

Village Life

Harbertonford's newsletter

This month's edition is in
memory of
Ray Shinner, 1949-2025

Issue 293, July 2025

Welcome to the July edition of *Village Life (VL)*, 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

Ray Shinner – Raymond's family will be celebrating his life at the Village Hall on **Sat. 12th Jul (from noon)**. We will raise a glass & say a few words at **12:30**. The dress code is casual/happy – after all, this will be a celebration of our fond memories. An obituary for Ray will be in next month's newsletter.

Phil Sheardown died peacefully on 11th June, aged 80. Many locals will remember Phil through his company, *Canoe Adventures*, which was based at Bow Creek, Tuckenhay for many years. There will be a private cremation & scattering of ashes. A celebration of Phil's life will take place at a later date in Harberton Parish Hall, to which all who would like to come will be welcome.



St Peter's Church

Holy Communion – Sun. 20th Jul. @ 9:30am

Everyone very welcome. Refreshments afterwards. The church is open to all every day (9am-5pm). 3rivers.org.uk

P.C.C. lottery – thanks to everyone who belongs to the lottery. You can join at any time, £12/yr. It really does help to keep the church going. Phone Frances (732297).

June winners: 1. Mary Pitman, The Old Smithy

2. Mary Attree, c/o Hernafor Fm. 3. Angela Cox, Old Rd.

Thank you to everyone who supported the concert at Moreleigh Village Hall. Given by the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir, it was a lovely evening which raised over £800. This will be divided between Halwell, Moreleigh & H/ford churches with a donation to Children's Hospice South West.

Occasional strimming needed at the front of the church – can you help? If so, please contact Frances 732297.

Community Speedwatch – nothing this month. Struggling to get a team together lately. Thanks, Phil

laurence.phil.dixon@btinternet.com

Quiz

Village Hall Quiz
Fri. 4th Jul (8pm)

Quiz

A fundraiser for - **H/FORD ALLOTMENTS**

A friendly, fun quiz. £2pp. Max. 6/team. No team? No problem - we'll sort it out!! Bar open. Vicki Taylor: vct.wrns@yahoo.com

Harberton Open Gardens – start & finish @ the Hall where villagers will exhibit their art, craft & hobbies in a display of Pastimes & Passions. Enjoy delicious refreshments & take a stroll round the village to admire the beauty & diversity of Harberton's gardens. It's the **weekend 5th/6th Jul. (12-5pm)**. Tickets £10, to inc. Cream Tea. On Sunday, there's Classic Cars too.

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at our Harberton Parish Hall on **Tue. 8th Jul. (7:30pm)**.

clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org

The Flower Arranging group usually meets fortnightly in the Village Hall. Our next meeting is on **Wed 9th Jul. (10am)**. That's it then until Sept. All are welcome to join, either making an arrangement or just watching. Tuition is available. And there's coffee!! Info: Pauline 01803-732393

Open Mic is Back (again)!! Last month was an absolute banger with performers literally aged from 8 to 80 years old and, excitingly, featuring three first timers. So far we have seen poetry, unaccompanied singing, instrumentalists and various solos & combos. What next? Come along and find out! It's in the Village Hall bar on **Fri. 11th Jul.** kicking off at **7:30pm**. Contact Gavin to guarantee a slot (07958606301) or just rock up.

OPEN DAY AT THE ALLOTMENTS

Sat. 12th Jul. (10am - 3pm)

Goodies to eat, produce to buy and @ **11.30** an informative talk: **Compost Making & Soil Improvement**, by Rachel Russell, lifelong 'regenerative grower' from the Exeter Growers' Co-Op



Coffee morning - Tue. 15th Jul. (10:30am)

In the Village Hall. Only £1 for coffee and biscuits. Raffle and most times there are jams etc. for sale.

Please come along – you are very welcome. Frances (732297).

Our Primary School Presents: Festival on the Field! Mark your calendars for a fantastic event filled with family fun as our Primary School hosts Festival on the Field!

Date: Fri. 18th Jul. on the school playing field (**3:30pm onwards**)

Join us for an exciting community event featuring:

- Live music - the school choir & local bands
 - BBQ & bar • Sweets & treats • Games & crafts for all ages
- Everyone is welcome, and entry is completely free! All proceeds will go to the school's PTFA. Come along, bring your friends and neighbours, and help us celebrate summer in true H/ford style!



Ashprington Tractor Fest - vintage tractors & other vehicles on show. It's at Ash Meadow (TQ9 7UR) on **Sat. 19th Jul. (11am-4pm)**.

Find us on Facebook. Food, bar, kids' play area. Adults £5, child £2, U5's free.

The East Allington (EA) Big Fundraiser - for Devon Air Ambulance plus seven village causes. It's at Venn Farm, EA on **Sat. 26th Jul. (6pm to midnight)**. There are 24 tables of ten available. Eat, drink & dance to live music from Matfin, after an Auction of Promises. More info: <https://tinyurl.com/EA26Jy>



**TOTNES
& DISTRICT SHOW**

We look forward to welcoming you for another fun-filled family day out at this year's show. It's on **Sun 27th Jul.**

Our many and varied attractions and activities are detailed on our What's On page and will be updated as the attractions are confirmed. <https://totnessshow.com/> You can buy your tickets early online at a discount.

