

The Gossip

H O R N T O N

ISSUE 126

AUGUST 2022



Villagers gather for the Jubilee photo

...in this bumper summer issue...

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Under New Management

This year's Progressive Dinner will be on Saturday 15th October 2022. A huge thank you to Anne Joyner who has organised this popular village event so well for many years now. She has now entrusted the organisation of the evening to me so here's hoping all goes well!

We have quite a few new people in the village, for anyone who has moved here recently this is a terrific way to get to know some of your neighbours. It's a relaxed and very informal evening that sees more and more participants of all ages each time. Don't worry if you're a singleton as you'll be made to feel just as welcome, and if you have any dietary needs or dislikes the Hosts will kindly accommodate them.

All of the money raised is used for the upkeep of the various village facilities, for instance Hornton Pavilion, children's playing ground, football field, Jumba Court, *The Gossip*, all of which are dependant upon volunteers and the various village fundraisers that are held throughout the year.

Here is how it works. Enclosed with your copy of *The Gossip* is a form. When you've made up your mind whether you'd prefer to be a Host or a Guest simply fill this in and post it in the Village Post Box, which is the wooden one attached to the Manor House's wall. Please don't post it in the normal postbox! If you mislay the form then just write your details on a piece of paper and post that instead. The deadline for the entries is Friday 30th September.

If you are a Host:

Your donation is to provide a three course meal with drinks for six people (including yourselves). Please don't feel daunted by this, the food can be as simple or as elaborate as you want and the venue can be anything from a carpet picnic to a formal dining room. After all, variety is the spice of life, and everyone joining in will have done so simply to enjoy the evening. The week before the dinner you'll get an envelope containing all the necessary timings, together with the instructions to give to your guests telling them where to go next. Your first guests of the evening will arrive at 7p.m. and will give you a bottle of wine. You may possibly dream up some extra way of adding to the total by charging your guests the entrance fee for a game or by holding a raffle. Finally you'll collect £30 a head from your pudding course guests.

If you are a Guest:

Your donation is the price of your dinner with drinks - £30 per head. You will make your way around the village to different houses all within walking distance of each other. You will enjoy a three-course dinner plus drinks at three different homes for £30 a head. You will receive a letter the week before telling you where to go for your starter and you'll need to get there promptly at 7p.m. and give your first hosts of the evening one bottle of wine. Later you'll be directed to another host's home for your main course and from there to a third for pudding; at the end of the evening you'll pay this final host. Bear in mind your Hosts may have dreamt up some other ways of extracting a few extra donations!

I do hope that you will join in; if you are unsure and have any questions just send me a message on Whatsapp 07736 449383 or by email to justina.marot@gmail.com. I do hope we see you on the night!

Ni Marot

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On Thursday the 21st of July, your editor was able to meet and quiz our recently-appointed school head, Wendy Whitehouse, on her thoughts on her first six months in post and her plans for the future.

My first and overriding impression was of someone positive and approachable, with a refreshing humility and a steely determination to do the very best for the children in her charge. Wendy explained, “ ‘Grit and Gumption’ are the qualities I believe in imparting to the pupils, to enable them to cope with the problems and opportunities as they go through life...” She explained further, “ I believe we need to open childrens’ eyes to the world around them, to instil pride in their surroundings and everything they do.”

I then asked her where she was from, and what she thought of Hornton after six months in charge. It transpired that though Wendy was born in Richmond on Thames, her family moved to Stratford-Upon-Avon and she attended school there and in Kineton. In fact she has spent much of her life in Banburyshire, starting her teaching career in Bloxham, where, twenty-four years ago, she had a few days placement in Hornton. “I thought then, I want to come back here and run this school one day, I really did!” There then followed a twelve-month stint teaching in London, which made her appreciate how valuable small village schools are and how it is important to personalise the teaching process, “Great teachers care about what they teach and want to teach it... they have a passion about teaching, are always looking at ways to improve...” Wendy then moved back to the district, working at both Bishop Loveday School and Kings Sutton School finally taking on the Headship of Farthinghoe School, before and after the birth of her twins.

How does she rate Hornton? “I love it! I only live in Shutford, and the drive to work is beautiful. The welcome I’ve received from the community has been fantastic... so welcoming.”

