees from the Israeli 6-day war in 1967. His parents moved from Palestine to Syria to escape conflict there. Now he finds himself reliving that experience as an adult with his own children. Their home in Damascus was not bombed directly, but it caught fire during an air raid and is now a burnt out shell. All Samir wants to do is go back and rebuild it, but in the meantime he would like to be reunited with his three older children who live in Germany.



The story of how they got to Thessaloniki is not unique by any means, but worth telling. It's worth telling in the context of who these people are, how normal they are, what good company they are and how amazingly patient, good humoured and dignified they are. These are very nice people make no mistake. Caroline and I have decided that they are probably as nice as The Crossmans, but without Steve's occasionally off-colour jokes.

Steve and Margaret have been very supportive of our efforts but thank goodness you are unlikely to ever read anything like Samir's story laid out in the "Mill Farm Chronicles". The four of them left Damascus almost two years ago. They paid smugglers to get them into Turkey and then were housed near the Aegean coastal town of Izmir waiting to be told about their boat crossing. One night they were bundled into a van with many other people and driven at crazy speeds to the beach, when they got there the police were waiting and they were all arrested and taken back to cells in Izmir. Somehow, the smugglers got away. Within a couple of days they were back in the house waiting for the van again. It arrived, this time they made it onto a boat. 75 of them after they were told it would not be more than 45, in a boat designed for 25. Two boats left the shore in the middle of the night heading for the lights on the distant shore of the Greek island of Chios. The second boat sank within a few minutes, 13 people, mostly small children, drowned. Their boat made it. The whole way across Shamir, who was only 11 at the time was crying out to her mother. Her older sister teases her about how scared she was that night.

They arrived in Greece and headed north to the Macedonian border, but the border was closed the day before they got there. 30,000 people got stopped on the Greek side of the border and set up camp. The notorious Idomeni camp. Of all the things these families have had to endure, they all say that the time in Idomeni was the worst of it. They were tear-gassed by the authorities and robbed by the gangs that descended on the camp. They had no shelter except a few tents and many people slept under the stars. There were no toilets, or food or any sort of support for weeks until slowly volunteers arrived to relieve the situation. The Greeks dispersed the camp after two months and put people into 34 camps around Thessaloniki, so it is from Idomeni and these camps that all of the people we house come from.

Samir told us this story over dinner at their apartment through Rewan, his 17 year old daughter who speaks a little English. He is so animated and we are so familiar with the story line that we hardly need the translation. When they rebuild their house Samir and Aleya want us to go and stay with them, but I think we need people like that here. I really don't understand why so many people are afraid of families like them, they would be an asset to any community. I'm trying to convince Samir to move to Horningsham and take over the running of the Village Fayre. But part of me thinks he's been through enough already without taking on the issues surrounding cake tent opening hours. There's only so much a man can be asked to take.

Neil Dykes

If you want to help fund Neil & Caroline's entirely voluntary efforts to provide decent housing for refugee families like Samir's, then you can donate through:

<https://www.gofundme.com/SyrianFamilyHousing>

THEN & NOW



1897



This month we are at the Vicarage, also known as Forest House. It is particularly appropriate because the Vicarage is currently on the rental market at £2,500 per month. When the Church sold it off in 1956 you could have bought the freehold with outbuildings and an acre of garden for just £3,500!

The building in our first photo was demolished in 1901 and the new house appears to have been largely built on the foundations of this front part of the old one. In a future issue we will have more about the rebuilding. The children gathered in front of the house were there for their School Treat which was reported in the local press.

HORNINGSHAM.

SCHOOL TREAT.—On Tuesday the children belonging to the Church day and Sunday schools had their annual treat. They assembled in the school-room at three o'clock, and then proceeded to the Church, where a short service was held, an address being given by the Vicar. Service over an adjournment was made to the Vicarage, where tea was provided on the lawn. After tea they went to a field, where swings and other amusements were provided. The boys had a cricket match, and then there was a match for the girls against the boys left-handed, which resulted in a victory for the fair sex, due a great deal to the excellent bowling of Miss Welborn, which called forth much applause as wicket after wicket fell. At eight o'clock the school bell rang and all had reluctantly to go home, but not before much enthusiastic cheering for the Queen and her family, Canon and Mrs. Jacob and their family, all visitors, teachers, and friends. Mr. Welborn's Jubilee song, "O no, the words are not quite new," was nicely sung, the whole company taking up the verse of "God save the Queen," with which it concludes.

