

Village Life

Harbertonford's newsletter

This month's edition is
sponsored by
Sarah Morrison

Issue 277, March 2024

Welcome to the March edition of *Village Life*, in which we try to keep you informed of local news & events. It's 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.

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

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

Sponsorship – many thanks to Sarah for sponsoring this month's edition. Her generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.



St Peter's Church has a service on **Sun. 17th Mar. (3:30pm)** – all very welcome.

The church is open to all every day between 10:30am & 4pm. 3rivers.org.uk

P.C.C. lottery – why not join the lottery? £12/year, prizes as below. It's a vital source of church income. Feb's winners:

1. Kathy Lewis, Washbourne, £30

2. Gill Francis, Old Rd., £20 3. Angie Fisher, Old Rd., £10

Well done to all the winners & thank you for your continued support. You would be most welcome to join if you have not done so before - phone Frances (732297).



Main road (A381) overnight closure

Mon. 12th Feb to Fri. 22nd Mar.

Our main road is shut (8pm-5:30am) for those dates. "Resurfacing/drainage work with zebra crossing".

Exploring Renewable Energy in Harberton Parish event – the PC's Neighbourhood Planning Committee has organised an event on **Sat. 24th Feb. (10am-12:30pm)**. Please come along to listen and contribute to how we might reduce our energy costs and make the parish more self-sufficient in energy. Limited spaces, booking required. Tickets at: <https://bit.ly/hnp-energy-1>

Tree & wildflower seed giveaway – pick up a tree (or trees...)

from our micro-nursery. Guards & canes provided. Plus, wildflower seeds suitable for either a garden bed or a 'meadowy' section of lawn. **Sat. 24th Feb. (1-3pm)** on the village green.

Harbertonford Playpark Action Committee (HPAC) has hazel pea sticks for sale! Our group of villagers have been busy over the past year, working to maintain & improve the village Play Park, (behind the school + access from Riverdale). Recent hedge working has resulted in masses of brash (now chipped). The pea sticks could be useful for gardeners; we plan to bunch up as many as possible, with a view to supply anyone who would like to help themselves. Donations to the playpark would be fantastic: Lloyds Bank, 30-99-50, a/c 11566262. If anyone would like some set aside, please contact me (07984-677157) or another HPAC member. Many thanks, Peter Beamish.

Are you a crafter? Are you interested in joining sociable group of like-minded folk in the Village Hall? Chat, have a cuppa, whilst doing your own work!! Day and times not yet set. If interested please ring Pauline (732393).

Skittles is every **Sunday** (V. Hall, (7-9pm)). All are welcome. Cost: £2 (inc. coffee/tea & biscuits). Info: John (732588).



The next Village Brunch is on **Sun. 3rd Mar.**

(10:15am to noon)

at the Village Hall

The brunch is a really good way to meet

up with friends and neighbours for anything from a coffee to a full English (veggie option also available). If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the Brunch team (in any way) please speak to Laura or Ruth on the day.



Soup, a Cuppa & a Chat in a Warm Space at H/ford FC – on **Tue. 5th Mar. (12-2pm)** in the clubhouse, Woodcourt Rd. All welcome. Free - donations if you wish. Nigel Holmes (732592).

Flower arranging – our next few meetings (@ Village Hall and always **Weds. @ 10am**) are on:

- 6th Mar. • 20th Mar. • 10th Apr. • 24th Apr.
- 8th May • 22nd May • 5th Jun. • 19th Jun.

No set charge. Apart from flowers, equipment (& tuition) is available, if needed. Relaxed, fun (& coffee). New members always very welcome. Many thanks, Pauline Hancock (732393).

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thursdays, 6-7:30pm) – our sessions restarted in January. Dates for 2024:

- 7th & 21st Mar. • 18th Apr. • 2nd & 16th May
- 13th & 27th Jun. • 11th & 25th Jul. • 5th & 19th Sep.
- 3rd & 17th Oct. • 14th & 28th Nov. • 12th Dec.

Contact: Laura: ishamlyn.traye@gmail.com

Give and Take Day - Sat. 9th Mar. (10am to noon)

Come to the Village Hall to donate your unwanted items and/or take away anything you take a fancy to, all for FREE!!! All items should be working and in good condition. *No rubbish accepted!* There will be a small café selling coffee, tea & cake to cover the hall hire cost. This event has been held several times over recent years and always enables many things to find new homes, keeping them out of landfill or from cluttering up our homes! All welcome. *Sustainable Harbourne Valley event*

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at Harberton Parish Hall on **Tue. 12th Mar. (7:30pm)**.

clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org

PTFA quiz

Village Hall Quiz – Fri. 15th Mar. (8pm)

March's quiz is a fundraiser for our primary school's PTFA. £2/head, max. 6/team. No team? Don't worry, that can be sorted out on the evening, Very friendly & good fun. Bar open. **SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL!!** Vicki Taylor, vct.wrns@yahoo.com

Bingo @ Moreleigh Village Hall - Fri. 15th Mar. Proceeds to Dame Hannahs, Ivybridge. It's a very worthy cause, please support it if you can.



Year 33!! of coffee mornings in the Village Hall.

Tue. 19th Mar. (10:30). Only £1 for coffee and biscuits. Raffle and most times there are jams etc.

for sale. Please think about coming – all are very welcome. Soup & puddings on **Tue. 16th Apr??** Frances (732297).