I then asked of her impressions of the school itself. “Hornton School is a very good school I was really lucky the opportunity arose within the Warriner Trust, I soon came to realise it was a school with caring and imaginative staff & governors...it’s clear that Karen and Matt (the previous heads) really worked hard, enabling children to get the best of both worlds – tradition mixed with 21st Century teaching...”

So what improvements does she foresee in the near future? “ Improving the use and understanding of technology is paramount for today’s children so next term we’ll be getting two sets of laptops as well as investing in more quality books for the library, funded by kind donations from the Webber Trust and the Fox charity...”

She gestured towards the sash windows, “..and we’re getting new windows too, but I can’t claim any credit for that, it was already in progress when I arrived.”

Finally I asked Wendy about the number of children in the school and the proportion resident in the village. There are 82 children in the main part of the school plus another 20 in Peach Tree (the pre-school component) from 70 families of which 10 families are from Hornton. “We currently have a waiting list for Peach Tree, and I have had to add two families to it as their year was already over-subscribed... we have pupils from several miles away and although there’s several good schools nearby, we are pleased they chose to join us...”

Wendy is committed to our school and village life and I have the impression she has hit the ground running. A positive asset in these negative times, all the best for the future, Wendy!

Interview by Roger Bellamy, Editor



Eileen Lewis

I recently spoke to Eileen about her life in our village. Still living in the house she was born in before the Second World War, Eileen is now the oldest born-and-bred woman in Hornton.

Over the years she has seen many changes in the village, some of the earliest memories are the arrival of evacuees from London in 1939, and the following year listening to the fluctuating drone of the enemy bombers on their way to Blitz Coventry and Birmingham.

Growing up in Hornton then was in many ways different to Hornton today, not least the absence of mains water, electricity and sewerage. Lighting was by oil lamp, and in its glow her mother would knit and crochet of a winter's evening, in front of the open fire. Water would be drawn from a source on the Wroxton brook fed into a big tank above Langdale. "It really tasted good too!" she remembered.

As a child, like other Hornton nippers she would roam right across the district with the others, beyond Ratley to Warmington and over 'The Piece' to Horley, only coming back in time for tea! When older there was a Youth Club in the chapel, and older still there was Sumner's bus to Banbury.

When she married she moved to one of three cottages where Trinity Cottage now stands, returning to Bankside on the death of her father, who had worked on the 'O.I.' (Oxfordshire Ironstone) quarries as first a face shovel driver and then a dragline operator.

Eileen has seen many, subtle changes in Hornton during her lifetime, from the arrival of electricity in 1948-9 to the demolition of old houses and the building of new, the other side of Millers Lane to her house once being old orchards of plum and apple, a beautiful sight in springtime.

She remembered well the old windmill at the top of the Holloway, and the cottages alongside (where, incidentally Councillor Burden of this parish was born) and the dismay felt when they were demolished, "A crying shame".

"In many ways," she added, "...Hornton is more cut off today than it was forty years ago, oh we used to complain about the old buses and when I went to school in Banbury, nearly every day the Stratford Blue would break down on Hanwell Hill and we had to walk up the hill while the bus followed along behind, as best it could... but today the nearest bus route is at Upton House... if you can't drive it's taxis, friends or a relative..."

Yes, today we take water on tap and sewerage removed with a flush for granted but the gain of some conveniences can be balanced by the loss of others. Sometimes you take things for granted till they're gone. A sobering thought.

Interview by Roger Bellamy, Editor

'Heritage'

Paint Colours

Living as we do in a Conservation Area, we are subject to fairly strict colours we can paint our buildings, at least those that can be viewed by other people. We are encouraged to stick to a narrow range of colours and shades in order to be 'sympathetic' to the look of our ancient area. Woe betide the garage owner who chooses to paint his garage green if the neighbours are brown, it's all about preserving that rural 'look'.

That rural 'look' was epitomised thirty years ago with 'Cotswold Green', a rather drab washed-out sage colour, with at best an eggshell finish. This was generally deemed the appropriate colour for the Cotswolds and surrounding districts, sometimes with dark brown or white too. Then there was a short-lived craze (around 2010) for grey before the current 'Cotswold Cream' (of varying shades) became more popular.

