

VILLAGE NEWS

COVERING

NORTH PERROTT

AND

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT

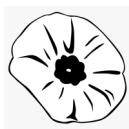
OCTOBER 2025



See page 33—Hoskyns Memorial Hall



Community Orchard Apple Harvest—see page 7



See page 6—Poppy Trail in Haselbury Plucknett

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Editorial

I hope everyone had a lovely Summer.

I also hope you are continuing to enjoy the Village News. We have a new advert this month, so, it may be worth looking at page 24.

We have a number of events and activities happening around the two Villages, from Harvest Festivals to harvesting apples in the Community Orchard. Craft Fair in Hoskyns Memorial Hall and a Light Party at the Bible Christian Centre. All details can be found inside.

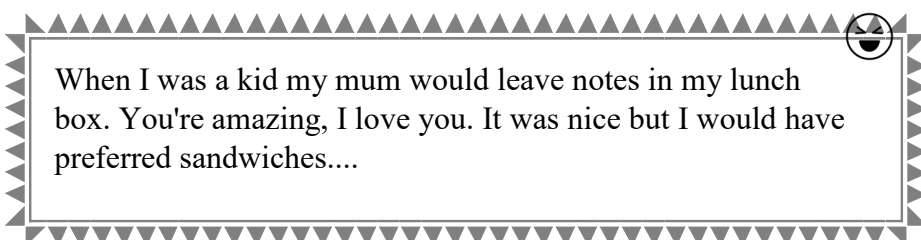
The answers to the crossword in the August / September edition are:

Across: 4) Cello; 7) Moldova; 8) Thistle; 9) Catseye; 11) Tilapia
13) Domingo; 14) Tinfoil; 15) Nerve. Down: 1) Sofa; 2) Tolerance; 3) Tate;
4) Childline; 5) Let Rip; 6) Omerta; 9) Cordon; 10) Tremor; 11) Toto;
12) Ibis

This months crossword can be found on page 30. If anyone would like to have a go at writing a crossword for this publication, please do so and forward your creation to me at vneditor2@gmail.com.

Thank you to the new volunteers that have come forward to help with the distribution of this publication. Your contribution is more than welcome. If anyone else wishes to offer their help, then please email me at vneditor2@gmail.com. We will always need more wonderful people to cover holidays and sickness, so the Village News continues to be delivered free to everyone.

Ian Stewart



When I was a kid my mum would leave notes in my lunch box. You're amazing, I love you. It was nice but I would have preferred sandwiches....

Haselbury Plucknett Women's Institute

Registered Charity no 227699

Your local WI

We had a very interesting talk last month by Mandy Veale from the charity Medical Detection dogs who are at the forefront of research, training dogs to detect all manner of diseases and illnesses by odour of breath, urine and sweat. They also use the dogs amazing smelling ability to train Medical Alert Dogs to help people with complex medical needs to predict an imminent attack or episode such as Epilepsy enable the person to get to a safe space or position.

Our next speaker on Wednesday October 1st couldn't be more different! We are having an Origami talk and workshop so if you fancy trying your folding techniques, please do come along. We will be meeting at 7.30 PM at the church.

You don't have to live in Haselbury to join and if you are new to the area (Haselbury, North Perrott and beyond) being a member of Haselbury Plucknett WI gives you an opportunity to enjoy yourself and make new friends. Our W.I has a page on the North Perrott Village Hall website (www.NPVH.co.uk) where you can see our current programme of events for the rest of this year and a gallery showing what our ladies get up to.

Contact Lesley Idle 07732 030279 or Gill Wood 01460 271134 with any queries.

Haselbury Plucknett W.I meet on the first Wednesday of each month in the church of St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury at 7.30pm.

Please note that for the winter, when the clocks go back we will be switching to afternoon meetings from 2.30 to 4.30 so please note in your diaries that from our November 5th meeting to the March 2026 meeting it will be afternoons only.

Haselbury Plucknett Primary School

We've had a wonderfully positive start to the new school year at Haselbury! It's been a joy to welcome back our pupils, who have returned full of energy and enthusiasm. It's clear to see how much they've grown over the summer, and they are ready to embrace the next steps in their learning journey.

A very special welcome goes out to our new Reception children and their families. We're delighted to have you join our school community and look forward to supporting your children as they begin their educational adventure with us.

We're also thrilled to share the fantastic fundraising success of the Friends of Haselbury Plucknett School, who raised an impressive £3,114 last year. These funds help subsidise our amazing school trips, making enriching experiences more accessible for all our pupils. This year, we're also focusing on updating our iPad stock, which is a vital part of our Computing curriculum and supports learning across the school day. The total cost for this upgrade is around £9,000.

To help with this, we encouraged children to raise money over the summer by helping out with jobs at home and in their communities. Thanks to their efforts—and the generous support of friends and family—we raised a brilliant £1,123. A huge thank you to everyone who got involved!

