HORNINGSHAM

NEWS

ISSUE 208 December 2017

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December 2017 <u>Issue 208</u>



EDITORIAL

This bumper Christmas issue is packed with interesting news and articles plus information about so many events happening in Horningsham this month. In fact, there is so much that it will almost make up for the fact that there is no "News" in Horningsham in January – our next one is not until February.

This month's "Ins & Outs" is a record-breaker with no fewer than five new families moving into the village. With so many people having recently made their homes in Horningsham, it is especially good to see new activities starting up. The new village playgroup is proving a success as you can read in their report. Another new venture is the potential W.I. group which will be having its first meeting at the Hall. The second year of Bonfire Night was also a success. It was good too that there were new residents at the 97th year of the Remembrance service. The Cricket Club report is somewhat different this month, reporting on a cricket tour of Pakistan but will entertain even those who don't know where silly mid-off might be. There is also a report on Neil and Caroline's first year helping Syrian refugees.

Finally, in our commemoration of World War One, we reach the end of 1917 with the 18th death of a man from our village – Charles William Froude who died on the 30th December leaving a wife and a baby daughter. A sad reminder of what a terrible time it must have been for Horningsham 100 years ago

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Monday 15th January 2018

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We now have 542 "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



There was no service in our church during November. Instead, the community gathered together at the War Memorial for the annual Act of Remembrance. It was good to see so many people there and we are grateful to the Rev Di Britten for leading our service.

December and January bring two celebratory services to Horningsham, Christmas Day Eucharist and Plough Sunday. The church dates below also include other church services in the parish that you might like to attend. Christingle & Posada (Spanish for 'a home') are popular with children. This is the service where we are given an orange to represent the world, with a candle to represent the light of the world, and sweets to represent the four seasons and the fruits of the earth. A nativity group – the Posada – begins its journey around the houses in the village. 'From Darkness to Light' is a service to mark the beginning of Advent. The service begins in a church in total darkness, which is then gradually lit by candles. The Kingston Deverill carol service is always very popular and the church is usually packed.

We do hope that some of you will join us for the traditional Christmas Day communion at Horningsham. Di Britten will again be leading the service and we hope that Lyndy Bishop will play for us on her violin. This has become another Horningsham tradition and is a wonderfully atmospheric way of celebrating this special day.

The Bathampton Morris Men along with their friendly hobby horse will be making their usual visit in January. This is always a very jolly service that we look forward to every year.

There is something for everyone in this selection of Christmas services and we do hope to see you at some of them. You will be sure of a warm welcome, both here in Horningsham and in the Deverills.

Helen Taylor

Church Dates

3rd December Christingle & Posada, 10.30am at Longbridge Deverill
10th December From Darkness to Light, 6.00pm at Longbridge Deverill
17th December Carol Service, 6.00pm at Kingston Deverill
24th December Crib Service, 4.00pm at Longbridge Deverill

24th December Crib Service, 4.00pm at Longbridge Devermed Midnight Mass, 11.30pm at Corsley

25th December Eucharist, 10.30am at Horningsham Plough Sunday, <u>11.15am</u> at Horningsham

Dear Friends,

Early November, and I am driven crazy attempting to shop in a supermarket stuffed to the hilt with 'Christmas treats'. I honestly want to run away and hide until Christmas morning; well perhaps Christmas Eve as the midnight service is my favourite. Any mention of the 'C' word results in a rolling of eyes and expressions of horror at the unmitigated slog that is purported to be necessary if the big day is to be a 'success', which would be laughable really if it wasn't so sad.

Peel back the layers, stop fussing about the wretched turkey, forget about what on earth you are going to buy ancient Aunty Flo, stop, just for a minute. If possible wrap up warm and go outside when it's dark and you can see the moon and the stars.

O Lord, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

what are human beings that you are mindful of them,

mortals that you care for them?

'When I look at the heavens, the work of your fingers' writes the psalmist, inviting us to look up, to lift our eyes beyond the crushing concerns of our broken world to the glory of the night sky, to the moon and stars, inviting us consider that being beyond all time, that being who created each and everyone of us, who knows each and every one of us at the deepest level, whose spirit inhabits each and every one of us. And that being, who created all things, who loves us whoever we are and whatever we have done, came to share what it means to be human in the most vulnerable way possible, in the form of a baby.

Whether or not you consider the Christmas story to be 'true', whatever that means, is immaterial, the question we need to be asking is: what is the gospel writer trying to tell us through the story. The posh word for God coming to share our humanity is the incarnation, and one of the posh words for Jesus is Emmanuel, which means, God with us. God with us and for us, not as some pie in the sky old man wagging his finger at us but as one whose love means he shares everything about what it means to be human, even the messy dark bits, because after all, a smelly dark stable is about as messy as it gets.

The Christmas story isn't about success it's about love.

'The Advent bells call out "Prepare'
Your world is journeying to the birth

Of God made man for us on earth.' (Bentjeman)

May God's love surround you and your family this Christmastide, Pauli

Pauline Reid

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



We had a special Wedding on the 28th October at the Chapel, a marriage between Matthew Trollope and Julie Ross. The Trollope Family has had connections with the village and the Chapel for many generations.

The weather was kind and helped make the day a wonderful occasion. The bride Julie looked lovely on the arm of her husband Matthew and was attended by their children, daughter Emilee and son Ethan. Brother Jeremy Trollope was Best Man and Robert Ross was the Bride's attendant. A special day for all.

Our next service will be on Dec 10th at 10am.

Carol Service 10th Dec at 3pm

Carol Cox horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk

HALL NEWS



What a great November we've had at the Village Hall! A fantastic turnout for our bonfire night - far more popular than we anticipated and we can't thank everyone enough for showing their support of the Hall. A special thanks to all those who helped make the night happen. Especially the Cricket Club & the Bath Arms for their generous donations towards the fireworks and personal time given to making our 2nd bonfire night so successful.

The new playgroup, Lion Cubs, has had a great start too. Lots of lovely families and children enjoying the group. They meet every Thursday morning 9.15 until 10.45.