Recently I have been refurbishing a large, 120-year old window rescued from a skip in Chipping Norton. Whilst the exterior had been regularly blow-torched back to the bare wood prior to 1970, the interior had paint up to 3mm thick, gradually accumulating since construction in about 1900. This proved to be an excellent record of the differing shades applied over the window's life.

The window had been previously repainted in 2001, in a modern white colour on the inside, with a mid-brown on the exterior. Prior to this, there were three or four coats of cream, probably applied at up to ten-year intervals (remember, this was the inside), taking the colours back to the period 1960-70. Then comes a couple of coats of bright chrome green, of the shade familiar to us elderly people who remember life before the seventies. This would undoubtedly have been applied on the outside too but subsequently burnt off during more regular repaintings. This would likely take that scheme back to the early nineteen-fifties, where buildings were at last being given the maintenance denied for at least a decade as wartime shortages of paint and painters were carried over into the post-war 'austerity' years.

The next two layers were dark brown, and before that, slate grey. The slate grey may have been an undercoat over the previous colour, or like the dark brown a colour used because it was the only one available during the nineteen-forties. Colour photographs of that time show drab paint schemes designed as much to hide the smoky dirt or being tough and long-lasting.

Finally we come to the base coats of five or six cream colours known since Victorian times as 'Light Stone'. Beloved especially by railway companies for their properties, their ability to withstand fading before the (relatively) colour-fast paints of the 1920's onwards, meant that windows in particular were painted in shades that varied from an off-white to a pale beige. Old black-and-white photos of towns and villages show a lot of pale woodwork, the better to stand out in dusty and smoky



environments. So, for probably the first forty years of its existence, over the original primer and undercoats this window was the pale cream colour seen on the above photo (shown with the original topcoat uppermost.)

So where did 'Cotswold Green' come from then? Well, after the formation of the Town & Country Planning Act of 1948, a whole army of planners and enthusiasts set out to document the 'authentic' colours of rural Britain in general, and especially the Cotswolds, deemed the heart of rural English tradition. Well, remember that Chrome Green that dominated buildings from the 1920's (very chic and modern then) to the 1960's? If that isn't repainted due to War and Austerity, by the late 1940's it would have faded to.....'Cotswold Green'!

OK, so it's one window from one building in one street in one town, but I wouldn't mind betting it's typical of many a rural building during the 20th Century. The editor would welcome any comment on this subject, particularly from the older residents.

Roger Bellamy, Editor

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Hornton Parish Council are looking for a new Parish Councillor to replace Steve Yates, our doughty publican, who is stepping down from the position. Steve planned and organised the very successful Platinum Jubilee Steet Party that fittingly concluded the four days of events to mark Her Majesty's seventy years as our monarch.

Steve not only sourced, transported and organised the erection of the many tables and chairs, but also was there on the day co-ordinating the collection of donated gazebos into a coherent whole on the Sunday morning. Notwithstanding a damp and breezy start, he carried out the agreed plan with tact and efficiency, as deputed by the Parish Council. The Parish Council would like to thank Steve Yates for the time and effort he applied to make the day such a resounding success.

Anyone interested in applying for the responsibility of Parish Councillor, and would like to find out more about this role, should contact the Clerk, Fiona Donaldson at clerk@hornton-pc.org.uk or on 01295 670505. You will not be under any obligation and you are welcome to attend the next meeting at The Pavilion on Monday, 12th September at 7.30 P.M. This will give any applicant a flavour of the role before making any commitment.

Hornton Parish Council also welcomes general attendance of meetings for villagers to see the whole breadth of duties and responsibilities undertaken by the Parish Council.

Hornton celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

1952 - 2022



Jubilee Weekend Fun!

Our Queen's Jubilee weekend was celebrated by Hornton on the 2nd to the 5th of June in some style!

Starting the festivities many had raised flags, bunting and displays and these were inspected on the Thursday Bank Holiday afternoon to find the Best Display – which went to Lucy Burke and David Bartlett for their tableau of a very regal Queen complete with attendant papier-mache corgis. See Lucy's commentary on the following page.