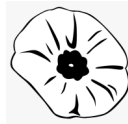
Looking ahead, the children will be taking part in a Sponsored Cycle Challenge on 1st October, where they'll work together to keep a bike moving continuously throughout the morning. It promises to be a fun and active event, and we're excited to see their teamwork and determination in action.

Thank you for your continued support of Haselbury Plucknett School. We're looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Lois Bowery
Executive Headteacher

Haselbury Plucknett Poppy Trail for Remembrance

We will be installing this years Poppy Trail on Saturday 25th October 2025, the start of this years Poppy Appeal.



If you would like to help us, please meet at the Green at the junction of Claycastle and North Street at 11:00. All you need to bring is something to cut the ends off the cable ties, and please wear Hi-Viz clothing as you will be roadside. Everything else you need will be provided.

The trail goes from Puddletown, down Swan Hill to North Street; and from Globe Orchard back to the same junction. We have ordered 10 additional poppies this year, which the Parish Council have kindly agreed to fund.

Ian Stewart

Gin Fest wooed by WOO WOO

The annual North Perrott charity Gin Fest was held once again at the Manor Arms on Sunday 24th August. On a warm sunny afternoon, a barbecue was accompanied by live music from, talented duo Derek and Pete, and performances from other local singers.



The Gin Tent offered, a wide range of cocktails, flavoured gins, Pimm's and Sangria, but it was the long, iced, Woo Woo cocktail that proved to be the most popular drink in the heat. Its popularity may also have contributed to the eagerness of volunteers, who attempted Morris dancing for the first time, with awesome results.

A fundraising raffle added to the food and drink, to raise over £1100 for the Dementia Unit at Yeovil Hospital and Prostate Cancer UK. This is the 5th Year that the event, sponsored by Barclays Bank, has raised over £1,000 for local charities.

Ironically, the Woo Woo is a vodka-based cocktail at a Gin Fest, presented by the Manor Arms Gin Club, but by the end of a fantastic, fun-filled afternoon, no one seemed to mind!

Martin Oliver

St Michael's Community Orchard - October events

It's a busy month for orchard events - so please come along and support the community orchard. Dates are below:

Saturday 4th October, 10:30-12:30: harvesting cider apples in the orchard. Bring gloves and something to kneel on. We will stop for cake and coffee - children are very welcome to join in this fun activity!

Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th October, 2:30-4:30: cider making and cake and tea at Swan House at the top of Swan Hill. Come along and see a demonstration of traditional cider making or just sit and have a cup of tea and piece of cake in the garden. There will be an apple juice press if you want to try juicing your own apples and a display of cider apples.

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th: we will be taking a display of cider apples to Apple Day at North Perrott Fruit Farm and samples of community orchard cider will be available in the afternoon.

All proceed from the community orchard go to Haselbury Church - and we will be donating £800 at the end of September from events over the past year

Matthew Bryant (bryant.haselbury@gmail.com)

Welcome to Haselbury Plucknett

For many years St Michael and All Angels Church have produced a Welcome Booklet for new Residents in Haselbury Plucknett. If you have recently moved into the village or know of anyone who has and would like a copy, please contact Margaret Rendall, [51 New Close, 01460 73949].

Harvest Festival Services in the Villages, - note the times and the dates!

After a long, hot, summer that has been very challenging for farmers, we hope that the crops are now 'all safely gathered in' and we look forward to celebrating Harvest Festival in the Village Churches during October.

At St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury Plucknett, the Harvest Service is on Sunday 5th October, and will be followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch, but please note the time of the service which will begin at 11.30am in order that we will finish at a more suitable time for lunch.

In North Perrott the Harvest Festival Service at St Martins is also at a different time to the normal North Perrott services and takes place at 10.30am on Sunday 26th October which is a 'fourth' Sunday rather than the usual third Sunday slot so a double change for the North Perrott congregation!

Do come and join us at either (or both!) services if you can.

The timetable for all the Village Church services is on the 'Village Services' page (28) of the magazine and on the noticeboards.

The Churchwardens

New Arrivals - North Perrott

If you are a new resident in North Perrott you might like a copy of the Parish Council's Village Welcome Pack.

Let us know by emailing: northperrottville@gmail.com or ring/text Helena Sturridge on 07802 964949

I have a pet tree, it's a lot like having a pet dog,
but the bark is much quieter



Haselbury Plucknett – Chairs Chat – September

Hello all...

So... summer came to a very wet end, but the garden so needed the rain.... But it seems we are going to have an Indian Summer with the last two weeks of September bathed in sunshine.

The Parish Council did not meet in August, so it was good to meet up again this month. The fence in the park with the dog bin needs to be replaced – it has just rotted away. Speaking of the dog bin, once again sadly the most common complaints we get are about the dog owners who do not clear up after their dog, and some people think they can bag it and just leave it.

These practices are not acceptable – if your dog messes – please clear up after it.

The traffic in August was a nightmare for us all, sadly, it does not seem to stop planning applications for even more houses. We did ask for signage to try and stop HGV's travelling along Puddletown and Swan Hill, but none materialised. We have asked Somerset County that for all further diversions that use Puddletown and Swan hill, appropriate signage is mandated.