Christmas is fast approaching and what a fab time of year to get together with loved ones and enjoy some Christmas cheer. We have Horningsham School Christmas play on Thursday 14th December (evening performance) and matinee performance on Friday 15th December.

Horningsham School have their Christmas Fayre on Saturday 16th December - 11am until 2pm.

We have our annual Christmas Bingo on Saturday 16th December, doors open from 7pm eyes down 7.30pm, perfect for all the family. If you have any items you could donate for prizes all would be gratefully received.

Sunday 17th December starting at the Village Hall from 4.30pm Christmas Carolling around the village, what a fantastic way to start the festive period and bring the community together.

So much going on over the next few weeks, we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the Village Hall Committee. Thank you for your support in 2017 and we look forward to whatever 2018 brings!

Louisa Cruickshank

HORNINGSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Horningsham Parish Council met on Thursday 2nd November at the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors, Tim Hill, Dermot FitzGerald, Stephen Crossman, Michael Trollope, Fran Chris, Jayne Glover, Ken Windess, John Radley, Gerard Brierley and Matt Simpson.

Apologies: Councillor Simon Millar

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Mrs. Sarah Jeffries PSLCC

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported on the issues highlighted by the Fire Service recently regarding the need for vehicles in the community to be parked at least 3.3 metres away from a fire hydrant so as to not hinder its use and not to block access to their vehicles through thoughtless parking.

Planning Applications

None had been received for comment.

Planning Decisions

Application Ref: 17/07572/PNTEL Application for PN TELECOMMUNICATIONS Proposal:-Installation of 1 equipment (battery) cabinet, together with ancillary supporting apparatus, at existing telecommunications installation

At: Telecommunications Mast, Land situated at Park Hill, Longleat, Horningsham, Wiltshire.

Decision: Approved

Application Ref: 17/07591/FUL Application for Full Planning

Proposal: - Replacement of existing animal enclosure fencing. Creation of new vehicle access and egress points to carnivore enclosures including lock-gates.

Creation of new sections of roadway within safari park.

Location: - Land Associated with Longleat Safari Park BA12 7NE

Decision: approved with conditions.

Application Ref: 17/08156/TCA Application for Work to Trees in a Cons Area Proposal: - Fell 1no Salix. Small stem, previously part of small twin stemmed tree.

Location: - 126 Cock Road, HORNINGSHAM, BA12 7NB

Decision: No objection

Application Ref: 17/08158/TCA Application for Work to Trees in a Cons Area Proposal: - Pollard 1 Laburnum which is collapsing over neighbouring property.

Location: - 167 Chapel Street, HORNINGSHAM, BA12 7LU

Decision: No objection

Application Ref: 17/08722/TCA Application for Work to Trees in a Cons Area

Proposal: - Copper Beech tree - fell

Location: - The Old Vicarage, Church Street, Horningsham, Warminster, Wiltshire **BA127LW**

Decision: The Wiltshire Council website states target date 19th October 2017. No decision had been uploaded as of the 2nd November 2017.

Parish Steward - Highways

Pothole on Holly Bush Junction.

Mundy's Lane requires clearing at the bottom of the lane to the gully.

Councillor Matt Simpson said he had reported that the roadside markers on Cock Road had been cut in half by the hedge cutter and require replacing as the drop there needs to be highlighted at all times.

The Clerk was instructed to inform Anne Strong that at the middle Alms House in Church Street, there is a bush overhanging the pavement and is now causing an obstruction to pedestrians.

Directional Signage

It was agreed that extra signs were needed where Forest Road leaves the Maiden Bradley Road (B3092) and at Cock Road junction by the Bath Arms to direct traffic to the main entrance to Longleat. The Clerk was instructed to raise this with the Estate.

Asset Maintenance

Councillor Ken Windess reported that he had had a meeting with the Estate and that they have agreed that they will be prepared to assist with any works to be actioned on-site. The Estate are willing to move assets to Councillor Windess's workshop for him to work on these assets. He also reported that the noticeboard is due to be refurbished. Vandalism on the bus shelter at the Bath Arms was noted and that a repair was required. It was noted that the telephone box at the Bath Arms needs to be refurbished. It was agreed that the door requires repair and will be taken off and moved to Councillor Ken Windess's workshop. Councillor John Radley mentioned that a parishioner who lives nearby has offered to paint the telephone box. It was agreed that Councillor Ken Windess will repair the door then speak with the parishioner re the repainting. It was noted that a new tin of paint will be required.

WW1 Commemoration

Councillor Matt Simpson reported on the Orchard Project to date. Councillor Tim Hill reported that the Longleat CEO, Bob Montgomery has approved the project. It has been agreed that the Parish Council take on the responsibility for the grass cutting and for the trees planted on the land. The root stock will be a M106 root stock, to make it easier to cut the grass under the trees, as they have a higher canopy. It was approved for the order to go ahead.

Horningsham School Governors Report

The Chairman read out the following report: "It has now been agreed between Longleat and Wilts CC that the school can take over the rest of School House for educational purposes. We hope it will be in use after Christmas by which time the maintenance and decoration issues should have been taken care of.

Society of Local Council Clerks

The Clerk reported that she had been elected President with effect from October 2018. The Chairman congratulated her on the notable achievement and said how honoured Horningsham was to have her as their clerk. She was then presented with a rose bush to mark the Councillors' appreciation.

The next meeting of Horningsham Parish Council will be on Thursday 7th December at 7.30 in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



It was pleasing to see such a good turnout for the Service of Remembrance at the village War Memorial. The attenders included residents past, present and new. There was even a Lt. Colonel from Warminster in uniform. It transpired that he had noticed the Memorial when cycling through Horningsham and decided that it would be an atmospheric place to attend a Remembrance Service. He said afterwards that the occasion had indeed proved memorable.

The service was led by Rev Di Britten. The wreath was laid by Bill Smye, a Korean War veteran. The Chairman of the Parish Council read out the names of the 25 villagers who had died in the Great War, the name of the Belgian soldier who died at the hospital at Longleat and the 4 villagers who died in the Second World War. The Last Post, followed by the Reveille was played on the bugle by Graham Long and could be clearly heard even at the very top of Rowe's Hill.