Once the inspection had taken place and with Hornton gaily decked in red, white and blue, that evening's Burger Barbecue in the Dun Cow ended with the draw for the raffle prizes of a patchwork union quilt by Cath Bellamy, a knitted Queen by Isabelle Harris, together with a crocheted Corgi by Sarah Walther, and a third prize bottle of bubbly.

The village then ascended the heights of Millers Lane to Graham and Jan Hall's donkey field alongside the allotments. There a truly massive bonfire had been constructed by Graham and others, and as night fell our beacon blazed away as nearly a hundred villagers, family and friends watched other beacons winking on the distant horizons.

Friday brought with it lunchtime Games On The Green for both children and adults, hosted by Pete Lemon and Calum. Finishing just as the rain began (hard to believe as I write this how cold and damp early June was), the fun continued in late afternoon with "Karoake, Kocktails and Kanapes" on offer in the Tepee, where Steve (and Molly) valiantly wrestled with a naughty Karaoke machine to ensure that the village songsters

could chirp and bellow well-known and less-well known hits to see the second Bank Holiday out.

Saturday began with the prelude to the main events, with the Kids Tea Party in the afternoon and the Jubilee Ball starting in the early evening at a special marquee set up alongside the Pavilion.

Though the weather was becoming distinctly colder (it was, after all, summer), the doughty ball-goers let nothing get in their way of both enjoying the evening and raising funds for both the village and the Alzheimer's Society, both facets described below. Well done you Ballers!

Finally the Sunday arrived and with it the final act, the Jubilee Street Party. Rain overnight and into the morning didn't stop publican Steve Yates from slickly organising the acquisition, transport and erection of chairs and table loaned from RAF Brize Norton, or the willing band of helpers from setting everything up on the specially-closed West End roadway on a damp and windy morning. Well done Steve! Well done, village munchkins! (A mention here must be made of Justin, who drove to Leicester to retrieve a mislaid large gazebo roof!).

Well, it was a grand Jubilee street party as the pictures show. It filled West End and tables vied for original and colourful table decoration. A great day enjoyed by all.

Thursday... Hornton's beacon



Friday... decorations, games on the Green, and Dun Cow karaoke!



"We enjoyed seeing other people's' decorated house displays and thought the village had made a wonderful effort in making Hornton look patriotic and joyful.

We especially enjoyed seeing the other creative displays including Liz Jeff's guard, Sarah Walther's crocheted crown and waving queen, Isabel Harris's knitted queen and crowns, and Jane Wain's queen.

We used various elements in our display which included bunting, balloons, hanging baskets and pots with red, white and purple plants, a homemade flag, four pieces of my jubilee art were displayed, I assembled the queen and Dave made two corgis. They seem popular in the village now, especially when we took them to the street party for an outing!

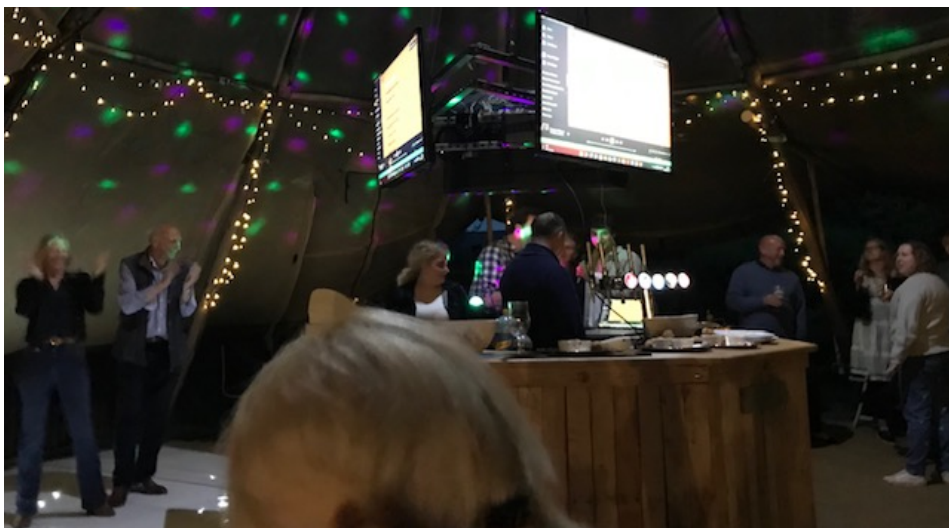
We were thrilled to have won the competition, I leapt up and down with jubilee joy when I found out we'd won, and we won a fantastic hamper of goodies."

