

HORNINGSHAM

NEWS

ISSUE 230

March 2020





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EDITORIAL

Our cover this month shows high water levels at Lady’s Bridge – the result of all that rain from Storms Ciara and Desmond. Horningsham escaped any flooding but did have a 5 hour power outage and the storms brought down a number of trees. We feature the downed oak tree at the junction of White Street and Rowe’s Hill which also brought down the power line causing an additional outage for several properties. The Horningsham News Facebook page carried many photos and a video of Steve Crossman pushing a van with a straw bale that has been watched over 1,200 times!

This month we begin a series marking the 75th Anniversary of V.E. Day which will look at various aspects of life in Horningsham during the Second World War. We begin with the early impact of the war including the conversion of Longleat from a stately home to a girls’ boarding school.

The rest of our content may be less dramatic, but we have most of our regular features including a quiet time at Mill Farm, a healthy recipe for flapjacks, the usual lively reports from the School and the Lion Cubs, advice for gardeners and a report on Horningsham Parish Council’s February meeting. Our report from Longleat includes photos of their impromptu choir recording a song to help raise money for the wildlife that has been so badly affected by the wildfires in Australia.

Tim Hill

Please send your contributions for the next edition by Sunday 15th March 2020

Email: horningshamnews@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial Team

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find us on
Facebook

We now have 732 “Page Follows” – more than four times the number of printed copies!

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

CHURCH NEWS



There was no service at the church during February but we can now look forward to a service every month until the autumn. Pauline has given us five Benefice Eucharist services this year; these are communion services to which all the other churches are invited, so we will look forward to seeing our friends in the Deverills and Corsley and Chapmanslade.

Helen Taylor

Church Date

March 29th Benefice Eucharist 10.30am

Are you watching the signs?

I don't think I have ever known such grey days as we have been experiencing this winter, so it has been with some delight to see the signs of Spring. The snowdrops in profusion, defying all sorts of weather, delicate and gentle in their appearance yet hardy and persistent in their flourishing, followed by vibrant yellow trumpeting daffodils and carpets of bluebells, all signalling the arrival of warmer, lighter days.



Another favourite of mine is the Hellebore, also known as the Lenten Rose and so named because the sepals and flowers arrive around the time of Lent, and have a rose like appearance, although they are actually related to the buttercup. They come in many varieties with purple or violet being a common colour – very fitting for reminding us of the season! Purple or violet reflect the tone of the season in Church hangings and vestments and symbolise for us a time of penitence and preparation. The word Lent comes

from the Latin for lengthen and refers to the lengthening of days, and more daylight hours (hooray!). Traditionally, it has been a time for the preparation of candidates for baptism on Easter Day, rising from the waters of baptism just as Jesus rose from the tomb, the first fruits of a new creation. Self-examination was very much a part of that preparation and what it means for us all to choose to ‘turn towards the light of Christ’.



Even if we were baptised long ago, the need for self-examination continues, the choice to turn away from darkness (a euphemism for that which is not of God) and turn towards the light can and should be part of our faith walk with Christ on a daily basis. In the forty day booklet produced by the Church of England, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York write:

“Lent is a time for reflection. Before the solemnity of Good Friday and the glory of the resurrection on Easter Day, Christians have the opportunity to remember Christ’s withdrawal into the desert for forty days. It is a time to re- evaluate, a moment where we can turn away from the luxuries and distractions of daily life and face God. In so doing we face light, love and life. Facing God makes Lent a time for renewal.”

I wonder what discipline you have chosen to aid this time of reflection, a fast perhaps – a time of cutting something out that has become a distraction between you and your faith journey or maybe it is doing something extra like following the 40 day booklet of meditations and actions, or both!

Those who are reading the Lent book ‘Say Yes to Life’ will meet with Pauline at the Rectory on Thursday March 5th at 2pm in an introductory session and meet again in Holy Week on Thursday 9th April to share their reflections on caring for creation. Whatever you have decided upon to prepare, I pray you will have a good and holy Lent, and that the signs of God’s glory in creation will cause you to stop and wonder at the beauty and gift that is all around us.

With love and blessing,

Gay Maynard revgmaynard@gmail.com

HORNINGSHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Next Service: Sunday 8th March 10am

Carol Cox horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk

HORNINGSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Horningsham Parish Council met on Thursday 20th February at the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors, Tim Hill (Chairman), Stephen Crossman (Vice Chairman), Matt Simpson, Michael Trollope, Fran Chris, John Radley. Simon Millar, Ken Windess and Charlotte Hilleary.

