

# Village Life

This month's edition is  
sponsored by  
Ali & Tim Spencer

Harbertonford's newsletter

Issue 232, June 2020

**W**elcome to the June edition of *Village Life*, in which we hope to keep you informed of local news and events. This newsletter is produced by HSSG (H/ford Sports and Social Group) and is delivered to your door each month by volunteers.

**HSSG** – *Village Life* provides news and information to every household in the village, so please try and get in touch if you have any information or events that you would like included.

**A** downloadable online version (PDF file) of *Village Life* is available on these two village websites:

[www.harbertonford.com](http://www.harbertonford.com)      [www.harbertondevon.co.uk](http://www.harbertondevon.co.uk)

**G**eoﬀ Dance passed away, peacefully, aged 87, on 1<sup>st</sup> May after a long illness. Geoff was born in Birmingham, and he and Norma were married in 1954. The following year they emigrated to Canada (where their four children were born). For most of his time abroad, Geoff worked for a telephone company. During the 1970's Geoff & Norma returned to the UK and ran a Spar shop in Preston/Paignton. Over 20 years ago, after several more semi-retirement moves, they settled in H/ford (Bow Road). Geoff loved his hobbies, especially carving and gardening, and he was a huge fan of big band music and Frank Sinatra. Geoff's passing is a massive loss for his family, especially Norma, to whom he was devoted. Our thoughts are with Norma, Shelley, Stuart, Nigel, Alan and their families.

**S**ydney Williams died suddenly at home in Bow Road on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. He and Beverley, his wife of 47 years, moved to the village comparatively recently. Sydney's death was unexpected and a big shock. He will be much missed by all who knew him. We send our condolences to Beverley and her family.

**V**illager Dave Owen sadly lost his Mum, Joan, on 8<sup>th</sup> May, VE Day. Joan, aged 96, was a WAAF during WW2 and so this date holds much significance. Although Joan lived in Dartmouth, she spent many happy times in H/ford – Christmas, birthdays and village events. During her stay with the family she always liked to fit in and visit the local hostelry during the reign of landlords Pat & Paul and Clive & Charlie. G&T's at dawn.

**C**ovid19 – the lockdown continues and much of what is normally published in this newsletter is not happening. There is still much useful information to be passed on though, not least:

**H**arbertonford Community Response is a group of village residents offering help with shopping and other tasks which are needed while self-isolating during the Coronavirus outbreak. We can help with things like:

- Shopping • Meal delivery • Prescription collection
  - Help finding advice • Pet care • Gardening
- Please get in touch...Call 01803-731077 or email [harbertonfordcommunityresponse@gmail.com](mailto:harbertonfordcommunityresponse@gmail.com)

Please do call us ..... We are here to help you!

**Harbertonford Community Response - here to help our neighbours through the Coronavirus outbreak**

**Email: [harbertonfordcommunityresponse@gmail.com](mailto:harbertonfordcommunityresponse@gmail.com)**

**Tel: 01803-731077**

**S**ponsorship – many thanks to Ali & Tim for this month's sponsorship. Their generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.



## St Peter's Church

The church (and Food Bank) is closed. All church services have been suspended. We thank all of you who support us in many ways.

God bless you all.

**C**offee morning – sadly these are cancelled for the foreseeable future. Info: Hazel Willis (732244).

**P.C.C. lottery** - we are now into our 29<sup>th</sup> year of the lottery! Thank you to all who contribute each month. Your support is wonderful. If you want to join – it costs only £1/month - please contact Hazel (732244) or Frances (732297).

May's winners:

1<sup>st</sup> Fred Martin, Bow Road, £20

2<sup>nd</sup> Cherry Hornsby, Old Road, £10

3<sup>rd</sup> Christine Caunter, Stonehills Farm, £5

**H**elp with grass cutting – many of you by now have probably noticed that the churchyard is getting very overgrown. Until now the PCC has been in a position to maintain it. Unfortunately, we are very low in numbers in our congregation, in fact four, sometimes just three of us. The monthly lottery (see above) and our monthly coffee mornings help us with our bills. Now we find ourselves in the position of not being able to afford the six-weekly grass cutting. With that in mind we were wondering if those who have relatives' graves here would consider making a donation towards the cutting of the grass. Volunteers to help cut it would also be good. If you are interested please contact either Hazel (732244) or Frances (732297). Thank you, PCC.