Lucy Burke

Photographs top left and below courtesy of Rosy Burke



Rafferty & Fred in the first of their dead heats!



Saturday... *Hornton has a ball!*



Photograph courtesy of Anne Joyner

Hornton villagers and their friends and families who celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at the Pavilion on Saturday June 4 had a ball!

By all accounts, the event was an outstanding success. "I enjoyed it enormously; it was so well organised and the Pavilion and marquee looked beautiful," said Glenis Griffiths. "There was also a strong sense of the community coming together to celebrate a really special event."

Kevin Wain added: "The food was delicious, both the reception canapes and the three- course dinner. Vegetarians loved the beetroot Wellington."

Throughout the evening Chris McGeever, a member of the Magic Circle and a barrister, amazed the guests with his mind-blowing magic tricks, while the Emma Skipp Duo provided musical entertainment. At 11.00pm Dave Morris, landlord of the Red Lion in Horley, got the disco going.

Hornton's Neil Madden expertly conducted the auction, the proceeds of which have been shared by village causes and Alzheimer's Society.

Thanks for a wonderful ball must go to the organising committee of Anne Joyner, Alice Protheroe, Fiona Bridgland, Ni Marot and Sophie Heathcote who worked so hard to make this Platinum Jubilee event a memorable one.

Lorna Abbott



Photograph courtesy of Anne Joyner

and Sunday... *the street party!*



What's on in Hornton...

Sunday Church Services

United Service on first & third Sundays – Chapel, 11am

Second & fourth Sundays – Church, 11am

Every Monday

Pilates - Pavilion, 5pm

Tuesday evenings - from September

Keep Fit - Pavilion, 6.30pm, contact Alex Birch on 07740 438162 for details.

Every Wednesday

Cribbage – Dun Cow, 7.30pm

Every Thursday

Yoga – Chapel, contact Jo Bell, jogalovesyoga@gmail.com, for details

Every Friday

Coffee Morning – Chapel, 10.30am

Once a Month

Chapel Lunch - Chapel, 1.00pm on the first Monday of the month. Come and enjoy a two-course meal for just £7. If you would like to come, please call Julie Stanley on 670507, or e-mail julieharrystan@aol.com.

3H's Gardening Club - Pavilion, 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month

Women's Institute - Chapel, 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month

History Club - Dun Cow, 7.00pm on the second Thursday of the month

The Three H's Village Show

Saturday August 20th sees the return of the combined Hornton, Horley & Hanwell Village Show at the Pavilion, Hornton.

Even if you haven't entered your produce, it's still an interesting afternoon's visit to see the locally-produced flowers, fruit and vegetables on show, not to mention the tasty baking section! General admittance usually takes place after judging at 2.00pm. Contact Isabelle (details below) for exact timings.

The 3H's Gardening Club is well worth joining, not only having interesting talks and visits (the recent visit to the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley was exceptional) but the £10 annual membership fee also entitles the member to a 10% discount card at the Farnborough Garden Centre just a few miles away.

Finally, joining the 3H's Club allows participants to swap ideas and good tips, especially useful in times of increasing prices and decreasing rainfall. Why not join today?

For further information, please contact Malcolm Cross on 01295 670562 or Isabelle Harris on 01295 670304.

... NEWS RELEASE...

A weekend spectacular

A walk through two thousand years of local history through the eyes of children

Hornton History Group is putting on an exciting event on the weekend of September 10th and 11th at the Hornton Pavilion. It's been 18 months in the making. It is called : " A Child Through Time".

Through impressive colourful storyboards, interactive displays and activities, the group will be talking about the lives of children in Hornton from Roman times, through the Norman Conquest, the 100 Years War, the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, right up to what it was like to live in the village during the Second World War.

Compiled by Laurie Stewart-Furneaux and Lorna Abbott, with the support of Hornton History Group members, they have amassed a huge amount of information to make this a very special event – equal to the memorable World War I event that the group put on 8 years ago.