Warminster Journal 31 July 1897

MONTHLY RECIPE

Speckled Bread

Easter Day falls between the 21st of March and 25th of April, the date depending on the first full moon of spring.

This year Easter Bank Holiday begins with Good Friday on April 14th. Being later, perhaps a bit of gardening may be rewarded with a mug of tea and a slice of speckled bread. This will be followed in the month by St George's Day shared with William Shakespeare and St Mark's Day on the 25th. Here's to a Happy Easter !

For one large loaf you will need:

430 ml of strained tea

340 g mixed dried fruit

455 g self-raising flour

1 teaspoon of mixed spice

230 g soft dark sugar

1 medium egg , beaten

A 2 - 3lb loaf tin - greased and lined



Method

Put the tea and fruit into a bowl. Stir well and leave to soak for at least an hour. Set the oven to Gas Mark 4, 350 degrees F. 180 degrees C. 160 degrees Fan. Mix the flour with the spice and sugar. Add the fruit with the tea and the beaten egg. Mix well, then spoon into the prepared tin. Bake for 1 ½ to 1 ¾ hours. Test with a skewer or sharp knife. If clean, turn out onto a wire cooling rack. Serve thinly or thickly sliced with butter.

This fruit loaf can be made your own signature bake by using different flavoured tea such as Earl Grey or Lady Grey.

It is not unusual to find nuts and cherries but traditionally the ingredients were kept to a minimum and the likelihood of availability.

Jayne Glover



FAYRE QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 19th May 8.0pm start

At the Hall

LITTER PICK

Fantastic! A very big thank you to all those who turned up to the village litter pick. Lots of new faces, and ages from 88 down to Poppy aged 5 who had already helped the School plant snowdrops in the Pleasure Walk.

I think everyone was amazed at the vast amount that was collected with more and more orange bags coming back to fill the skip. I gather it was overflowing by Monday morning. I hope everyone appreciated a spotless village.



Very many thanks to all those who worked so hard on the day.

Fran Chris

PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL

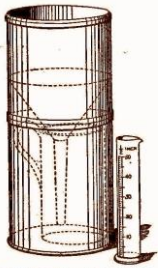


FIG. 151.—Standard rain-gauge.

February started wet and cold with some quite hard frosts up here on the farm, then on the 15th it started to feel warmer and dry, which was good for us as we were reading my annual T B test. But, as all too often around here, I had 11 reactors, which have now been removed. Then by the 20th things started to change with the wind picking up. It was very strong with trees falling and the farm buildings rattling away! In this area we did not feel the full force that the rest of the country had. So February ended with a hard frost, total rain was 2.43 inches compared with 3.41 in 2016.

March rushed in with some really heavy rain and by Sunday 5th we had 1.47 inches. It is now feeling warmer and all the birds and bumble bees are flying around. Also the mad March hares are all boxing!!

John Whatley

**Deverills
Performing
Arts 2017**



Apollo5 - a cappella quintet

Venue: Longbridge Deverill Church

Date: Saturday 29 April Time: 7.30pm

Tickets: £15

The acclaimed London-based *a cappella* quintet, praised for their engaging and entertaining performances, will perform a range of sacred and secular classical, retro jazz and pop.

LONGLEAT NEWS



Presenters Kate Humble and Ben Fogle are returning to Longleat to film a major new 15-part series of Animal Park. The pair will be reunited with Jean Johansson following the success of last year's 'Animal Park: Summer Special' which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Safari Park. The first five 45-minute episodes of the new series, which is set to fill the 9.15am slot on BBC One, will air this Easter with the remaining 10 episodes due for broadcast over the summer.

Longleat's CEO, Bob Montgomery, said: "We're delighted to be welcoming Kate, Ben, Jean and the entire team back to Longleat. The public response to the 50th anniversary special was overwhelming and showed there is a real affection for the animals and staff who live and work here and their extraordinary stories."

Last year's week-long Summer Special won its time slot each day, with an impressive final consolidated audience of 1.65 million viewers and a 28.2% market share. BBC Commissioning Editor, Lindsay Bradbury said: "Animal Park has hit a real nerve with the core Daytime audience – and also with a previously untapped audience – children on school holiday.