Apologies: Dermot FitzGerald and Gerard Brierley

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Mrs. Sarah Jeffries MILCM

Planning

Planning Applications

None had been received for comment at this meeting but the following applications had been supported between meetings.

Application: 20/00225/TCA

Application for works to trees in conservation area

Proposal: Group 3 mature apple (Malus) Recommend removing any crossings, dead or diseased branches, clean the inner canopy and complete a 1.5m reduction of the canopy.

Location: Broadslade Cottage Broadslade, Horningsham BA12 7LY

Application Ref: 20/00604/TCA

Application for Work to Trees in a Cons Area

Proposal: - G1 - 10x Tilia trees - re-pollard to remove annual and epicormic growth

G2 - 4 x Tilia trees - re-pollard to remove annual and epicormic growth

G3 - 8 x Crataegus x prunifolia - annual crown re-shape, removing annual growth

T1 - Tilia tree - annual removal of epicormic growth

Location: The Bath Arms, The Common, Horningsham, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7LY

Parish Steward

Grit Box at junction of White Street and Rowe's Hill

The Chairman said he had reported the damaged grit box to Wiltshire Council using the My Wiltshire app on his phone and they had sent someone out to attend to it very promptly. Councillor Chris said she had met with the very helpful Highways employee who removed the damaged box but was unable to find a safe place for the new one as the bank had been so damaged that the only spot would have been impossible for people to access. They thought that the bank needed to be cut back to produce a level space at road level. Councillor Crossman said he had the necessary equipment and would do this.

Forest Road

Councillor Simpson said the erosion of the road which was reported at the last meeting had worsened and presented a possible hazard to vehicles. The Clerk was asked to report this again.

Potholes

Various potholes were reported including those in Water Lane and the road from Hollybush towards Parsonage Farm.

Litter Pick

Councillor Chris reported that all was ready for the litter pick on Saturday 21st March from 10 until 12 noon. The Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had now withdrawn their offer to remove the bags of collected litter and said that it was the Parish Council's responsibility to take them to the Warminster Recycling Centre. This provoked a range of adverse comments but Councillor Simpson said he would take the bags in his van. The Chairman expressed his appreciation of this kind offer.

Noticeboard

Councillor Windess said he had completed the repair and refurbishment of the noticeboard near the school. It just remained for the holes to be dug and the board re-erected and his son-in-law has offered to help him with this. He asked that care be taken when posting notices, to completely close and fasten the doors to prevent the ingress of water. The Chairman expressed the gratitude of the Council for Councillor Windess's efforts.

Defibrillator Training Session

The contract for the supply of the defibrillator includes the provision of a training session for the public each year. Although nobody attended the session in 2019, Councillor Crossman said he would again take responsibility for this year. He thought that a more active advertising of the event might stimulate public interest.

Play Area Tennis Court Fencing & Bench Seat

Storms Ciara and Desmond had made the ground too waterlogged for the work to be done. It will be done as soon as the weather permits.

CPRE Best Kept Village

In view of the various improvements such as the provision of the Play Area, street signage, and the War Memorial area it was agreed that the village should take part this year. Councillor Crossman said he and his wife would prepare the submission.

Village Hall Committee

Councillor Windess, the Council's representative on the Hall Committee reported that there was little enthusiasm for the Parish Council's suggestion that they might organise a tea on 8th May to mark the 75th Anniversary of V.E. Day. It was thought that there would be a variety of events in the area that would prove attractive to families on that day and that a tea in Horningsham would be unlikely to attract enough children to be viable.

Chapel Signage

The previous sign on the Common had been damaged beyond repair by a vehicle parking on the grass. Councillor Windess produced a range of designs for a new sign. Council decided on a wooden finger post with the wording "16th Century Chapel" which Councillor Windess said he would make and erect.

Horningsham Signage

Following a communication from Tim Bentley, Longleat Planning & Infrastructure Coordinator, it was decided to omit the word "Little" and use "Scotland", "Little" having been a relatively recent accretion. It was decided not to include house numbers on the signs as this would make the signs unacceptably large and intrusive. Wiltshire Highways have asked for a map to be provided showing the location of the signs. Councillors Millar and Windess will assist the Chairman in its preparation. The precise placement of each

sign will be decided with a representative of the Highways Department and the Parish Steward will erect the signs. The signs to be installed this year are:

Scotland

Pottle Street

Forest Road

Bradley Road

Newbury

Church Lane

Hollybush

Anchor Barton

Cock Road

Anchor Barton x 2 as it needs a sign at each end making a total of 10 signs

Horningsham in Bloom – garden competition & trees

Council is asked to note David Abrahams Longleat Arboricultural Supervisor has advised the Clerk that he will come back to the Council when he has more detail to discuss.