Village School – we are obliged to close the car park for one weekend pa. This year gates will be locked at **4pm, Fri. 22nd Mar.** & will reopen at **8am, Mon. 25th Mar.** Vehicles left in the car park on the Fri. will not be accessible until the Mon. Thanks for your patience & support. We are very aware that this annual closure creates parking difficulties. Anne Burns, Academy Head

Monitoring river levels - the web camera at Yeolands Screen (stream @ bottom of Moreleigh Rd) can now take a picture every 15 mins. Use link below or google the Environment Agency web cameras: <http://tinyurl.com/SouthWestWebCam> then go to Devon and then to H/ford screen. Telemetry is now connected to mains & should provide some resilience to the alarm system.

Weather watch – was 2023 particularly wet overall? Many thanks to David Groom for this data (in inches) for H/ford:

	2023	2022	2021	Av.1984-2023
Total rainfall	65.3	44.3	52.2	46.7

2023's rain was much higher than '21 & '22 and well above the annual average for the past 40 years. The second wettest year since 1983. The past decade has shown a trend of higher rainfall:

	2014-23	2004-13	1994-2003	1984-93
Avg. rainfall pa	52.4	44.8	47.2	46.9

Recycling Lavazza Eco Caps - we are a drop-off point for Lavazza Eco Caps. Your caps may not be compostable, so you can put them in the box placed outside our house. We'll send them to Terracycle for recycling. Info: <https://bit.ly/lavazza-eco> Andy Clarke, 5 Bridgeside, TQ9 7UH, (pink houses by bridge).



Post Office & Store We've invested in a new barcode/EPOS system, which should help us to manage stocks, pricing & re-ordering more effectively. This will be operational soon. Many thanks to Bunny Rothwell for the incredible amount of time and hard work that she has put into this project.

OPENING HOURS @ EASTER (29th Mar. to 1st Apr.)

• **Fri 29th & Mon. 1st (shop only!!):** 09:00 – 13:00

• **Sat 30th & Sun. 31st:** normal hours & service

Sales of £6,000 a week!! That's our "break-even" target!!

If we can maintain that then the shop should "break-even", so please use the shop as much as you can! Suggestions re what we sell/how we operate etc. are very welcome This community enterprise needs community involvement. We offer:

- PO & banking services
- Amazon drop-offs
- Keenly priced groceries
- Fresh local produce
- Stationery
- Beers/wines etc
- Dry cleaning

Shop: Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm; Sat. 8am-4pm; Sun. 8am-1pm

PO: Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm; Sat. 8am-1pm; Sun. Closed

**** If you are interested in helping out in any way, please contact John McKay (07810-007760) ****

Informal Library (at the shop) - if you have unwanted books in good condition the shop is happy to display them. Anyone is welcome to take & enjoy any of the books on display.

My Garden of a Thousand Bees - in this award-winning film, wildlife film maker Martin Dohrn turns his lens on the bees in his own garden in Bristol. Martin will be with us (**Wed. 3rd Apr., @ the Village Hall [6:30 for 7pm]**) to answer questions and help us understand the lives of – and challenges faced by – solitary bees. There will also be a display of various kind of bee 'hotel'.

Dog walking/pet sitting service:

hannah.r.wintle@gmail.com or text 07519-643 834.

Baby-sitting service:

Jema Skinner, 07517-286696

Harbertonford Allotment Society – for info. & to join the waiting list for an allotment plot, email: has-sec@outlook.com

Harberton & H/ford History Society – our next (Zoom) talk is on **Tue. 16th Apr. (7:30pm)**, Prof. Mark Stoye; "The Prayer Book Rebellion of 1549". For talk details & event registration go to: <http://tinyurl.com/MSPrayerBook>

Thanks: Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com

Village Hall Bar – a reminder that the Village Hall bar is open every Friday evening from **7:30pm**.

South Hams Citizens Advice (CA) - you could get help worth £300 towards the cost of your energy bills by talking to CA. Our independent specialist advisers can also help with complex billing issues, resolving matters directly with energy providers; help you deal with energy supplier issues, including billing and meter problems; help householders understand how to make their homes more energy efficient and look at fuel bills and household finances to help save money. All advice is free, independent and confidential. Contact Citizens Advice on 0808-278-7948.

Cars parked illegally - I'm a bus driver with Tally Ho and drive through H/ford daily serving the community. We often find parked vehicles in the Kingsbridge-bound bus stop, this means we're forced to block a very busy road whilst we pick up/drop off passengers because inconsiderate drivers believe it's acceptable to park in a designated bus stop which is clearly marked and in constant use including all day Sunday. I would greatly appreciate any help in discouraging this abuse of the highway; it makes our job so much more difficult on such a busy section of road.

Save The Date

FordFiesta 24 will be on



SATURDAY 7th September

Music, games, food, bar and lots more



If you would like to get involved and help organise or help on the day, we would love to hear from you



guy@metcalfe5.co.uk - 07525 809267

Harbertonford FC – some tough fixtures of late and results remain mixed. Currently eighth in the table. Less rain please! For results, fixtures & news: www.bit.ly/hf-fc

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

Football club lottery: £160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/mth.

Jan. winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Robin Dart/John Mills/Dave Hatch/Chloe Jones/Matt Ghillyer/
Pauline Overton

Village contacts

❖ **Police:** PCSO Russ Broadhurst 30534. Tel: 07703-886012 or russell.broadhurst@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

❖ **Village Hall bookings:** Jean Blackler (732588)

Year Planner 2024

To 22 Mar., Main road closed (nights) **16 Apr.,** Soup/puds (VH)?

3 Aug., Village Show

7 Sep., FordFiesta '24

This newsletter was printed by



accountants
& business advisors

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

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