We are really pleased with the new ranger service – the footpaths gates are being cut regularly now.

Looking forward to the Autumn walks with the morning mist and Autumn colours.

Thanks

Hugh

Who's the best snooker player at Hogwarts?
Harry Potter!



North Perrott Village Hall – Chairman's Report

After many years Lesley Idle wishes to step down as Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee. She took on this important post after long-serving treasurer Jan Powell moved away and has done a great job for us ever since. Lesley's circumstances have changed and she no longer wishes to be treasurer but I'm hoping she will stay on as a member of the Committee.

Is there anyone in the two villages who would like to join our small committee and take on the duties of treasurer? Please come and talk to me if you would like to give it a try.

The Pop-Up Bar we put on in the village hall in July was a great success and we met people who live in the village who had never been to the village hall before.

Thanks to Nick and Helen who ran the bar, they certainly had a busy evening. We may do this again one day.

Sunday lunch is coming up on 5th October. This is always a popular meal so get your tickets soon from the Farm Shop.

The Annual Craft Fair is on Saturday 18th October. Local craft makers will be present and refreshments will be served during the day.

A few people have volunteered to be Friends of the Village Hall and if you wish to help us occasionally please let me know.

Pip Oxenbury

Chairman, Village Hall Committee

07778 744516

Went to the hardware shop, said can I have a four foot A, a four foot S and a four foot K? Blimey they said that's a big ask



Classified Ads:

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Garden tub trolleys. Black plastic covered wrought iron. Very good ball bearing wheels. 3 at 12" dia £5 each and 4 at 16" dia £8 each. All in very good condition. Tel 07710 990117

If you are a resident of Haselbury Plucknett or North Perrott and would like to place a free classified ad in next months Village News, please email it to vneditor2@gmail.com. A maximum of 3 lines of script, no names or addresses, just contact details. Entries must be received by the 20th of the month to be entered in the following months village news

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HARVEST SUPPER - FRIDAY 24th OCTOBER 6.30pm for 7pm
Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrott. 3 course supper with cider, tea & coffee. Bring your own wine.
Please book by Tues 21st October stating your main course choice of Ham or Cheese. Over 12 years – £10; 6 to 12 years - £5; 3 to 5 years - £2.
Only Cash or cheques payable to North Perrott PCC. please.
Tickets from G Hoskyns 01460 72883 georgina222@uwclub.net or J. Falkiner 01460 76457. Proceeds to the Farming Community Network.
www.northperrottchurch.co.uk

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE on SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER at 10.30am in St Martin's Church, North Perrott.

The level of pollution in the world today is becoming intolerable.
Only the other day I opened a can of sardines to find it was full
of oil and all the fish were dead



Haselbury Wildlife and Habitats Group

It would seem that summer is well and truly over and the fiercely hot weather just a memory. I know we needed the rain but maybe we've had enough for the time being.

I was walking in the fields this morning and there were literally hundreds of house martins swooping around me. It was amazing watching them as they were getting one of their last feeds before crossing the sea to France or Spain. Hopefully they will make it back again next year.

The WHG have been maintaining the Avenue of Trees and the markers have been removed now that the hedges have been cut. Many of the trees are much higher than the hedge and we can begin to see how it will look as they mature. We have adopted Frog Lane and the area known as the Firs, near the A30 at Puddletown and they have kept us busy.

The group, plus volunteers, helped marshal at the Yesterday's Farming weekend and although very hot, I think we all enjoyed it, I certainly did! The organisers will give a donation to the WHG which we will use for both new and old projects.

Small Brook continues to be very polluted and although it's been reported to both the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority nothing has been done as it is a huge, countrywide concern. We are waiting for a Highways report after they did some investigations in June but it also is outstanding.

I was glad to find a large toad in my garden. Amphibians have had a hard summer, like so many other animals, as the ground was so hard and it was difficult for them to find somewhere cool and damp. Now there are slugs and worms for them to feast on. There seem to be few squirrels around this Autumn. Usually, they take all my hazelnuts before I've had a chance but I've only seen one this year and that was in the fields. However, something is bringing walnuts into the garden! I keep finding them just lying on the grass and there isn't a walnut tree nearby. A mystery!

As always, if you see us working, do stop for a chat - we like to have frequent breaks!

Alison

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

We urgently appeal for new volunteers to join our Community Speedwatch Team, which is facing a critical decline in members. Without fresh support, this vital initiative may cease by year's end.

Joining requires only a modest commitment of one hour per week, yet your contribution would make a profound difference. Our primary mission is to safeguard the area surrounding the Primary School, ensuring the safety of children during arrival and departure times. The team's presence serves as an effective deterrent to speeding, fostering a safer community for all.

If you feel moved to help, please reach out to our scheme coordinator, William Hunt, at wdghunt@gmail.com. He will guide you through the recruitment and onboarding process.