WELCOME CLUB



November went as planned, a reading from Tom and Prize Bingo at Maiden Bradley with some lovely prizes donated for our annual effort towards Club funds. The amount realised is not currently to hand, I'll tell you next time.

Our Christmas Lunch at The Bell in Andover is on December 5th. The two course meal will be £10 per person, the coach trip a gift from the Club. We will leave Horningsham at 10.45 am and Maiden Bradley at 11.00 am. We are having a raffle so if you would like to give a prize please wrap it and bring it with you.

Thanks to everyone for making the 2017 year a happy and successful one, here's to an enjoyable 2018 which will begin for the Club on February 15th 2.30 pm at Horningsham.

Happy Christmas to you all and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

See you in 2018!

LUNCHEON

Chris Short 01985 847373

HORNINGSHAM LUNCHEON CLUB

It is with much sadness that we report the death of Jenny McClurg one of our long standing members. Jenny and Ian attended our luncheon club for many years and even after they moved to Yeovil to be near their daughter they regularly came back on a Thursday to have a meal and catch up with their many friends. We send our condolences and love to Ian and daughters Sue and Sheila.

Our last meal for this year will be the Christmas Lunch on 14th December for which we thank Kim and helpers who cook a delicious festive meal for us and our invited guests. The meal will conclude with entertainment from the children of Horningsham School who always put us in a festive mood with their singing and we thank them and their teachers for supporting us again this year.

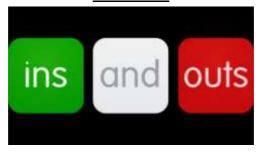
We are very lucky to have a band of volunteers who cook, wait at table, wash and clear up, deliver meals to housebound residents, sell raffle tickets and keep the accounts. Without all of these volunteers the Club would not be the success it is. We have had new members join during the year but can always find room for more. We meet every Thursday (apart from breaks at Easter, Christmas and August) at 12 noon for a two course lunch followed by tea or coffee for the bargain sum of £2.50.

The first lunch for 2018 will be Thursday 4th January.

From everyone involved with the Luncheon Club we would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Very Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Margaret Long & Lesley Trollope

INS & OUTS



A big welcome to no fewer than five new families!

James and Hannah Bailey with Zachary (aged 3 months) have come from Hampshire to live at 148 Haskells Lane. James is Head of Marketing at Longleat. Hannah has been a sales manager in the hospitality industry. They have a Havanese dog (a small black and tan terrier called Percy).

Freddy and Théa Ferreira have moved with Yasmin (6) and Ethan (5) to 133 Cock Road. Freddy is working in London. Théa was born in Cambridge, lived in Belgium and Holland and more recently in Salisbury. They have been in Frome for the past two years where Yasmin and Ethan started at the Steiner School. They are very happy to be settled now in Horningsham where Théa is an artist and sculptor. They have 3 dogs (2 toy poodles and a Belgian Malinois) plus a tabby cat and some guinea pigs.

Tony and Cathy have moved in to 137 Broadslade. Cathy is working at Longleat House. Tony spent 22 years in the RAF, involved in the Gulf Wars and in Afghanistan. They have both worked for London Ambulance as volunteer Blue Light Responders. You may now see Tony on a yellow and red 'blood' motorbike delivering blood and medicines round Wiltshire and Somerset (he is also an advanced motor cycle instructor). Cathy was a local girl brought up in Corsley, and her mother's family farmed at Broadmead in Crockerton. Her uncle was one of the original lion keepers at Longleat.

Robin Pigott and Jesse Mandy, with Elektra aged 6, have moved to 23 Newbury from Bath. Robin is an acupuncturist and musician, playing the guitar, and also edits videos. Jesse works in reflexology and yoga.

Dimitri Christodoulou and Star Molteno have moved to Pottle Cottage with sons Theo (8) and Zander (4), and 16 year-old daughter Omni who is at school in Bruton. The boys are at school in Upton Noble. Dimitri and Star are both originally from London and have a six month lease here. They love being here and hope to find another cottage in Horningsham when their lease expires. Dimitri is a graphic designer with a studio in Frome, and Star is a freelance researcher working for the National Trust.

Many congratulations to Megan Jefferies and Daniel, and a special welcome to baby Eli who arrived on Saturday 18th November, weighing 7lbs 9oz.

Maggie Oborne



Bonfire Night



Another perfect cold, dry evening, another very popular event. The second Horningsham Bonfire Night built on the success of last year's inaugural event and saw a great turnout. So much so that the kitchen was under a bit of pressure to keep the hot dogs coming. Hot chocolates and sparklers kept the children warm and entertained, meanwhile the mulled cider seemed equally popular with the adults.

The fantastic fire was once again very kindly organised by Rick Gunning and our finale fireworks were very generously donated by the Cricket Club and the Bath Arms. Having the fireworks sponsored has obviously made a huge difference to the financial outcome and we are extremely grateful. Extracting money from the Cricket Club Treasurer is no mean feat but the lure of being asked to set off 60 rockets meant Bill White was always going to come good.



Special thanks must also go to Des, landlord of the Bath Arms, who lent our pop up Bar an air of professionalism and calm.

Lastly, on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, a huge thank you to everyone who came out and supported.

See you next year!

Angus Hilleary

Horningsham Primary School

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Remembrance

The children showed their respect at the village War Memorial in November. Owls class had written poems inspired by poetry by Wilfred Owen, photos and diary extracts of World War I. They thought deeply about the poppy as a symbol of remembrance and worked together in groups to draft and write poems that reflected their thoughts. One group felt particular empathy, all being daughters of serving soldiers.

Charlie Ballamy played the Last Post beautifully on the cornet as the whole school stood in silence at the memorial. Following the reveille, Charlie and Mr Gundry played a duet of 'O Valiant Hearts' with a small group of children singing in two parts. It was made even more poignant as an army helicopter did a low fly over as we were singing. It was a very moving event and we were proud of how respectful our children were.

Children's Remembrance Poems:

The Last Post

Mournful notes resonate Through our souls; We who remember The unforgotten.

Five powerful notes, Like soldiers, advance together. The reveille calls them To march into war.