Community Emergency Plan Update

Councillor Simpson reported that he has ordered additional salt and also ice warning signs to be used in Water Lane near Town Well where the road is normally wet.

International Institute of Municipal Clerks

Council congratulated Mrs Sarah Jeffries, the Parish Clerk, on being appointed as a Director of the Institute for a three year term commencing in May. This is a very significant honour for Horningsham Parish Council's Clerk and is indicative of the high regard in which she is held by her fellow clerks.

Change of Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Parish Council, planned for 2nd April now clashes with the event with Pip Utton at the Hall and the Council has agreed to change the date to Thursday 23rd April. It was also decided to revert to holding the Annual Parish Meeting immediately preceding that meeting at 7.00pm rather than on a separate date.

Dates of Meetings

Annual Parish Meeting: Thursday 23rd April 7.00pm

Full Parish Council Meetings 2020/2021

Thursday 23rd April 2020 7.30pm

Thursday 14th May 2020 7.30pm

Thursday 25th June 2020 7.30pm

There will be no meeting during the July/August Break

Thursday 3rd September 2020 7.30pm

Thursday 15th October 2020 7.30pm

Thursday 26th November 2020 7.30pm (Budget meeting)

Thursday 7th January 2021 7.30pm

Thursday 18th February 2021 7.30pm

Thursday 1st April 2021 7.30pm

The next meeting of Horningsham Parish Council will be at 7.30 on Thursday 23rd April at the Village Hall when all are welcome to attend.



My Wiltshire Online Reporting

You can use the My Wiltshire system to report a number of issues affecting your local area including potholes and mud on the road or changes that would affect the services you receive.

You can access My Wiltshire via your internet browser on your desktop/laptop or download the mobile app on your smartphone or tablet.

You can report issues either by being a registered user or anonymously.

To receive responses to your reports you will have to be a registered user with an email address.

To make life even easier, My Wiltshire is available as an app for your smartphone.



You'll have access to all the functionality of the web browser version, but in the palm of your hand; plus the ability to attach photos and GPS locations to your reports.

The My Wiltshire mobile app is available for **Apple, Android and Microsoft** devices.

Changes to Kerbside Recycling Collections

We're changing many of the collection days for the blue-lidded bins and black boxes, and making it easier for you to recycle. Soon you will be able to put more recyclables into your blue-lidded bin, and the day on which your blue-lidded bins and black boxes are emptied may change – though the collection days for household waste and garden waste will not change.

The changes to the recycling service will take place over four weeks starting from 24 February. Look out for a letter in the next three weeks that will give you more details of what is changing and when your new collection date will be. On the day of your last collection under the current system a bin hanger will be attached to the handle of your blue-lidded bin to provide more information. Your new collection dates will be published on our website from 24 February

Your collection day for emptying the blue-lidded bins and black boxes may change. If you currently have your blue-lidded bin and black box emptied on different days, they will be emptied on the same day in future. In most cases they will be emptied using the same vehicle. Look out for a letter in the post that will tell you how the changes affect you.

Once service changes have commenced, you will be able to put more materials into your blue lidded bin:

- plastic bottles
- plastic pots (including yoghurt), tubs (such as margarine, ice cream) and trays (from products such as fruit, meat, vegetables)
- cardboard
- food and drink cartons (for example soup, milk, fruit juice)
- shredded paper (placed inside an envelope or cardboard box)
- tins and cans
- clean foil
- empty aerosols
- paper (including brown paper, newspapers, magazines, directories, catalogues, envelopes)

You can continue to put the following in your black box:

- glass bottles and jars
- clean and dry textiles (for example clothes, paired shoes, curtains, sheets, blankets) bagged and tied

What will stay the same?

- You will keep the same containers for your rubbish and recycling
- You will still be able to recycle all of the items you currently can using the kerbside recycling service
- We will still collect non-recyclable household waste
- We will continue to collect garden waste and charge for this service
- Your collections will remain fortnightly, although dates and times of recycling collections may change



Just one welcome this month.

Welcome to Jess Abis and Ruby Reed who have moved to Holywell House, 78 The Island. Jess runs a “sustainable snacks” business (including delicious Brownies) with an office in Frome and a factory in Milton Keynes. Ruby runs a wellbeing event company in the UK and Europe with her sister. They have a black and white cat. They are both keen walkers and are much enjoying exploring the countryside.

