

Village Life

This month's edition is in
memory of
Clive Gauntlett, 1938-2021



Harbertonford's newsletter



Issue 250, December 2021

Welcome to the December 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 – many thanks to the Gauntlett family for sponsoring this month's edition in memory of Clive, who died in October. Their generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.

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

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

Meg Leng died on 29th October following a short period in hospital. Her funeral was held at Sharpham Burial Ground where family, friends and neighbours gathered to celebrate her life. Meg was an immensely private person and the funeral was an opportunity to share many of her life achievements. These included a career in nursing and later in teaching, her love for her family, her love of nature – particularly dogs, of literature, dance and travel. Meg moved to H/ford in 1993 and will be missed by all those who knew her. Our thoughts are with her family.



St Peter's Church – one service this month:

- **Sun. 19th Dec. (9:30am)**

Holy Communion

St Leonard's, Halwell – Christmas service

- **Sat. 25th Dec. (10am)**

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

P.C.C. lottery – we now have just over 100 members, which is great. As we go into 2022 please think about joining our lottery. It would cost you just £12/year. We make the draw at the monthly coffee morning. The income makes a great difference to the running of the church. Contact Frances (732297) or Hazel (732672). Here are November's winners:

1st Louise White, Marl Park, £20

2nd Phil Dixon, Mill Meadow, £10

3rd James & Kathy Lewis, Washbourne, £5

Church clean – this month it's **Thu. 9th Dec. (11am)**. Just for one hour. If you are able to join us that would be great. We'll be getting the church ready for the BRNC concert. Our Hoover has stopped working. Please does anyone have one they might like to donate? **Contacts:** Frances (732297) or Hazel (732672).

The church car park will be closed all day on **Thu. 16th Dec.** Please respect this request as the parking will be needed for events at the church on that day.

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

Carols round the tree – this year's carol service (church car park) is on **Sun. 19th Dec. (6pm)**. Mince pies & hot drinks in abundance. It's a lovely, seasonal village event and all ages are very welcome indeed. Jackie Clayton (732603)

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.

Harbertonford Allotment Society has an allotment plot **IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE**. Contact has-sec@outlook.com

Village Hall bar – a reminder that the weekly Village Hall bar has re-opened. It's **every Friday evening from 7:30pm INCLUDING FRI. 24TH DECEMBER!!**



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).

Flower arranging – dates for the next two months (all Weds., in the Village Hall): **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 School – the children immersed themselves in their elections for Pupil Parliament representatives this year. We recreated the House of Commons in the hall and all of our prospective candidates delivered their addresses from the dispatch boxes. Whilst the votes were being counted, we went on a guided "tour" of Westminster.

- School choir is singing at Nkuku on **Fri. 10th Dec. (2:30-3pm)**.
- We are looking for volunteers to help at lunchtime and to hear readers. If you can help us, please contact the school office.

Tel: 01803-732352, adminharbertonford@thelink.academy

There is a collective arts & crafts weekend @ Bow Chapel's kitchen, Bow Rd, H/ford. It's on **Sat. 11th & Sun. 12th Dec. (10.30am-4pm)**. Please pop in and see us. There will be lots to see as well as tea and cakes, mulled wine and mince pies.

The Parish Council (PC) is very pleased to welcome two new councillors, Prana Simon & Hannah Thomas. We're really looking forward to working with them. The PC still has one vacancy for the Harberton ward. Nominations from residents of both Harberton and H/ford will be considered. The PC thanks the group of volunteers who supported the first stage of updating the park. Much of the rotting wooden structure has now been brought down. The next stage will be to clear the site and make the ground safe for play. It is hoped to hold another working party shortly to do this, if you are interested in helping please contact the Clerk: clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org The PC was pleased to approve a proposal from Sustainable Harbourne Valley to plant fruiting trees in the park and add flowering climbers to provide additional habitat for existing birds and wildlife and increase biodiversity. It is hoped that soon people will enjoy free apples, pears and berries picked from the new fruit corner after planting.

Gwen Janes - the PC would like to give an enormous thank you to Gwen Janes who resigned from the PC last month. Gwen has been a councillor since 2003, giving 18 years of voluntary service to the community. Thank you, Gwen.

This month's PC meeting is on **Tue. 14th Dec. (7:30pm)** at H/ford Village Hall. <https://www.harbertonparishcouncil.org/>



church (ONLY!) from **3:05pm to 4pm** - are on **Thu. 16th Dec.** and **Thu. 27th Jan.** Info: phone 0345-155-1001.



USE IT OR LOSE IT!! The library has had only one customer in each of the last two months. Its next two H/ford visits - at the church (ONLY!) from **3:05pm to 4pm** - are on **Thu. 16th Dec.** and **Thu. 27th Jan.** Info: phone 0345-155-1001.

Free entrance, Pop-up café.