It calls us To honour the fallen; To remember; To be grateful.

Still standing to attention As memorials – their names engraved So we shall not forget them In their 'last post'.

We shall remember them.

Hearts of Steel

Hearts of steel set out to war,
Giving their lives for us all.
Manky trenches kept many lives,
Until the death whistle makes its noise.
Soldiers of honour sacrifice their soul
For our country and to keep us whole.
Fields of mud lay the faillen,
Poppies now grow for each of the men,
We will remember and honour the dead.
As they lie in their graves - their heroes bed.





Poppies Will Grow

In Flanders field the wind will blow, A blood swept land where poppies grow. Sacrifices were made by soldiers so brave, The Last Post played for them in their graves:

Poppies standing where soldiers lay, Representing each soul that passed away. Remember the fallen who gave their life, And brought us peace in a world of strife.



Children in Need

Each of our four teams have a chosen charity they are supporting this year. Longleat have been supporting Children in Need and following Pudsey Bear's visit in October, have organised a 'guess Pudsey Bear's middle name' raffle as well as selling a range of merchandise. The children all came to school wearing something spotty on Children in Need day and in total raised an amazing £262. Well done Longleat!

Christmas at Horningsham School!





Come and



<u>W.I.</u>



We have had a great response from people keen to reinvigorate a WI branch for Horningsham and surrounds. We are holding an initial meeting for everyone who is interested on Tuesday 12th December 7.30 - 9pm at the Village Hall where Carole Hill will show us all how to make beautiful Christmas wreaths for our front doors.

Now we know that everyone loves decorating the house for Christmas, and wreaths are horribly expensive to buy - they are easy to make with all the free resources at our fingertips here in Horningsham.



So do come along for a glass of wine and a mince pie, bringing with you (if you are able) secateurs, and anything you would like for decoration: pinecones, fir, leaves, berries, fruits, flowers . . . and we can discuss our programme for 2018!



Parent-run playgroup now open!

Without a toddler group or play area in the village and having worked full time or only recently moved to the area it's very easy to feel isolated and often lonely when raising young children in a village location, particularly if you don't drive! This is why three Horningsham mothers felt compelled to make a difference in the community and on Thursday 2nd November, Horningsham Village Hall was set up as the home of Lion Cubs Playgroup.



Lion Cubs is a not-for-profit playgroup for parents and carers with children aged 0 - 4 years old. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly providing an informal, supportive and

sociable place to meet over a cup of tea (as many biscuits as you like) and a snack for the little ones. New toys are introduced each week and a seasonal activity table is set up for Lion Cubs to get creative and make something to take home.

The group has got off to a 'roaring' start with lots of little Lion Cubs from Horningsham and neighbouring towns and villages already becoming regular members of the pride.









Lion Cubs is open to all parents and carers with babies and preschool children up to the age of 4.

Horningsham Village Hall, Thursdays during term time. 9.15am - 10.45am, £2 per child. For more information please contact Lion Cubs leaders:

Sara Elston, Charlotte Routh and Rachel Mumby on lioncubsplaygroup@gmail.com

MONTHLY RECIPE

This year the weekend starts Christmas celebrations with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday. Traditionally Christmas Eve was the time to 'bring in' the Christmas decorations. By that I mean holly, ivy and mistletoe and a Yule log that has been 'found or given but never bought'. I still love the anticipation especially when there are children in the family still young enough to get excited!

Christmas Eve supper for me is part of this and also fortification whilst waiting to go to Midnight Mass and is needed if only to mop up the glass of 'Christmas Cheer'. So my favourite recipe is a fish pie with a difference and then 'let joy be unconfined'.

Ingredients for Choux pastry

125g / 4 oz plain flour

Pinch of salt and pepper

 $300\text{ml} / \frac{1}{2} \text{ pt of water}$

60g / 2 oz butter + extra for greasing

4 eggs beaten

90g / 3 oz of Emmental or Gruyere cheese

Ingredients for the filling

60g / 2 oz butter

60g / 2 oz plain flour

600ml / 1 pt of skimmed or whole Tytherington milk

1 bay leaf

6 black peppercorns

450 grams of white fish fillet +225 grams smoked haddock 11/2 lbs in all

Fresh chopped parsley

Method

Choux pastry: - Put the measured water and butter in a pan and bring to the boil. Sift the flour and add the salt and pepper. Remove the water from the heat and add the flour. Beat until the mixture is smooth and glossy and leaves the side of the pan. Cool slightly. Beat the eggs until smooth and glossy and then add the cheese. Butter a large shallow ovenproof dish and pipe or spoon the pastry round the edge. Cover and chill.

Filling: - Put milk in a pan with the bay leaf, peppercorns and onion. Slowly bring to the boil and remove from heat. Remove and discard the bay leaf, peppercorns and onion. Set aside the milk. Put butter into a large pan and heat gently until melted. Add the flour and cook out for 1-2 mins, stirring constantly. Remove from the heat and gradually whisk in the reserved milk. Return to heat whisking constantly until thickened. Add the fish, skinned and broken up. Stir carefully so as not to turn it to mush. Add the filling to the centre of the prepared gougere and bake at Fan 190° C or gas mark 5 for 35 - 40 mins until risen and golden brown. Serve with fresh green vegetables and maybe an oaky chilled Chardonnay. Serves 4-6

A very Happy Christmas is wished for you all!

Jayne Glover

Colin Simpson 1931 – 2017



Colin Simpson went to Sandhurst after leaving school at Wellington College. He then spent some years in the army, spending time in Berlin, Finland, Borneo and Malaya. He then began a successful career as a journalist with the Sunday Times and later wrote several books.

He started Simpsons Seeds when he was recovering from a serious motor accident. This started as a one-man, kitchen table operation, with the focus solely on tomatoes grown in a friend's greenhouse. At the time, supermarkets were growing for shelf life and not for taste. Colin's discovery of a rich vein of flavoursome tomatoes was well timed as his first foray into the business coincided with the four hundredth anniversary of the tomato arriving in the UK. The business quickly grew with an office and large polytunnel in their Surrey garden and his wife, Jane, and son, Matt, joining him

In 2001 the Simpsons moved to Horningsham, taking on Longleat's old Walled Garden. Colin enjoyed taking part in the restoration of the garden and nursery. He worked at the nursery until ill health forced him into a somewhat belated retirement. His last year was dogged by poor health and he died in Salisbury Hospital on October 31st.