Maggie Osborne

PARSONAGE FARM RAINFALL

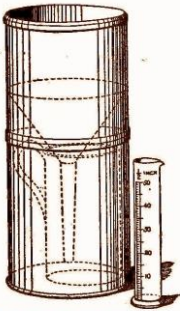


FIG. 151.—Standard rain-gauge.

January started feeling dull damp and foggy, with a few heavy showers, this continued with a muggy feel in the air, making it difficult to choose what to wear, as you get quite hot working. Luckily we had a dry day for our TB first injection, on the 7th, then heavy rain on the 9th when 0.99 inches fell from above. The next day was a very cold day when we had our TB reading - hurray! we are now clear after a long time. We then had a wet time with high winds for quite a few days, by mid-month we had frosts and fog. A flurry of snow up here on the farm on the 28th, making us wonder if we needed the snow plough, ❄️, but luckily it was a false alarm. We finally had 3.43 inches for January 2020 compared with just 1.04 inches in 2019.

John Whatley



WELCOME CLUB

We start our 2020 season with the first meeting at Horningsham Hall on Thursday 19th March at 2.0pm. This is when membership subs of £5 are due.

The following meeting dates are 21st May, 16th July, 17th September and 19th November.

Our first outing of the season will be a Mystery Trip on Tuesday 28th April. The fares will be £12 for members and £15 for non-members.

Pick up points will be as usual 8.45am at the Bath Arms Horningsham and 9.00am at Maiden Bradley Village Hall.

A full list of our outings for the season will be in the April edition.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings or join us on our monthly outings. Please contact Pearl Hudson (01985 844779) to book your place on the coach.

We look forward to you joining us.

Lesley Trollope

The Big Horningsham Litter Pick

Saturday 21st March

At the Village Hall

10 am – 12 noon



I shall be at the Village Hall from 10 to 12. I shall have high vis. vests, litter pickers and sacks – all you need to collect the rubbish left around our village.

Please let me know if you want to do a certain area so that we can cover the whole village.

Let's hope for a fine morning!

Fran Chris

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Storm Ciara

Chaos was caused in the wake of Storm Ciara when a large oak tree was blown down at the junction of White Street and Rowe's Hill. As well as completely blocking the roads at the junction, it also felled an electricity pylon bringing down power lines and cutting off power to homes in the neighbourhood for over 24 hours.





While attempting to turn round, a white van delivering a book from Amazon to White Street became wedged on the bank, adding to the drama.

With characteristic ingenuity, farmer Steve Crossman managed to extricate the van. The video of him doing this was watched by over 1,000 people on the Horningsham News Facebook page!





The following day, SSE installed a new pole and repaired the power lines. Once the cables had been made safe, work could begin on sawing up the fallen tree.

Photos: Caroline Dykes



Horningsham Primary School

Email: FriendsofHPS@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

Email: admin@horningsham.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.horningsham.schnet.org

01985 844342



Dance like an Egyptian ...

We are so proud of our Dance Crew, who did an incredible performance at the annual Dance Festival at Bath Forum. Inspired by their topic of Ancient Egypt, they danced a mixture of tap, Charleston and contemporary demonstrating great armography and synchronisation in a complicated and stunningly visual choreographed routine. The theme this year was 'Our Wonderful World', with their piece representing an exploration of one of the Wonders of the World.



The children really rose to the occasion, which was reflected in the huge cheers from the audience after a truly memorable performance. They will give you a taste of this at the Village Fayre in the summer when they perform this in the arena at the opening. A big well done to Mrs Lapham for genius choreography and vision!

A Platinum Artsmark School Following being awarded platinum Artsmark status, we have been linking with other schools and groups to share our good work and ethos of embedding the arts in our learning. As a result, we have had visits from

Headteachers from other schools, interviews for articles for the Times Educational Supplement and had a professional photographer join us for an afternoon to see the arts in practice for publishing on the Artsmark website and brochures.



World Book Day Thursday 5th March

We would love to invite you to World Book Day to read some stories to groups of children in our annual celebration. If you would like to join us 1.30-2.30pm then please contact the school office by Tuesday 3rd March. We will have lots of books you can choose from, or you are welcome to bring along a favourite children's book.



Eco Gang Cluster Meeting



Our Eco Gang hosted a cluster meeting with three other school's Eco groups to explore and share ideas about becoming Eco Schools. It was interesting hearing about the different projects being developed and share our plans. We have completed the Eco Schools Environmental Review, which highlighted the good work we are already doing and areas they can now focus on. This will include looking at ways of reducing our energy consumption and minimising waste and unnecessary plastic use. They will meet with the other schools again in the summer to share the impact of their actions.