Children from our village school have been filmed giving their impressions of their lives and historical events through the ages. In addition, there is a chance for children to dress up like an Anglo-Saxon, view a model Roman villa, engage in different senses, make their own Bayeux Tapestry scenes, learn about calligraphy with a quill pen like a medieval monk, try their hand at archery, hear some old English and take part in games from different periods.

The storyboards and displays are all about Hornton, as well as being locally relevant. The event will attract people of all ages and give families the chance to learn about life at key periods of the past two thousand years.

The exhibition is open from 10am to 6pm on both days. There will be a BBQ over the lunchtime period and refreshments. Entry is free.

For further information please contact: Laurie Stewart-Furneaux lauriefurneaux@gmail.com / 01295 670896 or Lorna Abbott abbott@hornton.mvzen.co.uk / 01295 678015

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EDGEHILL 380

Part I



No, not a telephone number from the 1950's but the years since the first battle of the Civil Wars in 1642. These conflicts, the most deadly ever to afflict these isles, came about from a King, Charles the First, who believed he had a God-given right to rule as he pleased, and a Parliament determined to stop him.

Having raised his flag at Leicester against his own subjects, the King and his army were moving south in October 1642 unaware that Parliament's army was converging from the west, the outliers of both forces meeting at Wormleighton on the evening of the 21st October. Prince Rupert, the King's nephew and cavalry commander moved quickly to occupy the Edgehill ridge, possibly cutting off certain Parliamentary cavalry units in the villages to their south, including Hornton. Certainly some units were unaccountably delayed in reaching the ensuing battle, including Oliver Cromwell and his troop. More on this in Part Two.

The next morning The Earl of Essex deployed his available troops on the heath below the ridge, cavalry, infantry (musketeers and pikemen) and artillery, awaiting the King's response. With much fanfare and show, the King duly obliged and his commanders moved his troops to the foot of the slope, facing Essex's army. For the overwhelming majority of troops of both sides, this was their first experience of war, this island last seeing battle well over a hundred years previously. We can only imagine the apprehension, mixed with belief in their cause, that these largely untried, if not untrained soldiers felt.

At first it looked like a walkover for the King as Prince Rupert and his cavalry charged and overwhelmed much of the

opposing cavalry and chased them back to Parliament's base in Kington. Had they then returned to rout the rest of Essex's army, the battle and the war, would have been over. But they didn't, preferring to loot anything of value they could lay their hands on, whilst Essex regrouped and counter-attacked.

By the time Prince Rupert returned, the Royalist infantry had been pushed back to the foot of the ridge, and reinforcements, including the delayed arrivals, were protecting Parliament's flanks. However, the early autumn dusk brought an end to the struggle and the exhausted combatants attempted to find food and rest through a frosty October night.

Whilst Essex had probably won a tactical victory, he doubted whether his raw army could take another battle and so retreated to Warwick, whilst the King went on a leisurely march through Oxfordshire,

capturing Broughton and Banbury castles, Oxford and the Thames Valley towns, giving time for his opponents to reach and bar the way to London, thus ensuring the war would continue for several years to come.

The Battle of Edgehill Re-enactment, Fosse Way Lighthorne Road, Moreton Morrell, CV35 9BX

Sunday August 28th – Monday 29th.

The Sealed Knot, the famous Civil War re-enactment group, will be in residence close to the battlefield on the Bank Holiday weekend, including a camp where visitors can see the participants living in 17th Century style. During the afternoons, expect a clash of arms both noisy and dramatic. (**Please Note**, dogs and young children may be disturbed by the gunfire from both cannon and muskets).

For more information please contact: info@thesealedknot.org.uk



Your Letters...

I'm emailing to let you know that we have had an extremely stressful, unpleasant experience and want to warn other villagers against it. A man with black hair, called Wayne who was driving an old burgundy Ford Focus had been going round the village distributing leaflets which said on it the company name of consolidated driveways and patios. He came to our door on two occasions with a leaflet saying they are doing work in the area and can do our drive for a discounted price. He made out it would be a bonded surface. They tipped a lot of gravel on our drive which was not bonded and not what we expected. It was not fit for purpose as it caused our vehicles to wheelspin, skid and we physically couldn't get our vehicles on our drive. We met with the man afterwards, who arranged for the top layer of gravel to be removed but it is still not been made good with a suitable surface. We have heard stories from other villagers who have had their drives done to an unsatisfactory standard, he even boasted how many drives he had done in the village which gave false confidence that they were reputable. We should have checked credentials of his claims but you are rushed into decision and they carry out the work the next day.'