Mill Farm Chronicles October – November 2017

I'm feeling my age and a little bit sad today because David Cassidy has died. He was the 60s pop star/actor/ heart throb whose picture dominated my bedroom walls when I was a gawky teenager, and who I was convinced I was destined to marry. I didn't, obviously, but his demise makes me realise that I'm now one of "the older generation" and yet I don't feel old!

I spent most of my childhood growing up on a very small council farm at Norton Ferris which is about 15 minutes away from Horningsham. I didn't even know Horningsham existed in those days let alone think that I'd eventually marry a boy from here.

Our council farm was only 45 acres and we had about 20 Jersey cows that we milked in a 4 cow bail in the corner of the yard. The milk was strained, cooled and put into churns and put on the milk stand ready for the milk lorry to pick up. We grew some corn but had to contract someone in to cut it. The grain was put into a trailer and then we had to run it from the trailer shoot into hessian grain sacks which were tied up with twine and taken to the mill in Gillingham. All the straw and hay we made was baled into little bales and then manually hauled into the barn and stacked. My Dad drove the tractor and picked up the small stacks from the field, which myself and my brother had put into heaps and my Mum was in the barn stacking them. One of my jobs was to provide sustenance for the workers while they worked, which my mum likes to remind me was mainly stale doorstep cheese sandwiches and warm orange squash! I remember that my Dad could put a bale on the end of a pitchfork and toss it right up into the top of the barn. That was way before all the mechanism took over and farmers really were very active and fit. We had a pig called Yorick, and piglets that I remember escaped one day so my brother had to rugby tackle each one! There were two geese who used to chase me and our lovely collie dog called Ricky. Seems my life hasn't changed much at all just the location!

Back to now. Life on the farm is really quiet. Due to the decent weather the cows are still able to be out in the fields although they are being moved around a lot and some are being fed hay to help supplement the grass. A couple of days ago we moved the cows who had calves over the summer to a field near Bradley. This requires a military style operation with lots of people standing in gaps and in roads stopping traffic. It went very well and the cows don't seem to mind a nice trot along a road, especially if there is some decent grass at the end of it.

I think the donkeys will be coming in for the winter soon. They don't like the wet although why they are daft enough to stand out in it when they have a nice dry field shelter to stand in I don't know.

The Festival of Lights continues to attract bed and breakfast visitors, all of whom say how lovely it all is.

The birthdays have (almost) finished. It was mine last week and I had a lovely day that seemed to mainly revolve around eating. I went out to lunch with Amy and my Mum and to supper with Amy, Guy, jack and Steve. I felt like a stuffed turkey by bedtime, and probably looked like one too!

Amy and I had a girly trip to London earlier this month. It was 36 hours away but we crammed lot in. St Paul's Cathedral (awe inspiring), Oxford St (very pretty but busy), Kinky Boots the musical (amazing) an overnight stay (relaxing), the Country Living Christmas Show (so much stuff to buy) and plenty of food!

After that jaunt, I came home full of good intentions about sorting Christmas and I have to say I'm really organised. All the presents have been bought, the puddings are made, I was ably helped by Ivy, and being steamed as I write and all the cards are written, addressed and stamped (yes all of them) ready to be posted next week so apart from the decorations and the food shopping I'm all done. I'm closing the B&B for 2 weeks over Christmas and New Year so that I can really enjoy it. I've decided that life really is too short so grab your happiness while you can. I've got a



Christmas cookery demonstration to go to and a Twilight Spa at Center Parcs (both birthday presents), a wreath making day, a visit to the Bath Christmas Market, Ivy's nativity play (she's being a donkey, her choice) and a trip to see the big man himself on Christmas Eve with Ivy and I can't wait!

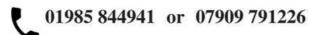
I hope your Christmas and New Year are exactly as you wish them. Merry Christmas!

Margaret Crossman



HOUSE - GARDEN - GARAGE - SHED

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Furniture bought & sold





Vera Crossman came across a cutting from the Warminster Journal from 1942 that she thought might make an interesting story. It was a report on the Horningsham Women's Guild having received a letter from Driver Derrick Robins saying he was well and thanking them for their Christmas present. Yes, at that time, Horningsham had both a Women's Guild and a Women's Institute. The Guild was more Chapel based while the Institute was more Church based. The name Robins did not mean anything to me until Vera pointed out that he was Carol Cox's father – the Carol Cox whose name appears at the end of our reports on Chapel news.

HORNINGSHAM WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild meeting held on February 5th was at the kind invitation of Mrs. A. Ford, held in the warm cosy sitting room of her home at Newbury. Despite the wintry condition of the evening there was a good attendance and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

An airgraph letter has been received from Driver Derick Robins thanking members for the Christmas present sent to him, and his many friends will be pleased to hear he is quite well but longing to be back home again to join his family and friends.



It was time to find out more. Who was Driver Robins? Where was he? What was he doing? Why did he get a Christmas present? What life did he have in Horningsham? Daughter Carol was, of course, the main source but Ancestry, Find My Past and Wikipedia all helped.

Driver Robins was Cecil William Derrick Robins born in 1913 in Horningsham.

Baby Derrick with his Mother Laura and his Grandmother Louisa Ford outside No. 124 Carol said he worked first as a delivery boy for the village shop. In the 1939 Register we find him living at 137 Broadslade, the Poor Farm*, with his widowed mother Laura, his wife, Mary and his unmarried sister, Margaret. At this time, Derrick gave his occupation as "Forest Worker". This was a surprise to Carol believed her father always worked in the Kitchen Gardens.