Your support could be the key to keeping this essential program alive.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH STATISTICS FOR AUGUST 2025

Number of watches: 9
Vehicles monitored: 1,520
Drivers reported: 106
%age of speeders: 7%
Highest reported speeder: 33mph

ROLL UP for a ROLL UP

South Perrott Short Mat Bowls Club is happy to welcome new members. The club meets on Mondays from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00p.m. in South Perrott village hall DT8 3HS. Each session cost is only £2 per person which includes light refreshments, free use of club bowls and initial coaching if required. For more information please contact our secretary Doreen on 01935 891431.



North Perrott Cricket Club

LADIES LIGHT UP THE LANE!

Despite losing their last match of the season - bragging rights going to Chard CC in a hotly contested local derby - it has been another season of progress for the North Perrott Ladies. And as a sign of the positive team culture and confidence that has been built by the ladies of Willis Lane, every player turned out for the prizegiving last month.

In recognition of Eliza Nolan's consistent performances across the season, she won three awards: bowling, players player and Captain's Player. The batsman award went to Hayley Francis and the best all-rounder, Jodie Rice. The upcoming youth player winner was Rose Bradley.

It was a mixed end of the season though with Melanie White and Neil standing down as coach/managers (after 9 years of service that has seen such progress), and captain Jess and vice- captain Amy Monks deciding to take (we hope!) a short break from cricket. Melanie comments: 'they have been a great double act, and their shoes will be hard to fill.'

The club hopes though that Wayford Vineyard will continue as the Ladies' main sponsor.

The second XI had a tough season but finished on a high and seems like we now have a couple of rising stars coming through the ranks. A fantastic performance from Charlie Binns in the seconds comprehensive 258 run victory against Taunton St Andrews won him a place on the Somerset

Counties Honours Board. His bowling performance of 6 wickets for 21 runs and his 99 runs from 69 balls proved a real match winner – alongside the very special century knock by Ryan Sheldon in the same match off 78 balls.

Looking forward to Ryan and Charlie taking that momentum forward into next season.

The First XI ended their season literally on a damp squid as the heavens opened and the last home game of the season was abandoned. The good news though is that Willis Lane is back to its normal rich green from the pale yellow wicket we have had for most of the season.

Finally as an all too short season draws to a close, North Perrott CC was honoured to host the 50+ County Championship semi final between Somerset and Yorkshire in August proving that when it comes to cricket you're never too old!!

Martin

NORTH PERROTT & HASELBURY PLUCKNETT GARDEN CLUB

Our September meeting was a presentation given by Amanda from The Ark at Egwood, Merriott. It was so interesting to discover the workings at The Ark and its history so far. The Ark provides a safe space for people of all ages to relax and learn, helping their overall health and wellbeing using animals, horticulture, cooking and rural crafts as a means. The talk was very well received and provoked much conversation afterwards.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21st October and will be a Pruning Masterclass given by Neil Ross. New members along with existing members are always welcome. Do come along and learn how to sort out your badly behaved roses, shrubs and trees.

We welcome new members, and we are hoping we can encourage new gardeners to join our club. You are never too young to learn to garden. We have some very interesting speakers booked throughout the year and it's a good way to pick up new ideas and tips for your garden from established gardeners.

Membership £12:00 per annum. Guests £2.50 (which will be refunded if you choose to join the club). Plus, membership benefits.

Meetings are usually held on 3rd Tuesday of the month at North Perrott Village Hall, Middle Street, North Perrott, except in December which will be the 2nd Tuesday in December.

The hall opens at 7pm for 7:30pm start.

We are currently seeking new members to join our committee. If you would like more information, you can contact a member of the committee listed below.