**T**here is a food bank in the village shop. Please donate any food and/or money that you can spare. A number of villagers have suffered a massive cut in their income because of the pandemic. Any help here will be very gratefully received.

**M**any thanks to Peter Beamish – we've been asked by a number of local families to thank Peter for playing the *Last Post* at the one minute silence (11am) on VE Day. It was beautifully done and very much appreciated.

**F**rom the South Hams DC website - see your recycling and waste collections over the May Bank holidays below:

Normal Day	New Day
Wed. 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Thu. 28 <sup>th</sup> May
Thu. 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Fri. 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Fri. 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Sat. 30 <sup>th</sup> May

**L**ocal bus services – the 164 service runs as usual. The 92 is a Sunday service. Bob The Bus remains suspended.

**T**he village shop remains well stocked. Gerry is offering a delivery service – please ring 732220 for details. A reminder that there is also a Food Bank in the shop. Please help if you can.

**T**he filling station is open seven days a week (early to late) and it has a good range of groceries.

**S**cott's Farm Shop – Jo Walker's fruit & veg stall at River House, Woodland Rd is open Mon.-Fri. (8-9:30am & 5-7pm) and at weekends (9am-5pm – PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER CLOSING TIME). Orders taken, delivery service, cash or card accepted. Phone 07929-083523.

**Parish Council (PC)** – the next PC meeting (via Zoom) is on **Tue. 9th Jun. (7:30pm)**. Meetings may be observed by the public. The public session within the first 30 mins. of the PC remains a standing item on the regular agenda. Info. on how to access meetings via Zoom are available on the PC website when the agenda is published ([www.harbertonparishcouncil.org](http://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org))

**Help for Residents Who Need Basic Essentials** - a Covid19 (C-19) Welfare Support Fund has been launched by SHDC, in association with DCC, to support residents whose financial situation has been seriously affected by the current pandemic. The fund will help people who have no money for even the most basic household essentials. The fund can provide small emergency payments to help with necessities such as food, basic household items, essential travel or utility payments. Residents may be eligible for the short-term support due to a fall in their disposal income, if:

- They run their own business and cannot currently trade.
- Their business has been drastically reduced because of C-19.
- Their employment situation has changed and their income no longer covers their needs
- They have lost their job due to the C-19 outbreak.
- They have still not received expected Government funding (self-employed).

If you are a resident and have been affected financially by C-19 and can demonstrate a need for immediate short-term financial help, you can apply for a grant by completing a simple online application form on this link: [www.southhams.gov.uk/welfarefund](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/welfarefund)  
If you need help and don't have access to a computer, please call SHDC from Mon. to Fri., 9am to 5pm on: 01803-861407.

**South Hams Citizens Advice** – anyone with questions around debt, benefits, employment or housing should contact us via our website ([www.southhams.org.uk](http://www.southhams.org.uk)) or WhatsApp (07497-758779). Leave a really brief message and one of our team will get back to you. All face-to-face and outreach services are suspended. Monitor our website for when these resume. Alternatively you can phone Advice Line (03-444-111-444).

**Weather watch** – here's a quick summary of recent rainfall stats for H/ford with the average figures for 1984-2019:

	2020 (mm / inches)	Average (mm / inches)
March	97 / 3.8	93 / 3.7
April	64 / 2.5	76 / 3.0
May	18 / 0.7	64 / 2.5
Total	179 / 7.0	233 / 9.2

So, while March was wetter than normal, it has been really dry since and May's rainfall is about 70% less than the average for the previous 36 years. Many thanks to David Groom for this data.