The new series will feature everything from the birth of the first cheetah cubs at Longleat and a giant swing ball for the lions to osteopathy for Anne the elephant and the devastating effects of avian malaria on a colony of penguins.

Kate Humble said: "I am extremely excited that we get to return to Animal Park and I can't wait to meet some old and new friends."

Co-presenter Ben Fogle said he was looking forward to creating another 'brilliant season'. "It is such an honour to continue making this fantastic show, and it is brilliant that after the roaring success of last year's show we can spend more time at Longleat."

Local Beauty Spot

PART OF STOURHEAD ESTATE TO NATIONAL TRUST

It is authoritatively stated that, with the death of Sir Henry H. A. Hoare, a considerable proportion of his Stourhead Estate passes to the National Trust, which was represented at the funeral. The nation thus becomes the owner of one of the West Country's "show" places, and one of the most beautiful spots in the whole country. The property passing to the National Trust includes the Mansion House, and grounds, the lovely series of lakes set in beautiful wooded surroundings and a considerable proportion of the village and outlying estates.

Many thousands of people from all parts of the West Country, and even further afield, visit Stourhead and Stourton. The house has a fine collection of pictures and Chippendale furniture, and the beauty of its ornamental lakes and gardens is well-known. Stourton itself remains one of the truly unspoilt villages of the West Country.

There are many objects of much interest in the vicinity, such as the 13th century Church, and old Bristol cross which stand opposite the Church, and which was given to a predecessor of Sir Henry and moved to Stourton some 150 years ago. Then there are the three temples, the Sun Temple, the Pantheon, and the Temple of Flora and, of course, the lakes, three large ones and four smaller ones; and the old rock arch which spans the road.

When the Hoare family bought the estate in 1710, the lakes were just a swamp. The layout of the grounds, including the lakes was planned and carried out under subsequent holders of the baronetcy. The lakes derive their water supply from the source of the River Stour, which rises in what is known as the Six Wells Valley, on the other side of the grounds.

During the war troops quartered in the Mansion were treated as guests by Sir Henry and Lady Hoare, and all Service men and women were given the freedom of the grounds.

* * *

The post-War years were hard times for landed estates. Last week we had a report of Lord Bath selling off property in Warminster to pay death duties. His father-in-law, Lord Vivian, sold off his entire estate in Devon. Sir Henry and Lady Hoare, who had lost their son and heir in WW1 (no "spare" unlike the Thynnes) gave their estate to the National Trust when they both died within hours of each other on 25th March.

HISTORIC STOURTON

Associations going back to the Conquest attach to the Wiltshire village of Stourton. Local tradition affirms that William the Conqueror paid Stourton a visit and that King Alfred raised his standard there when he set out to fight the Danes at Edington.

Alfred's Tower, three miles to the north of Stourton woods was erected in 1766 by an ancestor of the Hoare family. It marks the place where Alfred rested before his engagement on Bratton Down, near Edington.

HANGED AT SALISBURY

Most famous member of the Stourton family was Charles Lord Stourton. He was hanged in 1556, in Salisbury market place, for the murder of two men, father and son, who thwarted his design of blackmailing his own mother.

Because of his rank he was hanged with a silken cord like the 4th Earl Ferrers, who had a similar privilege when he was hanged at Tyburn in 1760.

Warminster Journal 11 April 1947

MAIDEN BRADLEY SHOP and POST OFFICE

Our Shop is going through a bit of a crisis! We had very poor sales during the winter months which meant that we made a loss. Although we will pick up more passing trade and therefore sales from Easter onwards we cannot survive another winter like the last one. Unless we can find a way of persuading more village residents to use our shop we will be facing closure after the summer. This will mean that we will lose the Post Office too. The shop gives a home to the Post Office but it does not receive any rent or payment towards the overheads of the shop. It would be very sad for Maiden Bradley to lose its Shop and Post Office which would also affect Horningsham and other surrounding villages.

By the time you read this we will have held our AGM and Village Meeting to discuss the way forward. What we will be recommending is that if residents really value the services which a community shop offers, then they could purchase some items from the shop on a regular basis and especially when they come in to use the Post Office. One of the causes of our drop in sales is online deliveries. This is the modern way of shopping and understandable for busy people. We are not going to change that. What we do ask is that perhaps some items could be left off your order forms and purchased locally, e.g. milk, dairy, meats, biscuits, etc. All these items come from high quality local producers. We have started getting our fruit and vegetable straight from the market stall on a Thursday. This is already proving popular and so we can increase our range.



