

Village Life

Harbertonford's newsletter

This month's edition
is sponsored by
Andrea & Duncan Stone

Issue 296, October 2025

Welcome to the October 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 here: www.harbertondevon.co.uk/villagelife.htm

Colin Finch died on 3rd September, aged 73. St Peter's was absolutely packed for Colin's funeral service last week. We shall print an obituary for Colin in next month's newsletter. Our thoughts are with Jan, Nathan, Howard and families.

Sponsorship – many thanks to Andrea & Duncan for sponsoring this edition. Their generosity has enabled us to print & distribute 400 free copies of the newsletter.



St Peter's Church

There is **no church service this month** as there is a **Harvest Lunch** at the **Village Hall** on **Sun. 19th Oct.** – see below

Harvest lunch – in the Village Hall @ **12:30** on **Sun. 19th Oct.** Tickets £10 to be booked with Frances (732297) or Chris (07941-567614). Booking by 14th Oct would be appreciated. Anyone offering help (esp. in the kitchen) would be very welcome.

P.C.C. lottery – the September draw results will be published next month. You can join the lottery at any time, £12/yr. It really does help church finances. Phone Frances (732297).

Flood Planning – is H/ford prepared for flooding? Join a community workshop on **Wed. 1st Oct. (6-8pm)** at the Village Hall to share your experiences, find out where to get help, understand how to navigate statutory services, hear from Devon Community Resilience Forum, plan your response to flooding, find why it's a good idea to make a plan, what hazards and risks to know about. The workshop will be run by *Devon Communities Together*. More info: rod.birtles@devoncommunities.org.uk

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thurs., 6-7:30pm) – it's H/F's Youth Club. Usually every fortnight, at our Village Hall.

2025/26 dates Info: deekelly.traye@gmail.com

Oct. 2nd & 16th Nov. 13th & 27th Dec. 11th Jan. 8th & 22nd

Harberton Pantomime 2026 – it's that time again!! If you'd like to get involved come along to our first meeting at Harberton Parish Hall on **Sun. 5th Oct (4-5pm)**. If you can't make it, contact Liz at liz@anglecottage.plus.com to make sure that I send you the information.

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire – one site in last year's consultation has been re-classified by consultants AECOM – this "material change" means we need to re-consult parishioners. Deadline: **Fri. 24th Oct.** Have your say:

1. **Public Consultation:** Harberton Parish Hall, **Tue. 7th Oct. (7pm)**

2. **Online Zoom:** **Thu. 9th Oct @ 7pm**

Email: harbertonneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com for forms, Zoom link, more details.

The Flower Arranging group is back!! – this month's dates are **Wed. 8th & 22nd (10am)**. All are welcome to join, either making an arrangement or just watching. Tuition is available. And there's coffee!! Info: Pauline 01803-732393

At last month's **Village Hall committee AGM** there were two resignations; Pauline Hancock & Wendy Skyrme-Mason left with many thanks for their commitment & dedication over many years. Next May, Jean Blackler, will resign as Treasurer and Bookings Manager. There were no villagers who came forward wanting to join the committee. *Please consider whether you would like to join the small group which manages the Village Hall.*

We aim to maintain and develop the fabric of the building, to provide a useful, welcoming facility for all sorts of events and to ensure easy, affordable access to all comers. The committee has ten meetings p.a. in the Village Hall each for about 90 minutes.

Contact: Rob Summers (0781-617-0005) or at

robert.summers13@btinternet.com Forthcoming public events:

OCTOBER: 1st: Flood meeting 10th: Quiz for St Peter's

11th: Barn Owl Trust 17th: Open Mic 19th: Harvest Lunch

29th: Sustainable Harbourne Valley

NOVEMBER 1st: Craft Fayre 7th: Jazz evening

Come and have Fun on our Apple Pressing Day

Friday 10th Oct. (from 3pm)

at the Fruit Corner, H/ford Playground, (off Riverdale, Marl Pk.)

- Plenty of apple juices to sample or take away
- Start saving containers and screw top bottles and...
- Bring any more apples you might still have

A Sustainable Harbourne Valley (SHV) event

The H/ford Allotment Society – for information on an allotment plot in the village email: has-sec@outlook.com

Quiz

Village Hall Quiz
Fri. 10th Oct. (8pm)

Quiz

A fundraiser for **ST PETER'S CHURCH**

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

SUPPORT ST PETER'S !!

We can hear tawny owls in our area, but barn owls are struggling, so, to help them, SHV & the Barn Owl Trust, have an indoor Barn Owl Nest Box Workshop at the Village Hall on **Sat. 11th Oct. (10:30am)**. It's free & suitable for all from ages 8+ (children must be accompanied by an adult). We hope to find local sites for the completed boxes. For more info. or to book a place, email: hello@sustainableharbournevalley.org.uk

H/ford School PTFA - Harberton Family 'Ceilidh' Barn Dance

Sat. 11th Oct. @ Harberton Parish Hall

Doors open @ **6pm**, music & dancing from **6:30pm**.

With music from the Mooncoin Barn Dance Band, one of the foremost Ceilidh bands in the South West, this will be a very special event. There will be a bar and food for sale.

All funds raised go to the PTFA to support our Primary School.

Come along for fun for all the family!

