

Village Life

This month's edition is
sponsored by
Prana Simon

Harbertonford's newsletter

Issue 249, November 2021

Welcome to the November edition of *Village Life*, in which we hope to keep you informed of local news and events. It is delivered to your door each month by volunteers.

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

Sponsorship – Prana has sponsored this month's edition to say thanks to H/ford (and Bow Road) for being a great place to call home these past 14 of now 60(!) years. "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough." (Mae West).

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

- www.harbertonford.com
- www.harbertondevon.co.uk

Ryan Soper died suddenly and unexpectedly on Monday 13th September. He was 28. Ryan lived in H/ford for all of his life, attending the village school, then St John's and KEVICC. Ryan was well-known, immensely popular and had a wide circle of friends. He was a founder member of Proud2Be, helped run various drag shows in Totnes and helped to establish Gay Pride events in Exeter & Exmouth. Ryan's many friends and work colleagues (The Old Bakery, Morrison's) were distraught to learn of his untimely death. His passing will leave a massive void for so many. Our thoughts are with Darrel, Jane, Stephen, Jason, Jess and Tom.

Halloween - every year Ryan would set up a huge Halloween display in his home garden. This was much loved by village children. Ryan's family hope that these displays brought much fun and joy to all who saw them. They have decided, reluctantly, that these will be no more.

Clive Gauntlett died very unexpectedly and peacefully on Sunday 17th October, aged 83. Clive was a teacher for all of his working life; he and Susan came to live in H/ford 23 years ago, where they have always been very happy. In July, Clive and Susan had celebrated 60 wonderful years of married life. He was so proud of his two sons, Stephen and David, and their wives, his three grandsons and one granddaughter. He will be remembered by all who knew him as such a kind and gentle man.



St Peter's Church – two services this month:

- **Sun. 14th Nov (10:50am)**
Service of Remembrance
- **Sun. 21st Nov. (3:30pm)**
Holy Communion

Church website – a reminder that the benefice's website address is: 3rivers.org.uk

P.C.C. lottery – we still need just a few more members to get to 100. If you would like to join (£12/year) contact Hazel (732672) or Frances (732297). Here are October's winners: 1st Debbie Sinclair-Jones, Harbourne Villas, £20
2nd Louise White, Marl Park, £10
3rd Ann Bowhay, Marl Park, £5

Church car park – please note that this is not for permanent parking. It is for the use of people using the shop/PO, church or going for a walk. Please do not leave your vehicle there for more than a few hours. Many thanks, PCC

Church clean - it's every fourth Thursday of the month, i.e. this time it's **Thu. 25th Nov. (11am)**. Just for one hour. If you are able to join us that would be great. Many hands make light work!

Britannia Royal Naval College Volunteer Band – Christmas concert in St Peter's. It's on **Thu. 16th Dec. (7:30pm)**. Tickets £10 from Frances (732297) or Dave (07869-212887). This is a brilliant band. We can promise a good evening.

Hopefully the churchyard grass has been cut for the last time this year. A final and really big THANK YOU to all who have helped to keep it in such good condition. It looks the best.

The village food bank (in the shop) welcomes donations.

These are gratefully received and go to local people. Many thanks, in advance, to all donors.

Village Hall bar – a reminder that the weekly Village Hall bar has re-opened. It's **every Friday evening from 7:30pm**.



Skittles are on **Sunday evenings** in the Village Hall (7-9pm). Everyone is welcome. Sanitiser available and masks optional. A charge of £2 to include coffee/tea and biscuits. Enquiries to John (732588).



**HARBERTONFORD
YOUTH CLUB**

Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement Project (TRAYE) runs a fortnightly Youth Club in our Village Hall. Age 8-18, £1. This month it's on **Thu. 4th & 18th (6:15-7:45pm)**. New members welcome. Info: phone 07895-485581. www.traye.org

Children's Play Area - we're aiming to remove the play tower and slide so that the awful, unsafe, semi-rotten structure can be cleared. The community can then have a discussion about what could be done to take the Play Area forward. We now have an access point to get in and load up the salvageable parts. These will be stored under cover on a local farm. The rotted wooden stilts will most likely be used horizontal for creating borders. The main day of shifting the structure is **Sat. 6th Nov. (from 10am)**. Also on **Wed. 3rd Nov. (from 4pm)** some advance work will be done. All helpers would be very welcome indeed on both dates. Thankfully, Earth Wrights Ltd, who built the structure, used bolts and screws, so we're hoping to mark the components before disassembling, so that there could be some re-useable components. Thanks, Peter Beamish, pdbrukes@outlook.com

There are THREE vacancies on the Parish Council (PC) - two in the ward of H/ford and one in the ward of Harberton.

- Are you passionate about your community?
- Do you want to help make a long-lasting change?
- Do you have innovative ideas for the council?
- Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it?

If this is you, then we need you. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for co-option to the PC. The PC would like to fill places by co-option as soon as possible. No special qualification is required to be a councillor. Training for new councillors is also available to help you understand the responsibilities of the role. If you think you'd like to join the PC or

would like to know more, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk, Cat Radford (clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org) who is happy to talk with you about the role and what's involved. You can also have a look at the resources that the Clerk has posted on the PC website about what PC's are and what councillors do <https://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org/councillor-vacancy/>

Parish Council (PC) – this month's meeting is at H/ford Village Hall on **Tue. 9th Nov. (7:30pm)**.