We can order anything you like if you tell us. If there is something which you would like to purchase from the shop but can't find then please let Sue, our Manager, know.

The Shop is a lifeline to some members of our community and we don't want to have to close. We will work hard to keep it open but we need YOUR help in regularly supporting the shop. If you have any good ideas please let us know!

Liz Nixon ernixon66@gmail.com



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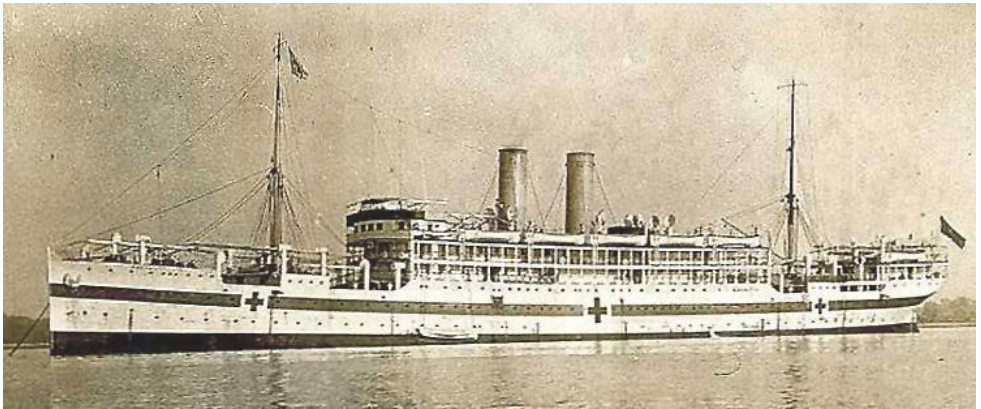
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Russell Bertram Miles Prowse has the unusual distinction of appearing on two War Memorials: ours here in Horningsham and also on Maiden Bradley's in All Saints Church. Another curiosity is that our memorial has his name reversed. Russell was born and grew up in Maiden Bradley but by the time he signed up he was working as a gardener at Longleat and probably lodging in Horningsham, maybe at the Bothy. His father Reuben, from Devon, was also a gardener but on the Duke of Somerset's Estate. In 1911, just one month short of Russell's 16th birthday, his mother Mary (née Stiles) died on Christmas Eve. Reuben was left with four sons to bring up ranging in age from 15 down to just 1. By 1914 he was living with Florence Shires and had the first of their 5 children together.

Apparently, Russell was turned down on his first attempt to join up but later succeeded in joining the Royal Army Medical Corps. In 1917 he was serving on Her Majesty's Hospital Ship *Salta* which had previously been a French liner that was chartered by the Admiralty and fitted out as a hospital ship. As such it had been painted white with a broad green stripe and large red crosses.



On the night of the 9/10th April the *Salta* sailed from Southampton, escorted by a destroyer, for the base at Le Havre to pick up wounded to be brought back to England. At around 11 in the morning, in worsening weather, she arrived off Le Havre and stopped engines. Earlier that morning a French patrol boat had spotted floating mines that had been laid by a German submarine. A patrol boat ordered the *Salta* to follow it to the English ship *Diamond* that checked the identity of arriving ships before opening the barrage to allow entry to the port. *Salta* was duly authorised to enter the port. Captain Eastaway altered course to the north to allow other ships to pass. The commander of the *Diamond* signalled *Salta* that it was entering the mined zone and Eastaway altered course but the *Salta* hit a mine at 11.43 which caused an enormous explosion which breached the hull. Water rushed in, the *Salta* listed to starboard and, in less than 10 minutes, sank in 138 metres of water. A surviving steward gave this vivid account:

“Everyone rushed to the boats, but owing to extremely bad weather and heavy seas, I understand that only three boats got away. These were swamped at once. The only chance now seemed to be to jump overboard at once, & try to float on some wreckage, as the ship was sinking quickly, & was under in seven minutes from the time the mine was struck. I had been in the water less than a minute when Captain Eastaway floated from the bridge as the ship went down and was lost. Miss England, the stewardess, was washed near to me. I spoke to her, urging her to hold on, but she seemed exhausted. I am very sorry to state, that I was quite unable to assist her, owing to such heavy seas running at the time, that it was impossible to do anything. I drifted about on a spar for about 1½ hours and was picked up by a mine-sweeper, & put in the cabin with the other survivors on board.”