If interested in joining our club, please contact:-

Ian Benfield. Chairman 01460 929027

Barbara Spence. Treasurer 01460 73847

Gail Case. – Speakers - 07480 531598

Christine Bentley. Secretary 07788 316984

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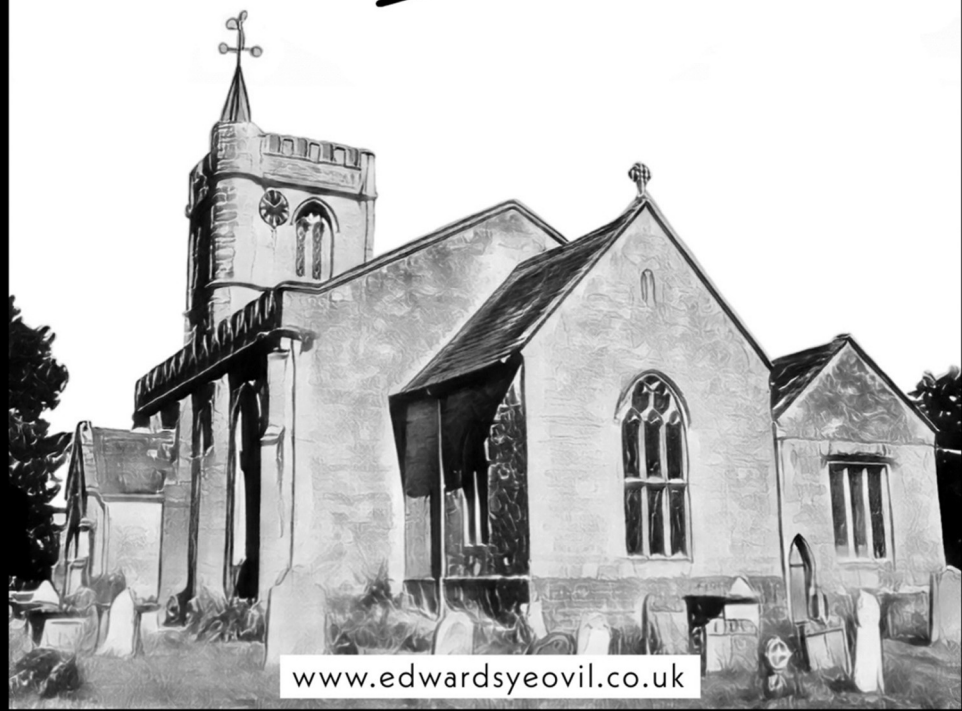
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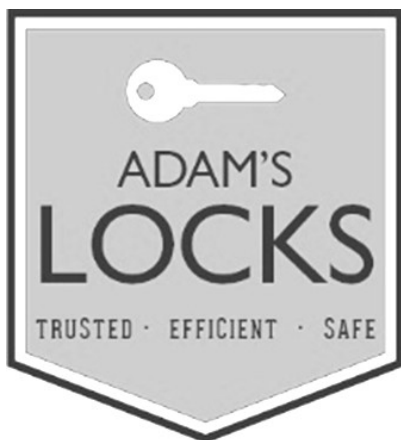
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North Perrott Parish Council

North Perrott Parish Council - Website www.northperrott.org
Cllr Jonathan Hoskyns (Chairman) jonathan@parrettbrand.co.uk
Cllr Thomas Winder (Vice Chair) tomfwinder@gmail.com
Cllr Jason Bradley jbradley1000@hotmail.com
Cllr Judith Hall g-je.hall@tiscali.co.uk
Cllr Bridget Reader bridget.villar@gmail.com
Lucy Gibbons (Clerk) northppc@gmail.com

North Perrott Parish Council meets bi-monthly on the first Tuesday in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept and November at 7.30pm in the Hoskyns Memorial Hall. Agendas and minutes are published on the website and village notice board.

I once entered a weather pun competition.

I beat the raining champion...



Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council

Chair: Councillor Hugh Williams	williahc@hotmail.com
Vice Chair: Councillor William Hunt	wdghunt@gmail.com
Councillor Matthew Bryant	bryant.haselbury@gmail.com
Councillor Lucy Dear	Lucyloo1989@icloud.com
Councillor Mike Wroe	mwroe2304@gmail.com
Councillor Richard Bourne	rasm.bourne@hotmail.com
Councillor Margaret Rendall	
Councillor Jim Farrant	jim.farrant@btopenworld.com
Councillor Alison Scott	alijoscott@gmail.com

Bi-monthly meeting of North Perrott Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025, 7.30pm at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrot

Present: Cllr's J Hoskyns (Chairman), T Winder (Vice-Chair), B Reader and L Gibbons (Parish Clerk). Members of the Public: 7. **Apologies for**

Absence: S Cllr O Patrick and M Hewittson, Cllr's J Bradley and J Hall

Public Open Forum: Issues raised: It was reported that a fallen tree has been cleared from the Village collection pond. LG to contact Somerset Council to advise them that the pond needs clearance work. JH was thanked for moving the horse-riders warning sign. It appears that the dog bins were not emptied last week. LG to chase.

Planning applications received after publication of the agenda:

25/02045/S73 – Orchard House, New Street S73 application to vary conditions 2(approved plans), 3(external materials) and 4(rooflights) to allow amendments to fenestration, increase size of rear extension by 0.6 metres and to change garage door into window, in relation to planning approval 25/00782/HOU for Proposed ground floor rear and side extensions, front porch extension, alteration to existing garage, installation of Air source heat pump, loft conversion, replacement of all windows, internal alterations and all associated works at Orchard House – Councillors resolved to support these amendments.

20mph Speed Limit: We are waiting for a meeting to be arranged with Councillors and Somerset Highways to discuss the viability of this.

Village Gateway: The new gate will be built later this year.

Highways Update: Some potholes have been filled. LG to report the state of the road surface in Stonage Lane.

Village Maintenance: including flooding and fly tipping: J Bradley has carried out more litter picking. No further fly tipping has been reported since the camera was installed in Pipplepen Lane.

Matters to report / Correspondence: Somerset Council is offering an online course to negate the need for Chapter 8 training for volunteers to carry out minor maintenance tasks such as clearing gullies, litter picking, clearing weeds, grass cutting, hedge cutting and general cleaning and sweeping. LG to check if JB and J Hall would like to register for the Volunteer Highway Maintenance training. The clerk's new e-mail address is now in place: clerk@northperrottparish.gov.uk

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on: Tuesday 4th November 2025, 7.30pm

Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council Meeting Monday 8th September 2025

Open Session: The matter of the purchase of more Poppies for the Poppy trail was raised. This was previously agreed, but the cost has increased a little. The cost for ten will be £50.