Photos: Xavier Fiddes

DAILY HERALD, PUBLISHED 4. 1939.
**ON YOUR FEET
FOR HOURS?**
Then Don't Forget That
ZAM-BUK
Insects, Fleas, Mosquitoes & Gnats

Daily Herald

**SAUSAGES GO
BETTER WITH
H-P SAUCE**

No. 7349

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1939

ONE PENNY

WAR DECLARED BY BRITAIN AND FRANCE

By the time that war was actually declared on the 3rd September 1939, it had already impacted on Horningsham in several ways.

As early as April 1937, the Air Raid Wardens Service had been created in anticipation that war would bring many civilian casualties from aerial bombardment. Because of the fear that poison gas would be dropped, 38 million gas masks had been distributed and were required to be carried at all times once war was declared. By September there were more than 1.5 million volunteers in the ARP (Air Raid Precautions). Even Horningsham had 6 Air Raid Wardens at various addresses around the village including Lord Bath's chauffeur who was living at Longleat Stables. Amongst their duties was the enforcement of the strict blackout requirements intended to stop planes from spotting where to drop their bombs. One ARP was designated "First Aid Worker". The Wiltshire Times of 9th September reported that Horningsham had a first aid point: "by the kindness of Longleat Estate Company and Lord Weymouth permission had been given to use the British Legion Cottage for the purpose" and the Estate had modified the cottage to make it more suitable. The same issue also carried an advert for blackout paint.

Also in anticipation of the bombing of civilians a massive programme of evacuation of children and vulnerable adults from cities, ports and industrial centres began. Warminster and Westbury received 3,000 children and adults from London on the 2nd September, of whom Horningsham received no fewer than 80.

However that number was dwarfed by the 300 girls plus their teachers and other staff who took over Longleat in early September. The Lansdown premises of the Royal School for the Daughters of Officers of the Army had been commandeered by the Admiralty's Hydrographic Department and Thomas, the 5th

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FEAR HILL'S

TROWBRIDGE and FROME.

Marquess of Bath, offered them Longleat. Their stay was to last until the summer of 1947 and marked the end of an era for Longleat. In September most of the indoor staff, apart from the housekeeper, were dismissed and Thomas kept just 4 of the downstairs rooms for his own use. Longleat's furniture was stored in the stables and the chapel and 80 lorry-loads of school furniture and equipment arrived. As David Burnett writes in his history of Longleat: "There were beds in the Saloon, attics and corridors. For the next eight years the girls of the royal school were to hang their gym slips in a cupboard that had once belonged to Marie Antoinette."

It seems the elderly Thomas actually enjoyed having the girls there as Burnett quotes a letter written to the School's Headmistress: "I am quite honest that I am enjoying every moment. It is twenty-five years since I had children running about the house; I have enjoyed my life even when alone, but I never realised how lonely I have been, and I love hearing the children all over the place – in fact I keep my door open on purpose." For his 80th birthday in 1942 the girls made him a birthday cake and laid on a pageant in the Orangery about the history of Longleat.

It seems the School had difficulties recruiting staff during the war and the Wiltshire Times and other local papers carried countless advertisements. A typical one read: "Two Housemaids or Girls to train, 15-17, superior, well-spoken. Wanted after Christmas: Board Wages £3 10s a year". It hardly sounded like an enticing offer when there were so many other opportunities available for women in wartime.

On Sundays the girls attended the Parish Church, walking through the village. Daphne Bath describes them: "The girls wore dark-blue hooded capes, lined with crimson, and they looked very decorative and gay in the landscape.

When Thomas died aged 83 in 1946 the girls in their capes lined the steps as his coffin was carried out.



Mill Farm Chronicles Jan- Feb 2020

Aren't January and February the most boring months of the year ever? Christmas and New Year are over, the nights are long, the weather is just awful, there's nothing good on TV, everyone is broke and it's just blughhhh! I suppose spring is just around the corner because there are a few brave snowdrops and daffodils trying to stick their heads through the water sodden earth but I for one can't wait to be getting up in the daylight, seeing a bit of sunshine and green grass instead of mud.



All the cows must be delighted to be indoors rather than out in all this wind and rain although several times we thought the roofs were literally coming off the barns during the recent gales.

Steve and Jack had a bit of a sort out of the cattle last week, splitting up the cows and calves who no longer need to be together, segregating the steers and heifers, worming them all and checking which cows were in calf. Apologies to the residents near Butchery and us for the couple of nights mooing we all had to endure.