An English patrol boat, P26, that was rescuing survivors also hit a mine which tore the boat in half with further loss of life amongst both crew and the survivors they had picked up. Russell was one of the 86 from the *Salta* who drowned and is buried in a mass grave at Ste Marie Cemetery in Le Havre under a monument to all who died.



On 19th November, Reuben received Russell’s back pay of £14-60 and in 1919 a War Gratuity of £11. In 1921 Russell’s maternal Grandmother presented a set of communion cups to the Maiden Bradley Congregational Church in his memory. In 1943, not long before he died, Reuben married Florence Shires with whom he had 5 children.

Harry Charles Marsh

After a relative lull in fighting on the Western Front in France and Belgium during the winter, Horningsham lost more men killed during 1917 than in any other year of the First World War. Harry Marsh died on 24th April in fierce fighting at Gillemont Farm about 30 miles from Amiens in northern France.

Harry was born in Horningsham in October 1894 to his parents Charles and Amanda. The family lived at 51 Rowe’s Hill in a semi-detached cottage with two rooms upstairs and just one downstairs. Nowadays, 51 is the right hand side of a single dwelling. The cottage must have been crowded as in the 1901 Census Harry’s three older



sisters and two younger brothers were all living there with their parents. Needless to say there was no bathroom and only an outdoor privy. Harry's grandfather and grandmother were living next door in No. 50 with their son and granddaughter. By 1911, only two of his sisters, Maud and Eva, who both worked as housemaids were still at home along with his 14 year old brother, Edwin who was already a farm labourer and 11 year old Lionel who was still at school. In the census form Amanda revealed that she had given birth to 10 children, 3 of whom had already died.

Although this picture of Harry's family life might strike us today as grim, it was very typical of households in Horningsham at the time and had been that way for as long as anyone could remember. The Marsh family were representatives of the poor rural labouring class. There was no birth control and, in spite of Elementary education, little chance of social mobility. By becoming agricultural labourers at 14, Harry and his brother were following in their father's and grandfather's footsteps. At least they had paid employment.

We don't know when Harry joined up but in 1917 he was a Private in the 1/7th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment and in northern France near the River Somme. Following their unsustainable losses in the Battle of the Somme the previous year, the German army had constructed a massive defensive line from which they could resist the enemy's attacks: the Hindenburg Line. Harry's Battalion was attacking German troops before they withdrew into their defences. They were tasked with attacking Gillemont Farm, which was on high ground, at 11 pm on Tuesday 24th April. The Germans put up fierce resistance with shelling and machine gun fire and it was during this early stage that Harry was killed. His body was never found and his name is amongst the more than 72,000 carved on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme along with that of Lindley Walter Miller from just around the corner in White Street who was killed the previous October. Harry's Battalion War Diary records the heavy losses suffered

during the operation: 40 killed; 179 wounded; and 20 missing, of whom Harry was one. In July Charles received Harry's back pay of £7.26 and then in November 1919 a War Gratuity of just £3.





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

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

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

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BLACK AND YELLOW PAGES

Black Boxes	Thursday 13 th & 27 th April Thursday 11 th & 25 th May
Grey Bins	Friday 14 th & 28 th April Friday 12 th & 26 th May
Blue Bins	Friday 7 th & 21 st April Friday 5 th & 19 th May
Mobile Library	Tuesday 11 th April <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
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Wiltshire Police – non emergency		101
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Horningsham Church Rector	Rev Pauline Reid	841290
Warminster District Link Scheme		211655
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Stray or Fouling Dogs		0300 456 0100

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 8th April ***Spring Bingo*** 6.00 pm at the Hall

Monday 10th April ***Hall AGM*** 7.00 pm at the Hall

Sunday 16th April ***Coffee Morning*** 10.30 – 12 noon at the Hall

Saturday 6th May ***Table Top Sale*** 10.00 am – 1.00 pm at the Hall

Friday 19th May ***Fayre Quiz Night*** 8.00 pm at the Hall



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SAT 11.45AM - 1.45PM

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