**H/ford Allotment Society** – we have cancelled the July Open Day. It may be possible to hold a scaled down version later in the year if government advice changes re public gatherings. In the meantime, if you're interested in 'growing your own' email [has-sec@outlook.com](mailto:has-sec@outlook.com) and we'll add your name to the waiting list.

**Village Show (Sat. 1st Aug.)** – regrettably it has been decided that this year's show will have to be cancelled due to the current situation. It is hoped to be able to organise something similar, but smaller, in the autumn if restrictions permit - maybe incorporate the Macmillan Coffee event, but obviously we need to wait and see. Suggestions, please, to Jean on 732588.

**Harberton & H/ford History Society** – we're still planning to go on our annual guided walk & picnic (**Sat. Aug. 1st**) and our next talk is due on **Sep. 22nd**. Provisional dates, obviously. If you are interested in transcribing the Oral History Project interviews please call me. It's not difficult, just time consuming - an ideal activity for the times! Thanks, Jill Powell (07759-578496).

**Harbertonford Football Club (HFC)** – it is undecided when the next SDL season will start and how it will be structured. Info: John Mills ([j.mills@nhs.net](mailto:j.mills@nhs.net)) & Mike Bishop (07813-120390).

**HFC Lottery** – this is a monthly draw with prizes totalling £160. Cost: £5/month. Info: John Mills (see above).

**May winners** (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Matt Ghillyer/Jack Hopkins/Sam Passmore/Robin Dart/  
Carl Southcott/Donna Jane.

**Harberton Cricket Club (HCC)** – all competitive cricket is suspended. Limited groundwork continues. Net sessions (max. two people) have started. Info: Angus @ HCC (467764).

**Village Hall committee** – no meetings planned at present. Info: [robert.summers13@btinternet.com](mailto:robert.summers13@btinternet.com) (or phone 732004).

#### Mobile Hairdresser

Professional and friendly hairstylist working locally. I've not restarted yet, but as soon as hairdressers can work again I will be using PPE. That means a fresh gown per person, mask, face covering and gloves. Contact: Kate (07871-174162)

**Youth club** – please contact Gwen on 732447 if you can help to keep our junior youth club going.

**Walkers' information from the NFU** - please take extra precautions when walking around farmland to protect the animals and the health of the farmers who look after them.

**Urgent dental care (Torbay, Plymouth & Exeter)** - to get access, people should phone their own dentist to be assessed. NHS dental surgeries should be contactable, even while their doors are closed. Out of usual surgery hours, call NHS111. People without a dentist or who cannot contact their usual surgery should call 03330-063300 or email [accessdentalhelpline@nhs.net](mailto:accessdentalhelpline@nhs.net)

**Free deliveries of meds and essentials** to Dartmoor and the South Hams. We are based in Totnes and are happy to help anyone isolating or vulnerable. Contact Annie on 07875-263466.

**Village Play Park** – this remains closed during the pandemic, following Government advice.

**Online & telephone scams** – please be vigilant. Don't get "stung". Is your neighbour "at risk"? Are they a target?

**The mobile library service** is suspended, but will continue to offer as many online services as possible.

Info: [www.devonlibraries.org.uk](http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk) or phone 0345-155-1001.

**What's On** – a trimmed-down list of interest groups and regular village events, with contact details:

- ❖ **Parish Council:** [www.harbertonparishcouncil.org](http://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org) or via Parish Clerk on 0845-557-8469 or [clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org)
- ❖ **Police:** PCSO Russ Broadhurst 30534. Tel: 07703-886012 or [russell.broadhurst2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:russell.broadhurst2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)
- ❖ **Skittles:** V. Hall, Suns., 7-9pm. Cost £1. Gwen Janes (732447).
- ❖ **Village Hall bookings:** Jean Blackler (732588)

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Please phone Melanie Allday (867655) for details of MAP's services

**Next issue** – contributions to Graham Clayton (732603 or [g1clayton78@outlook.com](mailto:g1clayton78@outlook.com)). The copy deadline for the July newsletter is 20th June.