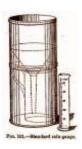
When war came, Derrick was in the Royal Army Service Corps with the rank of Driver. He was posted to North Africa and served with the 8th Army in Libya and Egypt. His work included driving ambulances and involved picking up wounded Brits, Italians and Germans. He was at Tobruk and later at El Alamein. In 1941 he was wounded in the leg by shrapnel and this was the reason that the Horningsham Women's Guild sent him a Christmas present. Carol remembers him showing her the scars on his leg from the wound.



After the war, Derrick returned to Horningsham and he and Mary had three children, one of whom died in childhood. He then worked in the Kitchen Gardens until 1960 when the family moved to Warminster. Derrick worked as a porter at Sambourne Hospital, the former workhouse, where Mary worked as an auxiliary nurse. When Derrick became ill he was a patient at Sambourne and died there in 1985 aged 71.

^{*} The Poor Farm, or Poor Dairy, supplied milk to the poor of Horningsham at a halfpenny per pint. The cost of keeping a few cows was subsidised by Lord Bath with the accounts kept by the Vicar. It was discontinued in September 1896.

PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL



October started well with it being fair most days with a drop of light rain with gusty winds. This continued for a while but was what I call uncomfortable, as it felt very warm and muggy at times, you had to keep taking coats off then back on when you cooled down. We had a heavy storm of rain on the 19th, dropping 0.89 inches. This was the pattern for the next few days, it was then warm but low clouds most mornings. At the end of October we had the first really hard frost. October gave us a total of 1.74 inches compared with 1.73 in 2016.

John Whatley



SHREEN HARMONY and FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

All Saints Church Maiden Bradley
Thursday December 14th
7:30 pm

A wide variety of Christmas music Refreshments

Donations welcomed towards church fabric.



SPREAD GOOD CHEER THE OLD FASHIONED WAY COME A CHRISTMAS CAROLLING SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

Don your Christmas jumper, bring a lantern and gather friends & family for an evening of carolling around the village of Horningsham.

MEET: Horningsham village hall 4.30pm or on route.

Brief stop at the Bath Arms for complimentary mulled wine & mince pies.

FINISH: Mill Farm where there will be hot food and drink available, toasting marshmallows and a real live nativity scene!

Accidental Volunteers - The Year in Review

It was on our wedding anniversary, October 13th that we set out last year. Caroline forgot to remind me to pack the documents for the truck, an oversight that meant we could get no closer to Greece than the Bosnian border. We doubled back to Milan, picking up a young Hungarian migrant from a service station in the darkness of a horrendous thunderstorm beside motorway, dropped her off as soon as she woke up and then set out again a couple of days later, this time by ferry to the west coast of Northern Greece. As we climbed the road out of the ferry port we could never have imagined the experience that was ahead of us.

One evening we met with two young Syrian men on the roadside in an industrial area north of Thessaloniki. They walked us behind an abandoned warehouse and we clambered through a broken window into a building that was home to over 1,000 people. The warehouse had been rented by the Greek Government, under the control of the Army, and they had filled it with the people who been turned back with tear gas at the Macedonian border, fleeing the war in Syria. It was the front line of a reality we never thought we would have to bear witness to. Public opinion had turned on these unfortunate people and the Greeks were being paid to store unwanted human beings in a warehouse like last season's fashions.

We spoke to the camp council, we responded to their requests for medical supplies and dental visits. We filled our mini-bus (already in Greece) with family trips to the city and the seaside. We even attended meetings with Non-Governmental Organisations in which we upset them by asking why, with resources totalling tens of millions of Euros, these people were still living with no heat, no hot water, no education for their children and only intermittent electricity. They responded by banning us from the meetings and from the camp.

On one subsequent visit to the camp Caroline was asked by Odie to come back to his tent to meet his wife and three young boys. Odie had been an engineer in the oil industry near Deir ez-Zor, Syria. The city had come under the control of Isis and he had fled. The situation was overwhelming for Nariman, Odie's wife. He asked us if there was anything we could do.

This was how the idea of renting houses for the Syrian families came about. We found a two bedroom apartment near to the hospital and Odie and his family became our first residents. At first, on top of the rent, we had to pay for their food and all other supplies, after a few months, and after we had got 10 apartments and almost 50 tenants, a Dutch group stepped in to fund the day-to-day living expenses, and now that obligation is handled by the Greek authorities.

We've housed over 110 people in the last 12 months because many of them have moved on. Either reunited with family elsewhere in Europe, or given asylum in other countries The UK does not accept refugees directly from Greece. Lately we have started to visit some of the families we previously housed. Odie and Nariman are in the Black Forest of Germany, they are near to Odie's mother and a ranting local nutter who occasionally shouts at them from their patio about where he believes they should be living, which is not Germany. We have visited the pharmacist in Brussels where he is training to become a nurse. We have taken Hassan out for lunch a couple of times while he waits for his

asylum to be approved in Belgium so he can get on with his law studies and perhaps one day realise his ambition to become a Judge in the Court of Human Rights in Holland.

We hooked up with Mhamud in Paris where he is looking to continue his work as a translator and an accountant just as soon as he is given permission to work again. We're making plans to visit about ten of our longest term residents who are now spread out all over Sweden. And one of my favourites, the economics professor from Aleppo University who is now living through his second popular uprising in Catalonia.

We had no idea we were getting into all this when we rolled down Rowe's Hill over a year ago. Somewhere in amongst all of the above are unspeakably upsetting moments, moments of elation and raw frustration. We've had our car confiscated by the French police, we've been marched out of a camp by the Army, we've broken laws we felt we couldn't uphold any longer and we've let friendships slide. But if we've only managed to do one thing it was to prove a point. The point being that it's a lot better to participate than to sit on the sidelines, it's a lot more fulfilling to be the agent of change than the one demanding it, and that our mothers were right when they told us to share our toys because it is true that in the end what we don't surrender, the world will take away.

Neil Dykes





Hamza, Omar & Habiba in Germany

With Mhamud in Paris



Mahmoud, Nedder & Ilham in France



Horningsham Primary School's

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday December 16th Horningsham Village Hall 11 am until 2 pm

Delicious hot food, warming mulled wine, Father Christmas, gifts for your loved ones, crafts for the children, pony rides for smaller children, a fun bus for kids that want to play and many more festive treats

EVERYONE WELCOME



Lord of the Manor asks "Daily Mirror" Reporter A VISCOUNT, one of the aid from council

A VISCOUNT, one of the biggest landowners in the West of England, has asked a local authority to help him to improve his cottages and make them as good as those built by the council.