The sheds have been cleaned out again and Steve has been to market for the last 2 weeks with some animals. We've got a few more calves to sell next week and some barren cows, then we will have some room to cope with the cows that will begin calving soon.

Steve is hedge trimming these days after the feeding has been done, there are only set times of the year when we are allowed to hedge trim, but it has to be finished before the birds start nesting.

You may have noticed that the apple trees in the front orchard have been pruned, thus ensuring that there will be another good crop of apples this season.

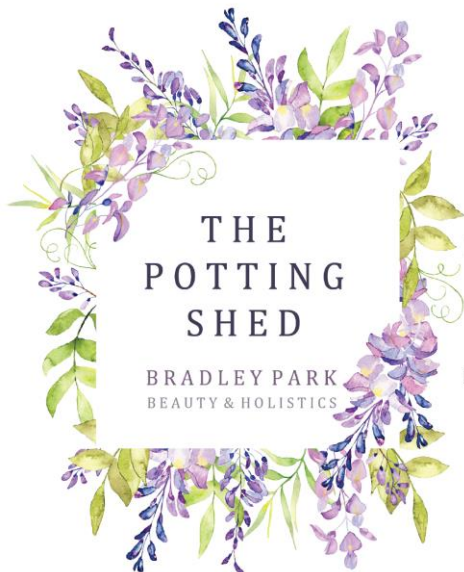
Spring must be coming and the sap rising because one of our Muscovy ducks is sitting on a clutch of eggs. Our Muscovy and Runner ducks are such characters. You'll often see them at the top of the drive, or sitting on the bridge, perched in a tree or even right at the top of the roof of a barn. They take no notice of anyone; they are just living their best life!

The B&B has been quiet while Longleat has been closed but is picking up now half term is here. We did have cancellations due to the atrocious weather but I can't say I blame them.

Socially it's been really quiet too. We've just been lighting the fire and hunkering down in front of the telly of an evening. I'd like to say that I've been productive and creative over the long winter evenings and pickled gherkins, or created hand knitted jumpers or darned socks or written poetry or whatever I'm supposed to do as an aging Grandma but alas I can't. A book, a cup of tea, a bar of chocolate and early nights is as exciting as my evenings get at the moment.

Roll on Spring!

Margaret Crossman



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Lion Cubs

In our first term of 2020 our Lion Cubs have been busy crafting. They have created some lovely sand art pictures and keepsake boxes to celebrate Valentine's Day. To take part in National Bird Box Week, they painted their own mini bird boxes to take home and hope that they each provide a colourful new home for a bird this spring.





We are pleased to have welcomed a couple of new faces this term and are very grateful to a villager for her generous donation of play kitchen equipment, always a firm favourite with the children!

We very much look forward to more adventures, crafting and fun next term starting back on 27th February.

Charlotte Hilleary



LION CUBS PLAYGROUP

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WITH BABIES & PRE-SCHOOL CUBS

HORNINGSHAM VILLAGE HALL, THURSDAYS DURING TERM TIME 9.15AM-10.45AM £2 PER CHILD

Notes From A Horningsham Garden

February has rushed by with lots of wind and rain but no snow or frosts, so the dark days at the end of winter have been cheered up by the appearance of all sorts of spring flowers.

As the snowdrops start to fade, daffodils are coming out. The earliest, and my favourite, is the wild *Narcissus Lobularis*, the one Wordsworth raved about. Its short stem and delicate lemon yellow trumpets, make it a survivor in wild weather. It also seeds itself around, so the bulbs I planted 20 years ago, are spreading further and further, even though it takes 4 or 5 years from seedling to flowering bulb.



Another absolute winner at this time of year is the hellebore. So many different species have been developed from the original Christmas rose, that you can find a huge variety of colours and forms with a flowering period from December to April, when they all turn a mysterious greenish colour. Even the evergreen leaves can be an attractive fresh green if old foliage is trimmed back. They are also tough, hardy and very little trouble and do especially well around trees and shrubs.





A flowering shrub looking good at the moment is the gorse hedge. There is a saying about gorse never being out of bloom and that is true, but just now is its main show and the bright yellow, coconut smelling flowers are stunning.

February is a good time to get the pond ready for spring before everything starts growing. So I had a muddy time, transferring the fish, who had been swimming about in increasingly shallow water, to a temporary tank, siphoning off the pond water, lifting out buckets of sludge and old leaves and dividing up the overgrown water lilies. Just in time, as on a stormy wet night two weeks later, 8 clumps of frog spawn appeared, a few days earlier than my previous earliest recorded sighting.