Women's fitness sessions - interested in joining a fitness session right here in the village? We're looking for women keen to take part in an early morning fitness session to sign up here. Venue TBC and we need an instructor too - but first things first, let's find out if there's enough people to make it viable. Register your interest by emailing janie.moor@outlook.com

The Summer Skittles tournament started on **Fri. 27th Jun.**
Info: John Blackler (732588).



H/ford Village Show
(The 55th!!)
Sat. 2nd Aug.



Doors open at 2:30pm

Schedule & entry forms: in the Village PO & Store and
Daynes Farm Shop. Classes for everyone (all ages).

Display your:

- Flowers, • Vegetables, • Fruit, • Preserves, • Pot plants,
- Cookery, • Handicrafts, • Artwork, • Photography or just a
- Special part of your Garden or Patio.

Fledglings Stay & Play group (@ the village school) has a
range of activities for babies & toddlers. **Tuesdays in term**
time (9:15-10:45am). It's run by one of the school's trained
nursery staff. Tea, coffee & cake available!



Calling all families!!

The old swimming pool at school was built
over 50 years ago, by local people for their
kids. For over ten years, it has lain
abandoned. The school now plans to cover it over, to make it
safe. Can we, the community, save it? Some blue-sky thinking
as to what we might create.....

- A south-facing roof, with PV solar array
- A water supply, with septic tank
- Simple flushing toilets, with locked access
- A community benefit • A school benefit

These ideas might fail, **BUT**, if **YOU'D** like to see a Community
Pool for summer evenings & weekends, which could ensure
that future generations can learn to swim, and you can offer
skills to make serious fundraising possible, please contact me,
Peter Beamish (07984-677157). Many thanks

Sustainable Harbourne Valley – last month we welcomed
Dr Mateo Ruiz, Head of Conservation at the Barn Owl Trust
in Ashburton. He gave a fascinating talk on the causes behind the
decline of the barn owl and the ways in which we can help
reverse these impacts. Later this year we hope to hold a barn owl
nesting box-making session.

Painting the exterior of the Village Hall is now rescheduled
for **Sat. 13th & Sun. 14th Sep.** Put the dates in your diary!!
Join in the decorating fun, refreshments (& paint!) provided.
Details: Rob Summers robert.summers13@btinternet.com or
0781-617-0005

Harberton & H/ford History Society – we're looking forward
to this month's visit (now fully booked) to the Italian Garden at
Great Ambrook. Our next talk is on **Tue. 16th Sep.** with Bill
Horner, the County Archaeologist. More details in August. All
welcome. Many thanks, Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com



Shop sales are averaging
over £7,000/week!!
PO income is up by
approx. 20% on last year!!

So thanks, as ever, for all your support – it means such a lot to
shop/PO staff & volunteers to see & serve so many customers. On
that subject, David Williamson has just joined the shop staff.
Welcome, David! We wish you well.

REFILLS!! Don't forget that we can refill your own bottles with our
Bio D liquids: • Laundry - Unscented • Laundry - Lavender
• Washing Up – Pink Grapefruit

All are priced in 500ml/1litre/1.5 litre sizes. Please ask in the shop.
Despite good sales figures, running costs are high, so we still need
volunteers to help ensure that the enterprise is financially sound. If
you'd like to help out please call Belinda Burt: (07501-900027).

For various reasons we have
decided that the next
FORDFIESTA will be in 2026.



We desperately need more people
to help with the advance planning, so if you would like to
get involved in this fabulous community event, we would
love to hear from you (see our website).

*We are specifically looking for help with social media,
website and admin.*

www.hfordfiesta.co.uk

Citizens Advice South Hams has launched a new project to
work in local schools offering advice to families who really
need our help with debt, benefits applications, energy bills and
meeting day-to-day living costs. As a local charity, we urgently
need funds to keep the project going follow the pilot scheme. If
you are able to help with a donation, even a small amount, please
visit our fundraising page at:

donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/citizens-advice-in-schools

Village Hall bar & Sunday Skittles – Reminders

The VH bar is open **every Friday** evening from **7:30pm**
Skittles is **every Sunday** @ the VH, (**7-9pm**). All are welcome.
Cost: £2 (inc. coffee/tea & biscuits). Info: John (732588).

Harberton Cricket Club (HCC) offers youth cricket (email
kidscricket@harbertoncc.com) and seniors (non-league)
cricket. New players always very welcome

Info: Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876). www.harbertoncc.com

Monthly lottery – to help support its youth cricket, HCC has
started a lottery. • Tickets = £5 each. • You can enter as
many times as you like. • Entries close at 6:59 pm on 14th of each
month. • The draw is made monthly on 14th at 7pm. • You must
be >16 to play. • Winners will be notified within three days of the
draw. • First prize = 35% of the prize pool. • Second prize = 15%
of the prize pool. • The balance (50%) will go to the club.

<https://draw.ourclublotto.co.uk/harbertoncc/>

Harbertonford FC – currently it seems likely that, due to a
lack of players, the Fords' Saturday side will resign from the
South Devon League. It will be discussed in depth at HFC's AGM
(**Mon. 30th Jun.**) 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.
May winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Nigel Holmes/Becky Hamlet/Alan Hamlet/David Hart/

Robin Dart /Sam Passmore (June's draw not yet done).

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 2025:

12 Jul., Ray Shinner celebration

12 Jul., Allotments Open Day

2 Aug., Village Show



This newsletter was printed by
MAP Accountants, whose offices
are in Harberton. Please phone
Melanie Allday (01803-867655)
for details of MAP's services

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