He is Viscount Weymouth, 40, son of the Marquis of Bath. He was recently demobbed from the Army, and was wounded at El Alamein

Viscount Weymouth made the request to the Warminster and Westbury Rural Council.

He told me last night: "I want all my tenants to have

the amenities I myself enjoy —bath, electric light and cooking and up-to-date sewerage.

"It will cost a great deal of money. I want to rehouse more than 1.500 cottagers, and I'm prepared to finish the job within a year if I can get the iabour and arrange permits

"Some of the cottagers may not take too kindly to 'newfangled' ideas, but I intend to instal all the latest gadgets for the time when younger tenants take over."

Viscount Weymouth's letter to the council said:

"I wish to improve many of the cottages on the Longleat Estate to bring them up to a reasonable standard of fitness and to provide additional accommodation when ever possible.

"I hope to bring all my cottages up to the standard which will approach that of the excellent cottages recently erected by your council."

"As I own so many cottages in your council's area it would. I think, be in the public interest if I could have the full cooperation and guldance of the council in this scheme

"No doubt there are localities where I could assist in the provision of housing accommodation. I would like the advice of your council is order to fit in with their building programme as a whole.

"I understand rural local authorities have made certain representations to the Minister of Health, as to standards of hiness of existing houses."

ness of existing houses
"I should if possible like without hist these recommendations are, as this would be a help in deciding the nature and extent of the improvements am wishing to carry out."

The coursell decided to a playing

The council decided to inform Lord Weymouth what was the standard of fitness agreed to for rural houses in the county



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ONLY the Very Best ENGLISH MEAT SOLD.

CHINNS, HORNINGSHAM and WARMINSTER.

Chinn the butcher was based at Butchery Farm, Chapel Street, Horningsham. He also had a shop in Market Place, Warminster with a yard behind, now called "Chinn's Court".

Horningsham Cricket Club

December may be the off season for village cricket, but it is still a big month for the village cricketer. Last season is a receding memory, carrying your ineptitude away to a place where it is deniable. Next summer is a few provisional fixture dates pencilled onto a piece of paper that the fixtures secretary has probably lost. Which means these long dark nights are when the committed cricketer can dream. In the warmth of his bath, he can fantasise about achievements of which he would never be capable in matches which could never take place. (True village cricketers never fantasise about anything else). There he lies, imagining afternoons that the future might bring, or that the past should have. There he stands for the national anthem, takes the field in front of a packed stadium of 20,000 erupting cheering fans, the commentators describing the scene to the nation, and then . . .

And then a village cricketer walks out to play against a test team? What follows is a Horningsham News exclusive cricket report of an afternoon in September, in the Taliban bandit country of northwest Pakistan, when reality took a break from oppressing humanity with piles of washing up and gave fantasy a brief embrace; a group of village incompetents were ushered blinking into battle with half a test team, a crowd of 20,000 erupted, and Horningsham was part of it.

This cricketing mismatch came at the end of a coach journey of two weeks, carrying a group of not at all accomplished English cricketers over many hundred miles of narrow, bumpy, untarmacked cliff face mountain passes in Northern Pakistan, from Kashmir to the Karakorams, across the Shandur Pass into Chitral, near the border with Afghanistan. Each day, as a team, we stopped to meet local cricketers, unfailingly charming and hospitable, who led us to their remote and spectacularly beautiful cricket grounds, ringed by snow-capped mountains, to thrash us and rub our noses in the rough earth and stones of their grassless cricket grounds.



When I say they thrashed us, I am not exaggerating. We lost some games by over 200 runs, even though they were only 20 overs long. Tom Oborne, opening the bowling for us in one game, was hit for 18 off the first ball. (How is that even possible? The first reader to answer correctly can open the bowling for Horningsham next year). Most of us were out first ball several times, and reached 10 only rarely.

But these mountain valleys are remote, and with each match we discovered, terrifyingly, that the news of our uselessness had not preceded us. Every side brought out their strongest eleven, and were surprised and delighted to stuff us. They are strangers to the English tradition of the travelling amateur. They all assumed that a touring side must have professionals, perhaps even members of the England national XI.



Even the Pakistan Army thought so. Hearing we were only a few hundred miles away, they invited us to visit a town, Miranshah, in an inaccessible tribal territory, Northern Waziristan, very near to the Afghan border, recently a centre of the Taliban and Al Qaeda insurgencies in Pakistan. Slightly encouragingly, the army said the insurgents had left. In the campaign to force them out, the army had flattened the town, and rebuilt it. And to celebrate the return of peace, would the touring English cricket XI care to play a friendly T20 game against the local side? And as the English XI was no doubt very good, the local side might be supplemented by some ringers.

We were flown by army helicopter for two hours between mountains and over arid plains - a novel means of transport to a cricket match - and arrived to the fantastic sight of an enormous oval cricket ground packed with spectators, TV cameras, music, dancing.



The game was broadcast live on the Pakistan equivalent of BBC1. You can find the highlights on YouTube, if you search 'Peace Cup Miranshah'. There, English village cricketers are described as a 'UK Media XI', which reflects the doubtful behaviour of only two of the side: several of us were respectable (though not in the sense of 'respectable cricketers') and three have played for Horningsham. We lined up behind the three lions of English cricket painted on the grass, shook the hands of dignitaries, sang the national anthem, then looked across and saw half the Pakistan national team singing the anthem of Pakistan. A galactic mismatch.

We It was chaos. bowled wides, dropped catches, got out first ball. In the highlights, vou will see a ball hit high in the air to be caught and the commentator describing the action 'a fine catch there by Tom Oborne at mid-off'. This is the only wicket we took. and the bowler was a local man lent to us once they realised how rubbish we were. Over half our runs were scored by a boy they



lent to us. We lost by 136 runs.