Now March is coming and there is longer daylight, it is time for serious seed sowing to join my sprouting sweet peas. I am poised to fill the south-facing windowsills with half hardy annuals which will germinate quickly from the warm radiators into as much light as possible.

Outside, the garlic is growing well and the broad beans are about 2 inches high. Next jobs for March are: spreading compost on the vegetable garden; planting out sprouting early potatoes; and finishing off pruning hedges, fruit trees and roses ready for the new season. Can't wait!

Carole Hill

All Trees are Notable

“In times like these, it’s necessary to talk about trees”

Gerryco23wordpress.com

“What kind of times are these, when

To talk about trees is almost a crime

Because it implies silence about so many horrors?”

‘To those who follow in our wake’ 1939, Bertholt Brecht

The year is 2020 in the 21st century, two decades already into a century unlike any other. Understanding the accelerating rate of change over the last 20 years is difficult to comprehend but American inventor and futurist Ray Kurzweil puts it like this ‘Because of the explosive power of exponential growth, the 21st century will be equivalent to 20,000 years of progress at today’s rate of progress.’

There are however some things that move slowly but should move quickly. In 1993 when I was at college, I learnt about soil science, plant diseases, environmental issues, land reclamation, and water to mention just a few subjects. Over the last 20 years I have heard nothing that I hadn’t already been made aware of and I’m shocked that it has taken so long for existential earth matters to be taken seriously. What would we do without David Attenborough, Chris Packham Greta Thunberg and many other people who live to persuade the human race that it is under threat.

What you might ask has any of this to do with trees?

“When I see a landscape rich in trees and hedgerows I see a landscape that is better able to deliver for people, wildlife and the planet. Trees help prevent flooding, slow strong winds and improve air quality, all while looking beautiful and providing homes for precious wildlife.”

Iolo Williams, naturalist and presenter



The Charter for Trees, Woods and People sets out the principles for a society in which people and trees can stand stronger together. (<https://treecharter.uk/home.html>) The Woodland Trust are passionate about getting communities together to enjoy and value their natural surroundings. Their mission is to inspire communities, church groups, social groups and schools to come together to appreciate the outdoors and learn more about woods and wildlife. Together, we can leave a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy.

The last Saturday of November each year is Tree Charter Day – a day for the whole of UK society to unite in celebrating the value and importance of trees and woods to people. It also marks the start of National Tree Week each year. Perhaps such a day would be an opportunity for our community to get together.

Jayne Glover

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MAIDEN BRADLEY HALL



Film Night 13th March “**Judy**” doors open 7.00pm, film 7.30pm

Cookery Demonstration Saturday 21st March 10.00am to 1.00pm

Post Office Service, Café and the Community Store will be available every Tuesday afternoon 1-3pm in the Hall.

Coffee Mornings & Library every Friday 10.00 - noon.

Come along for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat. Everyone welcome. Our book library has now been extended to include a jigsaw library. No need to join simply make a donation of 50p.

The Old Kitchen Community Store now open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays Opening times: 9am – 11.30am. Please note CASH ONLY.

MONTHLY RECIPE

Elsbeth's 'Healthy' flapjacks

In pursuit of uplifting and practical information researching for the 'News', I am drawn to investigate people, places and issues that would have less value if I wasn't sharing that information. For instance having a cache of well-loved cookery books on shelves around the house would beg the question 'Is it time to stop being sentimental and harden my heart for the benefit of a charity shop?' For those of you who remember Nancy Spain, 'Wouldn't you just die without Nancy?' The first cookery book I had was at the age of 11 and from my beloved grandfather. Anyway to cut to the chase my BH has recently taken the opportunity to work 4 long days and then have a longer weekend. I want the weekends to be worth his investment and so fell upon the 'The Wonderful Weekend Book' by Elspeth Thompson with verve and enthusiasm. Elspeth pays tribute to our great British institution 'Tea time' and I too want to bring back 'Tea time' and 'Reclaim Life's Simple Pleasures'.

