

Village Life

This month's edition is
sponsored by
Jeni & James Atherton

Harbertonford's newsletter

Issue 305, July 2026

Welcome to the July edition of *Village Life (VL)*, in which we hope to keep you informed of local news & events. It's delivered to your door each month by volunteers.

HSSG – VL 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 VL is available here: www.harbertondevon.co.uk/villagelife.htm

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



St Peter's Church

Holy Communion – Sun. 19th 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, Washbourne

2. Ros Ward, Woodland Rd. 3. Anthony Luscombe, Engleb'rne

Lottery: 2026 renewal – a few 2026 payments of £12 are due. Please pay your usual collector. If you would like to join, please contact Frances (732297) or Sue Lethbridge in the shop.



Shop takings since takeover now exceed £1 million!!!
The shop's been community owned for less than 3 years!!!

• Last month's garden sale was tremendous. Practically all pots & plants were sold and shop's coffers were swelled by £840!! This will be put towards a better hot water system for the shop's kitchen. Huge thanks to hosts Helen & Robin, plus Karen, Laura & Gill and to all of you who took part in so many ways.

• By the autumn, we need to find someone to stand in Belinda's capable shoes as volunteer co-ordinator. Can you help?

• Follow us on the Harbertonford Community Post Office Facebook page. Thanks to our manager Fee's efforts, we now have 300 followers. Let's make it more each month!

The Flower Club - after our meeting on **Wed. 1st Jul. (10:30)** we shall not be meeting again until **Wed. 9th Sep.** You will be able to see some of our creations in the Village Show on **Sat 1st Aug.** Perhaps you'll be inspired to join us in the Autumn!

Many thanks, Pauline 01803-732393

Quiz

Village Hall Quiz

Quiz

Fri. 3rd Jul. (8pm)

ANOTHER FUNDRAISER FOR ST PETER'S CHURCH

Our church needs **urgent repairs**, so your help is needed!

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

Harbertonford Youth Project (Thurs., 6-7:30pm) – our Youth Club. Usually every fortnight, at the Village Hall. Next dates: 9th Jul. & 23rd Jul. Sessions then restart from 17th Sep. We are planning day trips with young people in **w/c 20th Jul.**

Info: deekelly.trave@gmail.com



OPEN DAY AT THE ALLOTMENTS

Sat. 11th Jul. (10am - 3pm)

• Goodies to eat • Produce to buy

Come & join us and celebrate another year of growing well

Further info: has-sec@outlook.com



Up the Creek, Tuckenhay Regatta – Sat 11th Jul. (1pm) - on the river near The Maltsters Arms, featuring traditional on-the-water races, canoeing and waterside community celebrations.

Ashprington Tractor Fest

- vintage tractors & other vehicles on show. It's at Ash Meadow

(TQ9 7UR) on **Sat. 18th Jul. (11am-4pm).**

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



Harberton & H/ford History Society – on **Sat. 11th Jul.** we visit Higher Uppacott - a 600 year old Devon longhouse.

<https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/enjoy-dartmoor/places/higher-uppacott>

Reminder: our Village History Book is on sale at the Post Office.

Our next talk: Tue. 29th Sep. - Pru Manning: 'The Devon Historic Graffiti Survey & what we found at St Andrew's Harberton. Really interesting local history! All welcome & we look forward to seeing you. Please see website for further details: h3s-history.org

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

Women's singing group - weekly

Starting **Mon. 13th Jul. (7:30pm)** @ the H./ford FC clubhouse.

All are very welcome. No singing experience necessary.

Sign up in shop or contact Gavin Middlewood or Janie Moor

Contact your local MP, Caroline Voaden, for help with an issue that you are facing. As part of her remit, Caroline can assist with anything that is the responsibility of a national government department, such as pensions and benefits. You can: email her at: caroline.voaden.mp@parliament.uk or phone her office at: 01803-658461.

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

The PC has vacancies for two new councillors:

• Learn more about your parish • Put forward your ideas
• Represent the views of local people • Ensure that community interests are taken into account. Contact: The PC clerk: clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org or see the PC website: www.harbertonparishcouncil.org



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

In the Village Hall. Only £1.50 for coffee & biscuits. Raffle, jams etc. (often), lots of chat (always!)

Do come along – you are very welcome. To ensure that the coffee mornings can continue extra helpers are needed. Could that be you? If so, please let Frances (732297) know.




Swifts in the village

- a new swift box was put up in May in Woodland Rd, opposite the church entrance. Amazingly a swift has already been seen entering it - and staying in!! The bench in front of the church is an excellent viewing position. One or two pairs are using the gable end of The Old Chapel, Bow Rd. If anyone knows of other local nesting places please contact helenrphillips@icloud.com



Celebrate local talent on Sat 18th Jul. at the **Big Wide Open Mic** - this free event on the football pitch has live music (2-10pm). We have confirmed well over 20 acts at the time of going to print. The Village Hall bar will be open! The PTFA will be organising food throughout the event including a BBQ, as well as kids' activities, a fairground ride and a fantastic raffle. Meet friends, make new friends, bring a chair & blanket, stay all day and enjoy the entertainment from the hotbed of talent that is **Harbertonford**. Thank you to the Football Club for use of the pitch. Out of respect, no glass or dogs are permitted on site.