Tickets available here: www.trybooking.com/uk/FCDP

Harberton Parish Council's (PC) next ordinary meeting is at our Village Hall on **Tue. 14th Oct. (7:30pm)**.

clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org

Bus shelter decoration – H/ford's shelter needs some TLC and the PC is seeking new volunteers to give it a lick of paint and to see if anything else needs fixing. If you're willing to help, please contact the clerk: clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org



Daynes Farm, Harberton

has seasonal & half-term events this month.

Details: [Facebook](#) &/or [Instagram](#)

It's Open Mic Night!!

Fri. 17th Oct. (from 7:30pm) at the Village Hall.

"The best Open Mic I've been to in a while - so much variety!"

"The energy is brilliant- everyone wants everyone to succeed!"

Not my words! See you there! First timers and returners very much welcome. Email me: middlewoodart@gmail.com to guarantee a slot or just pitch up.

Cheers, Gavin



Coffee morning - Tue. 21st Oct. (10:30am)

In the Village Hall. Only £1.50 for coffee & biscuits.

Raffle and most times there are jams etc. for sale.

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

School PTFA - last month's Bingo in Moreleigh raised £1,000 for our school's PTFA. The evening was called by local bingo legend Melvyn Treeby. More than 100 people were there, enjoying the chance to win prizes donated by a range of generous local businesses. Over the years, Melvyn's bingo events have raised more than £100,000 for a wide range of charities and good causes. His upcoming bingo nights (Fridays @ Moreleigh Village Hall) are on **10th Oct., 7th Nov., & 12th Dec.**



REMINDER!!

The clocks go back one hour
at **2am on Sun. 26th Oct.**

The next Village Brunch – is on **Sun. 26th Oct. (from 10:15)** @ the Village Hall. Come along for the finest breakfast in town! Meet, eat & chat. Donations are very welcome; just pay what you can afford. New volunteers are always welcome - ring Andy (a.k.a. The Egg Man) on 07792-009374.

Your Home, Our Village, Our Future Energy - SHV brings you an evening of talks on energy. Curious about lowering bills and powering our homes with local, renewable energy? Come and hear three inspiring energy stories - from South Brent's community Wind turbine to solar clubs and home energy grants - followed by Q&A and discussion. It's at the Village Hall on **Wed. 29th Oct. @ 7pm** (doors open 6:30pm). All welcome!!

Calling All Local Makers! We want to hear from you to take part in the Craft Fair we're planning for **Sat. 1st Nov.** in the Village Hall - the more village crafters/makers involved the better! If you're interested (we'd love to know what you make) or have any questions either call Vicki (07855-422359), Fiona (07789-376602) or email us via harbertonfordvillagehall@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you!

Totnes Jazz Group – at the Village Hall on **Fri. 7th Nov. (7:30pm)**. £5 on the door. More info. next month.

Harberton & H/ford History Society - thanks to all attending Bill Horner's amazing talk about the way in which aerial photography has enabled fascinating discoveries in this area, including the head of Tetricus on a Roman coin! Our next talk is: "A Tudor Christmas" – **Tue. 2nd Dec. (7:30pm)** @ Harberton Parish Hall. Speaker: Rosemary Griggs. Plus an opportunity to test Tudor sweet meats! All welcome and we look forward to seeing you there. Members: free, Non-members: £3

Many thanks, Jill.Powell-Redlion@outlook.com

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).

If you're struggling to pay for heating or energy, Devon County Council's Household Support Fund can provide:

- Free energy vouchers to help with gas or electricity costs
- Free heated items such as blankets, jackets, or hot water bottles to keep warm

No repayment needed and no impact on your benefits. Call Citizens Advice South Hams on 0808-278-7948. Our Energy Advisors can also help with billing & meter problems, advise on saving energy and review your fuel bills to help you save money.

Community Shop – last month's celebration of two years' community ownership of the PO & Store had a fine day. Lots of villagers turned out to chat, drink tea and eat cake on the green. It was ably serenaded by Gavin Middlewood & Roger Scammell. The raffle made a whopping £378! Thanks to all who took part in any capacity. It seems like an annual event now; perhaps there could be other reasons to gather on the green throughout the year, weather permitting. It certainly seems popular. Any offer to organise something would be welcomed!

Harbertonford FC – it's still early in the season, so not much to report. Sat. XI: P3, W1, L2; Sun. XI: P3, W1, D1, L1.

For results, fixtures & news: www.bit.ly/hf-fc

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

The football field is a Community Landing Site for the Devon Air Ambulance. Please store loose equipment (inc. practice goals) to the sides of the field after use. Many thanks.

Dog owners!! – last month, for two weeks in a row, we had to stop football matches because of dog mess on the pitch. Really embarrassing for the club, a danger to health and totally unnecessary. Could dog owners please make sure that they clean up after their pets. Many thanks, HFC Committee

Football club lottery: £160 prize money/month. Cost: £5/mth. August winners (£80/£40/£10/£10/£10/£10):

Carl Southcott/Dave Hatch/Luke Bates/Keith Jane

Luke Forward/Tyler Stavrou (Sept's draw not yet done).

Harberton Cricket Club (HCC) now has a monthly lottery - monies raised go towards developing our youth cricket and maintaining the space for cricketers & villagers alike. September winners: Amy Hutchcroft (£116) & Louise Roberts (£49). If you'd like to join, go to: <https://draw.ourclublotto.co.uk/harbertoncc> Info: Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876). www.harbertoncc.com

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 2025/26:

17 Oct., Open Mic
7 Nov., Totnes Jazz Group

10 Oct., Village Hall Quiz

19 Oct., Harvest lunch

1 Aug., Village Show 2026



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 November newsletter is 20th October.