Village (Christmas) coffee morning
Tue. 21st Dec. (10:30am)

Everyone welcome. Jams, cakes, plants often for sale and we welcome any contributions.

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

Village shop - this week Gerry, the owner of the shop, agreed to our proposals for the community to take over the shop. It has taken a while to get to this point as there has been a lot to consider, both from Gerry's perspective and from the community's. Now that we have an agreement in place we can get on with it. Over the next few months, The Harbertonford Community Ltd (THCL) will be working hard to get things organised. I do hope you will be able to support this effort. There will be a Community Share Offer early in the New Year. You can read more details at <https://harbertonford.com/shop/> but don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, or can help!

Many thanks, John john@mckay.sh or 732117

Stanborough Farm - for Christmas, once again, we have oven-ready turkeys, geese, ducks & chicken. Also veg. boxes. (t) 01548-821306 or (e) stanboroughfarm@hotmail.com

Village shop and Post Office opening times for Christmas:

- Christmas Eve – 8:30am to 6pm
- Christmas Day & Boxing Day – Closed
- 27th & 28th Dec. - 8:30am to 6pm
- 29th & 30th - 8am to 6pm

The filling station will be OPEN AS USUAL throughout the Christmas period EXCEPT FOR:

- Christmas Day – 9am to 9pm • Boxing Day - 9am to 9pm

Recycling and waste collection – collection dates over the festive season have been amended as follows:

Usual day	New day	Usual day	New day
27 Dec.	29 Dec.	3 Jan.	6 Jan.
28 Dec.	30 Dec.	4 Jan.	7 Jan.
29 Dec.	31 Dec.	5 Jan.	8 Jan.
30 Dec.	4 Jan.	6 Jan.	10 Jan.
31 Dec.	5 Jan.	7 Jan.	11 Jan.

- **10th - 13th Jan.** - all collections will run two days late.
- **14th Jan.** – collection on 17th Jan.
- **17th - 21st Jan.** - all collections will run one day late.

2022

New Year's Eve Party, featuring the Old Dogs band in the Village Hall on New Year's Eve.

Entrance **FREE**: food, bar, dancing! Info: Rob Summers (732004) or robert.summers13@btinternet.com

Harberton & H/ford History Society – we are looking forward to exhibiting our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival and look forward to seeing you there. We would like to wish all our members a Very Happy Christmas and New Year. We look

forward to seeing you on **Jan. 11th (7:30pm)** when Andy Crabb will give his talk via Zoom: "Digging Deep – Dartmoor's key archaeological excavations". Thanks, Jill Powell (07759-578496)

Do you need help with your energy costs this winter?

Contact Citizens Advice South Hams and speak to your local energy advisor. Call them on **01803-659733** or visit the website www.southhamscab.org.uk

Sustainable Harbourne Valley is giving away free trees for people to plant in their gardens. It's **Sun. 23rd Jan.** @ the Village Hall (**10am-4pm**). There will be 200 available and you can each collect 1-5 free trees + protection and a free planting and aftercare guide. Trees provided by Devon Wildlife Trust as part of their Saving Devon's Treescapes project. See you there! www.sustainableharbournevalley.org.uk for more details.

Chris and Margaret (Sustainable Harbourne Valley) have been working in St Peter's churchyard for the past year. We are "Wilding", "Maintaining for Wildlife," a strip at the far end of the churchyard. We need someone to cut and maintain a boundary path at the margin of our area. We MAY have access to a petrol lawn mower. If anyone can help please contact Margaret (731081) or Chris (732095). Thank you.

Open Gardens - this is a continuation of a 2019 idea for H/ford Open Gardens (postponed in 2020). Sorry for the delay! So much has happened and maybe a lot has changed. It would be good to know if there are still sufficient numbers of gardeners out there who would be willing to open their gates to the rest of the village in 2022. Maybe there are new residents who could be encouraged to join in? I was thinking of something along the lines of a low key and relaxed event such as Harberton's Open Gardens. A chance to meet neighbours and share ideas. There could be additional crafts people too - with or without a garden - but with something to show. The provisional date is the **weekend 28/29th May**. If you are interested please email me: helenrphillips@icloud.com Thanks, Helen Phillips

Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement Project (TRAYE) runs a fortnightly Youth Club in our Village Hall. Age 8-18, £1. New members welcome. Info: 07895-485581 or www.traye.org



Football club lottery:

£160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/month.
Oct's winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Matt Monaghan /Marie Southcott/ Pauline Overton/

Donna Jane/Matt Ghillyer/Stuart Maller

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)** •

Merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year to all of our readers. Many thanks for your continued support.

Next issue – contributions to Graham Clayton (732603 or g1clayton78@outlook.com). The copy deadline for the next newsletter is **16th Dec.**, earlier than usual, so that January's *Village Life* can be delivered to homes before Christmas.