<https://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org/>

Flower arranging – dates for the rest of the year (all Weds., in the Village Hall): **10th & 24th Nov., 8th Dec., 5th & 19th Jan.**

Start time is **10am**. No set charge. Apart from flowers, equipment is available as is tuition, if needed. It's relaxed & fun (+ coffee). New members welcome. Thanks, Pauline Hancock (732393).



Village coffee morning
Tue. 16th Nov. (10:30am)

Everyone welcome. We often have jams, cakes, plants for sale and welcome any contributions.

Raffle, bring & buy. Info: Hazel (732672) or Frances (732297).

Harberton & H/ford History Society – our next talk (via Zoom) on **Tue. 16th Nov. (7:30pm)** is "General Lawrence and his Tower - The History of the Haldon Belvedere", presented by Sue Knox. You can join us by registering on the link below.

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZllcOGvqTMsEtUNpyLBK_v9S6TeToSjYlv

Thanks, Jill Powell (07759-578496)

Village School - the children have got off to a flying start in the new academic year. Our Kestrels class had a fantastic Roman Day to introduce their new topic. They really immersed in Roman life and culture, handling artefacts and replicas to deepen their understanding of life in the Roman Empire. We have a few spaces available within the school for new pupils. If you know of any prospective parents, please encourage them to come and visit us during our **Open Morning on Thu. 18th Nov.**

Tel: 01803-732352, adminharbertonford@thelink.academy



The mobile library service's next two H/ford visits - at the church (ONLY!) from **3:05pm to 4pm** - are on **Thu. 18th Nov.**

and **Thu. 16th Dec.** Note that the library has had **ONLY ONE CUSTOMER** in each of the last two months. Use it or lose it!! Info: phone 0345-155-1001.

Harberton Church & Village (History) Walk – led by Stanley Oldfield. It's on **Sun. 21st Nov. (2:30pm)**. Ring Stanley on 864654 to book a place - only five spaces left! Cost £5pp, which includes illustrated booklet + refreshments.

Worried about increasing energy bills? South Dartmoor Community Energy is a not-for-profit organisation set up to help local people make their homes more energy efficient. Since 2016 our qualified and friendly advisors have helped thousands of people in the South Hams to save money and use less energy at home. We can provide advice over the phone or we can visit you at home. We will help with:

- High energy bills
- Cold at home
- Damp or mould problems
- Confusing heating controls
- Complicated bills
- Fuel debt, problems with suppliers
- Switching tariffs
- Insulation or heating grants
- Unaffordable energy bills
- Support you may be entitled to

All our advice is completely FREE and impartial. We receive grant funding so we can help homeowners and people who are renting privately or from a housing association. If you'd like to book a visit, or just chat to an advisor, please get in touch.

- 0800-112-3044
- advice@sdce.org.uk
- www.sdce.org.uk/energy-advice

Citizens Advice South Hams offers support and advice if you need help with energy supplier issues. Should your supplier cease trading, don't worry; your lights and heating will **not** go off. Your account will be transferred to a new supplier who will contact you. It may take a few weeks for this to happen. If you pay by direct debit then continue to pay your old supplier. Any credit will be protected. Before your new supplier contacts you, you should:

- take meter readings
- keep any old bills
- make a note of your account balance

Contact our Energy team on **01803-659-733** for further help.

Harberton Table Tennis is weekly (**Mon. 2-4pm**) at Harberton Parish Hall. All abilities very welcome. Cost £2/session. Please contact Brian (863601) for more information.

Harbertonford Allotment Society - enquiries re an allotment plot to has-sec@outlook.com

Christmas Tree Festival at St Andrew's Church, Harberton.

Key dates: • **Thu. 2nd Dec. - Opening Party (6-9pm)**

• **Fri. 3rd to Sun. 5th Dec. – the festival (11am-5pm)**

Free entrance, Pop-up café. *Harberton Church Community Fund*

The Village Hall – Preliminary Notice: New Year's Eve Party in the hall – **Fri. 31st Dec.** Details next month. Info: Rob Summers (732004) or robert.summers13@btinternet.com

Christmas Poultry – once again Stanborough Farm, Halwell is selling oven-ready turkeys, geese, ducks and chicken for Christmas. Phone Helen Reeve on 01548-821306 or email: stanboroughfarm@hotmail.com. More details next month.

Recycling – on a recent visit to a Materials Recycling Facility I learned that waste thrown into the back of a compactor lorry can be separated using a series of technologies. 95% is recovered and recycled. I hope this reassures those like me that didn't believe this possible. However, this does beg the question; why do we need curb-side recycling with all its many problems?

The current contractor has not yet drafted a plan to fix the problems everyone is experiencing, but one is expected in the next week or so. If you have any collection issues please do report them, and if possible let me know. Stay safe, John McKay
SHDC Councillor (07810-007760 or john@mckay.sh)

A381 traffic – the saga of getting speed signs on the main road has made some progress and I hope that we might get something done in the next few months. Thanks, John McKay



Football club lottery:

£160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/month.

Sept's winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10):

Graham Clayton/Donna Jane/Sam Passmore/Bob Monaghan/
Mark Hancock/Jake Harmieston

Info: John Mills (j.mills@nhs.net), Mike Bishop (07813-120390).

This newsletter was printed by



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2, Bridge Farm Offices, Harberton, TQ9 7PP
• **Key contact: Melanie Allday (867655)** •

Next issue – contributions to Graham Clayton (732603) or g1clayton78@outlook.com. The copy deadline for the December newsletter is 20th November.