And as for your correspondent, finally, disbelievingly, living a moment he had dreamt of 50 years? In front of 20,000 people, live on national TV, he misfielded the second ball of the game, bizarrely picked up a dead leg, and was unable to take further part in the match. It went so much better in the bath.

Next match : (weather permitting) : 27^{th} December, 11 am, vs Cranmore, home. Come along to play / watch / have a drink

James Oborne



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Sue will also be having some tasting days of new items so keep an eye out for these - all will be posted on our Facebook page - link via our website .

On **20 December at 5 pm** the Shop will be hosting the Maiden Bradley Carol Singers who will be collecting for Dorothy House Hospice. Come and listen – or join in!

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World War 1: 100 Years Ago This Month

Charles William Froude

Charles Froude died of his wounds on the Somme on 30th December 1917 aged 29 leaving his wife Emily (26) and his baby daughter Joyce who was just 11 months old. His death brought the total for 1917 to 8, making it the worst year of the war for Horningsham.

Charles was born in Horningsham in March 1888. His father, also Charles, was a gamekeeper and the family lived in the Gamekeeper's Cottage at Park Hill having moved to Horningsham about five years earlier. Charles was the fifth child in a family of six, all of his siblings were girls. Disaster struck the family when Charles's father died aged 47 when Charles was 10. Widowed Martha was left with six children to rear and the family had to leave their tied cottage at Park Hill and moved to 181 Chapel Street. In the 1901 Census she gave her occupation as "Sick Nurse".



By 1909 Charles was working on the Estate as a "woodman". Like many of Longleat's younger workmen he signed up for 4 years' service in the Territorial Force. Doubtless recruitment was helped by the fact that his employer and landlord, the 5th Marquess, was the Colonel. In fact Charles was actually recruited by the Marquess who signed his papers on joining. We have no photos of Charles but we know from his attestation papers that he was 5ft 10 inches tall, of dark complexion, with black hair and in good health. As a Territorial, Charles would have attended training sessions and annual camps but was not liable to serve overseas. He extended his term of service and was still serving in August 1914 when war against Germany was declared.

Meanwhile, by 1911 Charles was a part-time student in the Forest of Dean while working as a woodman for the Office of Woods on the Crown Estates. From there he moves to Chatsworth where he meets Emily Rydout the daughter of a gardener at Chatsworth. After Charles is called up to full-time service, they marry in December 1914 at the local parish church of Edensor.

On 5th August 1914 Charles was called to full-time service at Chippenham and remained with the 1st/2nd Wiltshire Yeomanry until his term of service ended on 8th April 1916 when he was discharged. However this was not the end of Charles's military service. We know he joined the Royal Engineers and is recorded as "Sapper" on the memorial tablet at Edensor Church. But he was transferred to the South Lancashire Regiment and was posted to join the 7th Battalion on the Somme.

The next record of Charles is of his death. He died of wounds at 21st Casualty Clearing Station at Ytres some 30 miles east of Amiens. In the period leading up to his death, his Battalion's War Diary records numerous occasions of incoming shellfire including gas attacks but, unusually, it does not record casualties. So, it seems probable that Charles, like the majority of deaths, was the victim of artillery fire. The wounded were transferred to Casualty Clearing Stations where they could receive medical attention well behind the front lines and often close to a railway line. Some were returned to their units, some were transferred to Field Hospitals and some, like Charles, died. He is buried in the nearby cemetery of Rocquigny-Equancourt Road along with nearly 2,000 others. Emily chose these words to appear on his headstone: "Too dearly loved to ever be forgotten" His name also appears on a Memorial Tablet at St. Peter's Church in Edensor as one of the 25 men from Chatsworth House who died in the Great War.



After the war his widow Emily received £5.30 back pay and £10.70 War Gratuity. Emily and her daughter Joyce lived with her parents at Nether End near Chatsworth Park. Joyce worked as a School Secretary until she married in 1942.





BUSES FROM BUS SHELTER AT THE COMMON

Salisbury every Tuesday 83

Leaves Horningsham 09.35 *Holly Bush 09.37* Departs Salisbury 13.45

Arrives Salisbury 10.30 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 Bus*h 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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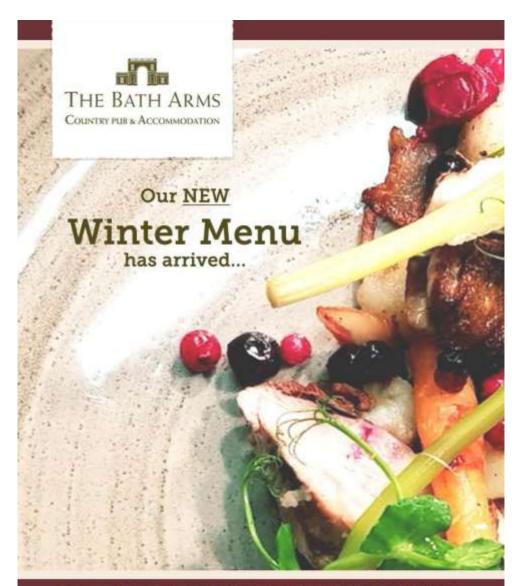
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 7th December *Parish Council* 7.30pm at the Hall Sunday 10th December *Carol Service* 3.00pm at the Chapel Tuesday 12th December *W.I.* 7.30-9.00pm at the Hall Saturday 16th December *School Christmas Fayre* 11.00-2.00 at the Hall Saturday 16th December *Christmas Bingo* 7.00 for 7.30 at the Hall Sunday 17th December *Carolling Around The Village* 4.30 from the Hall Wednesday 20th December *School Carol Service* 1.15 at the Church Monday 25th December *Christmas Service* 10.30am at the Church



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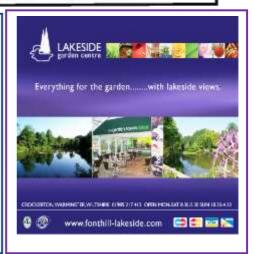
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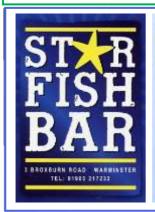
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*** UPENING TIMES ***

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

EVENINGS

SUNDAYS, 4.30PM - 8.30PM

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