 **TOTNES & DISTRICT SHOW** We invite you to another fun-filled family day out at this year's show. It's on **Sun 26th 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. You can buy your tickets early online at a discount. There is a Park & Ride service, courtesy of Bob The Bus. <https://totnesshow.com/>

Save The Date!! Sat. 1st Aug. - our 54th H/ford Flower & Produce Show is almost upon us. Classes for everyone to enter: ●homegrown vegetables ●fruits ●flowers ●baking & preserves ●artwork or handicrafts. The schedules are in the village shop with extra Entry Forms if needed. Completed forms should be returned to the shop + entry fee before the show. Doors open: **2:30pm** with tea & cakes served until the prize giving at **4:30pm**. Please come everyone!!

Taunton Flower Show – the oldest flower show in the country, set in Vivary Park, Taunton. Dates: Fri. 7th & Sat. 8th Aug.

Wine Tasting – join us on **Fri. 14th Aug. (8pm)** for an evening led by a highly experienced local sommelier, formerly of The Dorchester and Alain Ducasse in London. Tickets: £25, inc. at least four 125ml wines & nibbles. A friendly, informative evening for all. To book, email: info@harbertonfordvillagehall.co.uk

Primary School Fundraising Night - tickets are now available for our adults-only fundraising event on **Sat. 26th Sep!** Join us at Harberton Parish Hall for an evening of live 80s music from The Riviera Dogs, dancing, fun, and community spirit. Free welcome drink included. Bar available. All proceeds will help improve the outdoor area and equipment at our school. Tickets are limited, so book yours soon! Tickets: <https://qvwhl.com/2YVPY> Bring your friends, family, and dancing shoes, and help us make a real difference for our children.

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).

Whist drive – the **fourth Monday** of each month (**7:30pm**).
At Halwell & Moreleigh Village Hall.

Minor Injuries Units in our area

1. Torbay Hospital (0300-456-8000) actually has a 24/7 minor injuries unit within its A&E, led by an emergency nurse. You won't necessarily be involved in the full fallout of Friday night Torbay A&E.

2. Newton Abbot Hospital (01626-324500) has an Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC)/ minor injuries unit, which accepts walk-ins, 8am - 8pm, seven days a week. It's roughly the same journey time from H/ford, is quieter and has easier parking.

3. Totnes Hospital (01803-862622) is open 8am - 5pm, seven days a week. It supports walk-ins, but appointments are prioritised (I was told I HAD to make an appointment).

As well as the above, don't forget you can phone the NHS 111 number for injury assessment and guidance to the best treatment centre for your situation, and there's always 999 in emergencies.

Thanks are due to Matt White of Harberton for this info.

Citizens Advice (CA) South Hams - around 14 complaints a day are made to the CA Consumer Service about package holidays inc. issues like unexpected hotel changes, denied refunds & poor customer service. One third of complaints related to substandard services, where the quality of the holiday fell short of what was agreed - like hotels being misdescribed, bad food or unavailable facilities. If you're still unhappy after complaining to your package holiday provider, you might be able to complain to a trade association like the Association of British Travel Agents, if your provider is a member. Call the Citizens Advice Consumer helpline on 0808-223-1133 if you need more support - a trained adviser can give you advice over the phone.



Local tech help, right on your doorstep - need help with your broadband, computer, or phone line? Tech-Nes is your local IT & telecoms service, based in Diptford. From home repairs to

business broadband, no job is too small. Give Ollie a call for friendly, honest help from someone who knows the area:
●01803-309007 ●www.tech-nes.com ●support@tech-nes.com

The Apricot Centre delivers a wide range of organic veg, fruit, home-reared meat & more to doors in H/ford and surrounds. Free weekly home delivery on Weds. Orders can be taken online (www.apricotcentre.co.uk) and assistance is available on 01803-762253 or email apricotcentrefarm@gmail.com

Harberton Cricket Club (HCC) 2026 - for children & adults

● To join our lottery (£5/month), please use the link below. Help HCC to grow & continue to provide cricket for all the community.

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

- We have an informal friendly women's/girls' softball cricket session one evening/wk. DM me if that's of interest.
- Adult cricket (friendlies): full schedule - matches most Weds. & Suns. Also, Sept. tour (Cotswolds). Contact me for more info: Jamie Fitzpatrick (07798-631876) or jamie_fitz@hotmail.com
www.harbertoncc.com

Harbertonford FC – the Sunday side are the Devon County Sunday Senior Cup champions!! They beat Queen & Con 2-0 in May's final. *Another* county title!! Two in two years!! The club's AGM is on **Mon. 29th Jun. (7:30pm)** @ the clubhouse.

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.

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

Pauline Overton/Jake Harmieson/John Mills/Gina Bovey
James Bailey/Phil Osgathorpe (June's draw not yet done)

Year planner 2026

18 Jul., Big Wide-Open Mic
14 Aug., Wine tasting

11 Jul., Allotments Open Day

1 Aug., Village Show

26 Sep., School Bop



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 Aug. newsletter is 20th July.