Planning: Planning Applications: 25/02035/HOU – Birch Cottage, Puddle Town – partial Retrospective planning for extended patio as built and proposed installation of a sunroom 3m depth, 5m width, 2.4m height on rear patio. Councillors resolved that they have no comment to make regarding this application.

The Park: Safety checks: The eight inspection reports for the preceding period have been distributed to councillors by WH. During the reporting period, several issues arose: The wooden memorial bench was vandalised damaging a leg and some slats. The bench was removed and repaired by HW and reinstalled in the park. The metal pedestrian and vehicle gates were adjusted to facilitate easier operation. The fence adjacent to the vehicle entrance has also been vandalised but is rotten in some places. Remedial action will be investigated. The Convex Traffic Mirror opposite the entrance to the park has been removed, assumed stolen. WH will investigate the cost of a new mirror. There are no other known issues.

We were contacted by Crewkerne Rangers U11's and U14's with regard to hiring the football pitch in the park for training up until the October half term.

Roads and Highways: CCTV Flooding Investigations - L Norman (SC Assistant Highways Service Manager) informs us that he is still awaiting the report from Drainline. Virtual Pavement Repainting - Some very pleasing news from A Barron (SC Traffic Engineer) who has agreed as a result of our suggestion to an annual repainting of the white linings and the pedestrian silhouettes on the Virtual Pavement. Traffic problems in village due to diversion at the Misterton (A356) junction - As a result of the diversion signs at the Misterton (A356) junction in August there was a huge increase of traffic coming through the village including HGVs. Unfortunately, many drivers completely ignored the official diversion sign and took a short cut via Swan Hill and Puddletown creating numerous traffic jams and serious safety issues for residents of the village.

Village Matters: Village Maintenance: There seems to be an increase in dog faeces that are not picked up around the village. Additional signage will be put in place. Ranger Service: The new Ranger continues to perform very well. All outstanding work has been caught up with, the next working days are 15th and 16th September. Adoption of Frog Lane: This discussion arose from the planning permission granted for Brook Farm. The plans wrongly show that the footpath is part of the property. MH was previously asked to contact the planners to find out why our comments on this were not taken note of. LG will chase for an answer.

Next Meeting Date: 13/10/2025 at the Beaumont Room in the Church at 7:00pm



VILLAGE SERVICES FOR OCTOBER



DATE	HASELBURY St Michael and All Angels	NORTH PERROTT St Martin's
5th October <i>Trinity 16</i>	11.30 am Harvest Thanksgiving with Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion CW
12th October <i>Trinity 17</i>	10.30 am Holy Communion BCP	
19th October <i>Trinity 18</i>	10.30 am Family Service	
26th October <i>Last Sunday after Trinity</i>	10.30 am Holy Communion CW	10.30 am Harvest Festival

Contacts

Becoming a Lay Reader

Two years ago, I started a course of study at Sarum College in Salisbury. During this time, I have attended college overnight 11 times, studied for approximately 900 hours, completed a placement at a church in Yeovil, produced a podcast, and finished 12 assignments totalling over 31,000 words. I have been challenged and stretched both theologically and academically alongside 15 other students as we underwent a process called ‘formation’ by the college tutors.

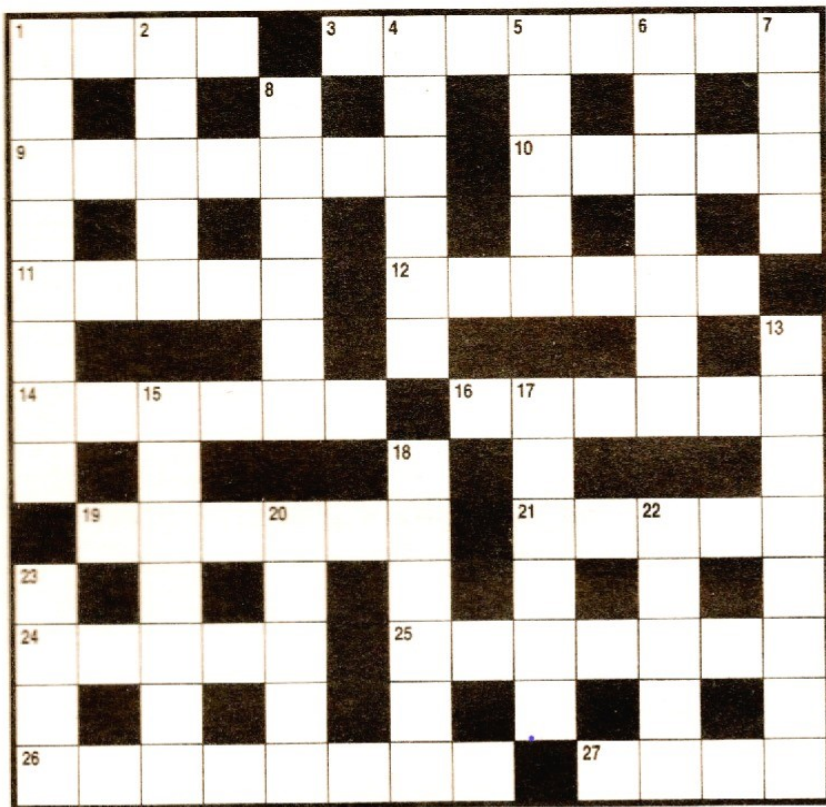
You might ask, “Why?” I must admit I’ve asked myself the same question many times over the past two years!