Ingredients

225g butter

2 - 3 tablespoons golden syrup

1 - 2 tablespoons blackstrap molasses

450g rolled porridge oats

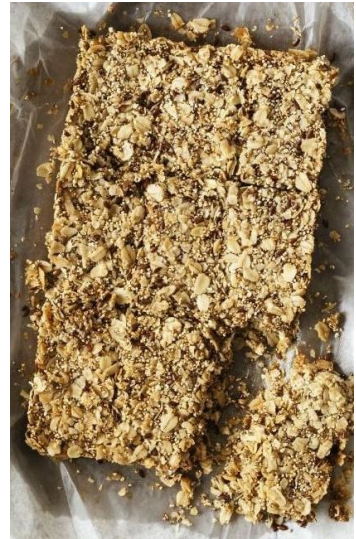
A generous handful each of sesame (reserve 2 tsps to decorate), linseed, sunflower and pumpkin seeds.

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 190 °C/375 °F/ as mk 5
2. Grease a 20 x 30 cm baking tray or brownie tin.
3. Melt the butter in a large saucepan
4. Stir in the other ingredients apart from the reserved sesame seeds and mix well.
5. Tip out into the prepared tin, smooth down and sprinkle with sesame seeds.
6. Bake for 15 - 20 minutes depending on your oven, until the top is just starting to go brown.
7. Cool on a wire rack in the tin and then pop into the fridge as the flapjacks will be easier to cut into squares when very cold.

Please omit the sesame seeds if known to cause allergic reactions.

Getting the the work/life balance right is a feat in itself, quite often we don't realise until it's too late that we ignored the signs that life had become all work and no play. This time of the year as we move towards Lent is maybe a good time for reflection and sometimes we actually need guidance on how to remember the things that make us happy. Read the book, follow the advice ♥



Jayne Glover

LONGLEAT NEWS

Song to Boost Funds for Longleat's Bushfire Charity Appeal

Longleat has released a song to help raise money for their bushfire charity appeal. Featuring a 30-strong choir made up of staff and keepers, 'Together' was written by a member of the Longleat team and recorded at the Cheese & Grain studio in Frome.

As well as the choir, it also includes didgeridoos and Aboriginal voices, along with 40 musical instruments and took 120 studio hours to complete. It was originally played as part of a special Australian Summer event last year celebrating all things Australian and marking the opening of Koala Creek at the Wiltshire attraction.



“The song, ‘Together’ was inspired by our partnership with South Australia and to celebrate the arrival of our southern koalas,” said Daisy Mercedes, Longleat’s event manager.



“The use of song has been a means of communication amongst aboriginals for generations and connects people with the land. The lyrics were written to recognise how people in Australia and across the world come together in both good and bad times. We feel this is a great way for us all to show our support, help raise awareness and fundraise for the people, wildlife and land affected by the bush fires across Australia.”

The song can be downloaded from iTunes and Google Play. All money raised will go directly to the organisations Longleat is supporting in South Australia. A video, featuring footage from South Australia, the rescue work undertaken by Longleat keepers and the choir recording the song, can also be viewed on Longleat’s YouTube channel.



Since its launch the ‘Longleat Supports Australia’s Suffering Wildlife’ charity appeal has raised close to £27,000 for rescue and rehabilitation programmes in South Australia. Last month two Longleat keepers travelled to out to Australia to assist with ongoing rescue efforts from the bushfires.



BUSES FROM BUS STOP 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

ADVERTISING RATES

¼ page £4.00 ½ page £8.00 Full Page £16.00

These apply to the inside pages of the magazine



**Watch out for
changes in
Recycling Days
– see article.**

BLACK AND YELLOW PAGES

Black Boxes	Thursday 12 th & 26 th March <i>To be announced</i>
Grey Bins	Friday 13 th & 27 th March Friday 9 th & 23 rd April
Blue Bins	Friday 6 th & 20 th March <i>To be announced</i>
Mobile Library	Tuesday 19 th & 24 th March Tuesday 7 th & 21 st April <i>10.00 – 10.25 opposite the Hall</i>

Frome Hospital Minor Injuries		01373 454740
Community Police Officer	Vicky Howick	726818 ext 817
Wiltshire Police – non emergency		101
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Shattock	844197
Horningsham School		844342
First Steps Nursery		844942
Village Hall Hire		07541 211732
Longleat Property Department		845535
Parish Council	Sarah Jeffries	213436
Congregational Chapel	Carol Cox	horningshamchapel@aol.co.uk
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 21st March **Litter Pick** 10 – 12 at the Village Hall
 Thursday 2nd April **Pip Utton** 7.30 at the Village Hall
 Monday 6th April **Hall A.G.M.** 7.00 at the Village Hall



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FRI 11.45AM - 1.45PM
SAT 11.45AM - 1.45PM**

EVENINGS

**MON 4.45PM - 9.00PM
TUES 4.45PM - 9.00PM
WEDS 4.45PM - 9.00PM
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