Lucy Burke & David Bartlett

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Called to Account

The Platinum Jubilee Ball Accounts are now finalised and with Graham Hall for auditing. After paying all of the invoices, re-paying all of the personal loans including the ring-fenced 'loan' of the balance from the last progressive dinner and 'Act Naturally', the event made a profit of £140.84. Four people were unable to attend due to ill health and missed the refund deadline; two of those tickets were re-sold and refunded, and we decided to use this profit as a partial refund for the other pair. This narrow margin illustrates perfectly why the tickets were the price they were!

Despite many random obstacles we encountered along the way we were able to complete the project thanks to a remarkable team effort. Sophie proved to be the best quartermaster, magic-ing everything from a dried flower to a generator; Ni a fierce and determined financial officer with a firm, nay, steely, hand on the till; Alice running the catering and equipment supply chain as if it were a five star Hotel; and Fiona providing artistic inspiration. This left me with nothing but the bit I like best, the spider at the centre of the web pulling all the strings together and generally being bossy. We were delighted to see so many people having a wonderful evening and all our hard work coming to fruition.

The Auction and the raffle together raised a total of £5,385. Hornton has therefore made a generous donation of £2,500 to the Alzheimer's Society and I will post their receipt on the notice board when I receive it. The Village share of this amount is £2,885. The table game raised £525; the ring fenced residual totalled £1,055.50. We therefore ended up with a total of £4,465 to distribute to village funds thus:

Our thanks to the Parish Council for their donation of £1,000 which we are delighted to be able to repay.

Our thanks to the Pavilion Committee for waiving the usual hiring fee and we are pleased to return £1,055 from previous events made up to £1,500.

We look forward to the Hornton History Group's very ambitious 'Hornton Child through history' project this Autumn and are happy to support this with £500.50 towards expenses incurred.

We are delighted to give £1,000 to Hornton Chapel and Julie Stanley's team towards the many practical ways in which they support our community.

We are holding the remaining £465 over to fund a special event in conjunction with the School which we anticipate happening later this year.

As I outlined previously the intention was to leave the Hornton Community Support Account open after the Ball to act as a 'Petty Cash' fund for the village. Some of the feedback that I received however has caused me to think that I misjudged the level of support for this idea. After Graham has completed his Audit we will therefore be closing the Account; any village resident who wishes to view the final account will be able to do so upon request.

Anne Joyner

Tim Hewlett
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Hornton History Group presents

A Child Through Time



Take a walk through childhood locally, from the arrival of the Romans up to the present day.

A fascinating, informative and interactive event exploring some 2000 years of childhood. Find out what it was like to be a child in Hornton as the Civil War raged, or try your hand at the games medieval children would have played.

With loads of things to see and try it is a family weekend not to be missed!

- Risk a sniff of a Roman sauce
- Dress like a Saxon
- Let an archer's arrow fly
- Write like a medieval monk
- Let Old English bend your ear
- Learn about being evacuated

Hornton Pavilion. Saturday & Sunday 10 & 11 September 10am-6pm
BBQ 12pm-2pm. Refreshments. Entry free.

Lost Buildings of Hornton - No 1

West End Farm



Photograph courtesy of Ian Harris

Farm House in West End

The photograph above was taken in Bell Street, probably in the 1930's. If you look down West End you can see a large farm house which was on the existing site of the playground opposite the Dun Cow. If you look at the wall opposite the pub there is some, but very little, evidence of the previous structure.

Maybe someone knows why and when the house was demolished?