The reason is that completing this course would lead to me becoming a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) in our local Merriott Benefice, enabling and equipping me to be more involved in the ministry and mission of the local church. Even though the course has been quite demanding, I have to say it was mostly very enjoyable, especially the sense of fellowship shared among the students. I’ve met some wonderful people and made great friends along the way. Now that I’ve finished the course, I look forward to being licensed by the Bishop of Bath & Wells, together with six other individuals from our Diocese, at Wells Cathedral at 2pm on October 4th. The service is open to everyone, so please feel free to come—your presence will be very welcome!

For those wondering about the role of a reader in a parish, let me give you a brief overview.

The Office of Reader is one of the oldest lay ministries in the Church. Its current form dates back to 1866, but its roots extend even further. There are over 300 active Readers in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, and on a typical week, Readers preach more than 100 sermons and lead or assist in over 200 services, working closely with clergy, churchwardens, and other church members. Readers can play a vital pastoral role, visiting people in their homes, delivering communion to the housebound, or working in schools and colleges. Please pray that I will find the right role within our benefice where God would like me to serve.

Alan Reeves



Across

1. Clothes (4)
3. Make weak (8)
9. Symbols of royalty (7)
10. Baghdad native (5)
11. Poetic muse (5)
12. Hear (6)
14. Corrupts (6)
16. Weak, feeble (6)
19. Destroy (6)
21. Smooth (5)
24. Groups of cattle (5)
25. A superior attitude or behaviour (7)
26. Defensive parts of forts (8)
27. Grey (4)

Down

1. Articles of clothing (8)
2. Style of music similar to reggae (5)
4. Tidily (6)
5. Invasions (5)
6. The scholastic world (7)
7. ____ Sykes, comedian (4)
8. Using every resource (3,3)
13. In an inoffensive manner (8)
15. Internal organs (7)
17. Relic (6)
18. River in Britain (6)
20. In musical terms, "very" (5)
22. Heard in oratorios (5)
23. Freshwater fish (4)

SPLAT Kids club

Friday nights of fun for children of School
Year groups R-4. Games, songs, stories and more
from 6:30-7:30pm, every Friday in term time.
50p entry.



FUSION Youth Café

A space to come and chill for young people from School Years 5-13, with
board games, table-top games and a tuck shop. Every Friday 8-9pm, term
time only.



SPLAT & Fusion are closed during half term and returns on Friday
7th November

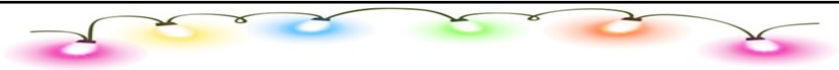


Little Wrigglers



Our baby & toddler group is open on Mondays at 10am-11am in
term time, with great toys, a singing time and our Oasis Coffee shop. Free
entry! (Wrigglers is closed during half term. Wrigglers returns on **Monday**
3rd November)

Contact Paula Harris for more details: 07807446106



Light Party

Saturday 1st Nov - @ 5pm

Join us for fun games for all the family Hot dogs, drinks and tuck shop
available. Party bag for each child. Come dressed as your favourite hero
(optional).



Bible Christian Centre

Haselbury Plucknett, TA18 7QX

Minister: Pastor Andrew Harris – Tel: 01935 864414

Admin: Paula Harris – Tel. 01460 73147 or 01935 864414

www.biblechristiancentre.com

Services for October 2025....

<i>Sunday 5th Oct</i>	10:30am Harvest Celebration. Join us for our special Harvest Celebration in our Family service with CREA'8 children's group. Ploughman's lunch after the service. Please contact us to book your place.
<i>Sundays 12th, 19th & 26th Oct</i>	10:30am Family celebration & worship with CREA'8 children's group. Communion on: 12 th & 26 th October
<i>Wednesdays</i>	10:30am Morning devotion with Communion
<i>Thursdays 2nd & 16th Oct</i>	7:30pm Bible Study
<i>Fridays</i>	10am - Prayer meeting
<i>Saturday 11th Oct</i>	7pm, Cinema night Refreshments available to buy. Free entry

For more details please visit our website: www.biblechristiancentre.com

"I am the light of the world," he said. "Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness." John 8:12



I joined an origami for beginners class last week.
It's already folded.