The Dun Cow

The Dun Cow was not always a pub. Prior to about 1850 it was a butchers. Around that time there were six licenced premises in Hornton plus a number of unlicensed 'beer houses' mostly catering for the men working in the quarries. The original Dun Cow bar was smaller than the current one as there was a partition with a passage from the front door leading to a small entrance

evidence of which can still be seen by the wear on the stone floor presumably caused by the hob nails in the boots of the customers. Beer was served through a small window situated at the right end of the existing bar which was opened up in the early 1980's.

by Ian Harris

Editor's note: The nearby Oxfordshire Ironstone Company had bought land and property in Hornton parish soon after they commenced operations in 1919, increasing their holdings from time to time, most notably in the acquisition of the Home Farm estate of 118 acres in October 1945. It may be that 'West End Farm' was part of this and subsequently demolished, as the land on which it stood was gifted to Hornton for a playground, opened on 2nd June 1953.



Left: View taken looking west outside the Dun Cow, showing artist's (well the editor's!) impression how the farmhouse would have looked.

Peach Recipes

Peaches are in season now with more types available than ever - yellow or white, doughnut or old school - and who wants to be doing lots of cooking in the kitchen in the summer weather. So here are a couple of easy peach starter or salad recipes - both serve four. A bit more unusual than using peaches as a dessert.

Prosciutto-wrapped peaches

A lovely, easy and refreshing starter:

INGREDIENTS

- 1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped
- 8 tbsp olive oil
- 3 peaches, each cut into 4 wedges
- 12 slices prosciutto
- 2 balls mozzarella, torn into 12 chunks
- handful of rocket leaves

METHOD

Mix the chilli with the olive oil and set aside. Take a peach wedge and a mozzarella chunk, and wrap a slice of prosciutto around the two.

Place three peach parcels on each plate, scatter with a few rocket leaves and drizzle everything with the chilli oil just before serving.



Tomato, thyme and peach salad

If you don't like anchovies, swap for capers or pitted olives. Use any shape, size and colour of tomatoes you like, as long as they're ripe. Storing them on the kitchen counter rather than in the fridge will help ripen them.

INGREDIENTS

- ½ red onion, very finely sliced
- 2 tbsp apple-cider vinegar, red-wine vinegar or lemon juice
- 400g ripe tomatoes, halved or sliced depending on size
- 2 small, ripe flat white peaches (about 120g), each one destoned and sliced into 8
- Small pinch of chilli flakes (optional)
- Handful of shaved Parmesan, pecorino or British hard cheese (optional)

For the anchovy-garlic oil:

- 2 tinned/jarred anchovies, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1 tsp fresh thyme leaves (from about 2 sprigs), oregano or rosemary
- 6 tbsp olive oil or butter

METHOD

Sit the sliced onion in a little bowl with the vinegar and a pinch of sea salt, stir to coat and set aside while you get on with everything else. This will mellow the onion strength a little.

In a small frying pan, gently fry the chopped anchovies, garlic, thyme or other herb and olive oil or butter for about five minutes, to warm through and for the garlic to soften.

Meanwhile, arrange the tomatoes and peaches on a serving platter and sprinkle over a little sea salt and pepper.

Scatter the onion and vinegar over the platter, then the chilli flakes and cheese, if using, then spoon over the anchovy oil.

Enjoy! Lynn Corke

Useful Times

The Dun Cow

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	6pm – 9pm <i>Beverages only - no food</i>
Wednesday	6pm – 11pm <i>Food available until 9pm</i>
Thursday	6pm – 11pm <i>Food available until 9pm</i>
Friday	5pm – 11pm <i>Food available until 9pm</i>
Saturday	12pm – 11pm <i>Food available 12 - 3pm and 6 - 9pm</i>
Sunday	12pm – 9pm <i>Food available until 3pm</i>
<i>Special events may have altered timings.</i>	

Alkerton Tip

Monday	8am – 5pm
Tuesday	8am – 5pm
Wednesday	8am – 5pm
Thursday	8am – 5pm
Friday	8am – 5pm
Saturday	8am – 5pm
Sunday	8am – 5pm

Bank Holidays – normal opening hours except for Christmas and New Year.

Please note, there is a small charge for non-household waste (DIY).

The Gossip

The copy deadline for the next issue of *The Gossip* is Friday 21 October 2022.

To advertise in the next issue, or submit your ideas and articles, please e-mail the Editor: rogermbellamy@btinternet.com.

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