HOSKYN'S MEMORIAL HALL
NORTH PERROTT
Registered Charity 1029582

FUTURE EVENTS

Sunday 5th October
3 course Sunday Lunch
£20 per person
Children under 12 - £12.50
Bar open 12 noon, food served from 12.30pm
Tickets from North Perrott Farm Shop

Saturday 18th October
The Village Hall Craft Fair
from 11am to 4pm
in association with North Perrott Apple Weekend
Local craft makers will be present with Cards, Glass,
Wool Products, 3D Wooden Pictures and more
Light refreshments will be available throughout the day

Saturday 6th December
Christmas Dinner

Weekly Coffee Mornings
every Monday 10.30am – 12 noon excluding Bank Holidays
Everyone Welcome – Come in for a Chat and Coffee and Biscuits

The Village Hall is available for everyone in the two villages.
If you are looking for a venue for a party, reception or other event
please contact Lesley on 07732 030279 to make a booking
or to arrange for someone to show you around.
The Village Hall website: Northperrottvillagehall.co.uk

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with

SOMERSET MOVIOLA

proudly presents

Mr BURTON

(12A)

Richie Jenkins (Harry Lawtey) is a bright pupil from an impoverished background in a Welsh mining village. With his mother deceased and his father (Steffan Rhodri) drunk most of the time, he lives with his sister Cis (Aimee-Ffion Edwards) and her increasingly irritated husband Elfed (Aneurin Barnard). But Richie finds salvation in Shakespeare through his schoolteacher Philip Burton (Toby Jones) and becomes Richard Burton.

**in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on
Thursday 16th October.**

Afternoon Performance at 2:00pm

Coffee, tea and cake available, doors open 1:30 pm

Evening Performance at 7:30pm

Licensed bar available, doors open 7.00 pm

**Tickets: £5.00 in advance from Springfield Stores
(01935 862363) or on the door**

Visit our website at: www.Hardington.net



HALLOWEEN STAY & PLAY

@DONYATT ILMINSTER

Sunday 5th October. What's included:

We are bringing 5 role play areas including our spooky Halloween play area & play dough tuff tray

Make a Halloween Wand in the Art studio

Spooky wooden keepsake for each child* Halloween music

Halloween costumes (or wear your own!)

Themed photo backdrop Halloween sticker Baby area

Free tea, coffee, squash & biscuits

<https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/pop-up-play-village-south-somerset-halloween-stay-play-donyatt-ilminster-ilminster-32b1753c-bded-4964-b149-cf6cec0002e6>

Charity Quiz Night – Saturday 18th October – **6:15pm to 10:30pm**

Merriott Village Hall, Broadway, Merriott, TA16 5QH

Our 2nd Charity Quiz night of the Year with funds going to the Merriott Messenger

£12.50 per person which includes a 2-course supper & quiz
Bar will be open - serving wine, beer, lager and soft drinks
Grand Draw! Prizes for winners & 2nd place

Crewkerne Museum & Heritage Centre present:

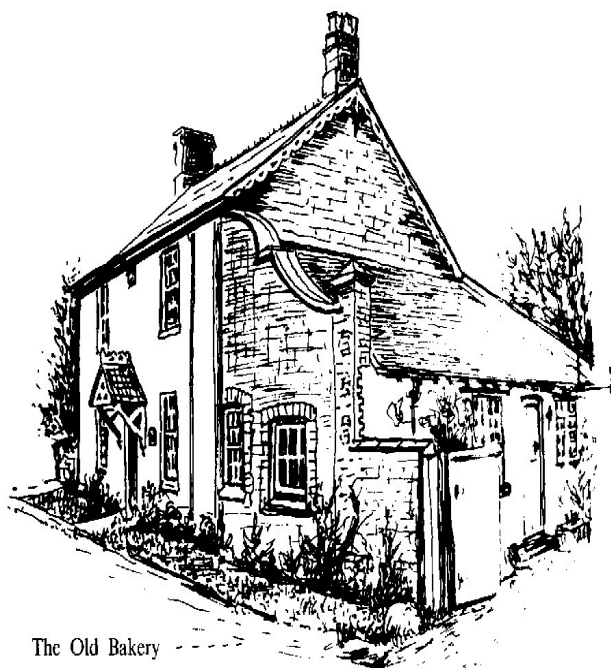
The Hidden Collection

September 6th to 4pm on November 1st

Special Exhibition

Another chance for our collections team to display a selection of interesting items from our storage archives that we cannot put on permanent display

Crewkerne & District Museum, The Heritage Centre, Market Square, Crewkerne Somerset TA18 7LP



The Old Bakery

Your Village News Team:

Editor - Ian Stewart: vneditor2@gmail.com: 01460 391816

Advertising Editor - June Stewart : vnadverts@outlook.com 01460 391816

Proof Reader - Peter Bland

Printing - June Stewart - 01460 391816

Distribution in Haselbury Plucknett - Gill Wood - 07414 588515

Distribution in North Perrott - Ruth and Ian Bevan-Mogg - 01460 74652

The deadline for submission of articles and adverts for the next edition is the
20th October 2025