

JULY 2026

Saturday 4th July
12-4pm

Hardington Village Street Fayre



Raffle

Family ticket
to

HAYNES
MOTOR MUSEUM

with
souvenir
guidebook



A one night stay
in a luxury
Norwegian style
shepherd's hut
with welcome hamper



Hardington Rural Escapes



A ride in an Ariel Atom Car



Luxury Hampers



Naturalife
Wholefoods & Bodycare



Tickets available in
advance from
The Royal Oak
and
Springfield Stores
Hardington
£1.00 a ticket
£5.00 a book



and many other fabulous
prizes kindly donated by
local businesses.

To be drawn at 3.45pm on the 4th July at the information stall

AROUND THE VILLAGE

CONGRATULATIONS To: Maia White and her partner Chris on the birth of a new son, Bobby. A brother for Arthur and 2nd grandson for Rose and Bern White. After many years together Tim Marsh and Liz Riley have become engaged. Rob and Charlotte Wells were married recently at Frogmary Green Farm. Angus and Jane MacLean celebrated 40 years of marriage with friends and family, and Angus has celebrated an extra special birthday. Daisy Thompson, the eldest daughter of Sally and Paul Thompson has just got engaged to Alex Moore. Wedding planned for 2028. Congratulations to them all and wishing them every happiness in the future.

WELCOME: We officially welcome Ben Matthews to the village as the new owner of Fox Tale, Barry Lane, although he won't be living in the house for a while but will reside at Foxlea Cottage until his renovations are complete.

GET WELL: The 'accident fairy' has been busy again in the village! Tanya Ogden fell and broke her ankle recently. We send her our very best wishes in her recovery along with sending get well messages to all those who have had recent operations and/or have received treatment in hospital. As a village we are certainly keeping the NHS busy!

CONDOLENCES: So soon after reporting the death of Joan Whiteman we now report the loss of her husband Peter. Joan and Peter were blessed in being able to be cared for by their daughters Elaine and Dy, in their own home for the last few years of their lives. What a privilege. At Pete's request there wasn't a funeral, but many will have fond memories of him, and our sincere condolences are sent to Elaine and Dy and their families at this sad time. Dennis Whitehurst has lived in Hardington for 4 1/2 years living with his daughter and son-in-law Denise and Peter Riddell. Sadly, Dennis died unexpectedly but peacefully recently. Our condolences to Denise and her family during this difficult time.

GARDEN PARTY

A huge thank you to everyone who came to the Garden Party. It was lovely to see that the weather didn't put a damper on any of it! I really appreciate all the wonderful people who supported me in so many ways. Thank you to all who gave up their time to volunteer, made delicious baked goods, the amazing people and businesses who donated fabulous raffle prizes including Henry and the Ariel Atom Motor company, North Perrot Fruit Farm, The Abbotsbury Swannery, The White Horse, Cecelia Dack for a beautiful handmade bouquet and The Garden Stall's donation of a picnic hamper. Thank you to Daphne for selling tickets, baking and lending equipment. Last but not least, a special thank you to Simon & Karen Paxton for generously sharing their beautiful home and garden and supporting me in so many ways. Georgie White

Zen yoga with Sherri

As we move into summer, we enter the zen yoga phases of light and heat. Our yoga practice ignites warmth from the movement and postures, bringing kindness to our hearts and fire in the belly. There's room for more- whether you are new to yoga or an experienced yogi, there's a place for you on the mat. Classes will continue every Monday throughout July and August. 10.am start. 70 minutes. £10. Do email me for further information . sherri2@ [gmail.com](mailto:sherri2@gmail.com)

Village at Home Coffee Morning 8th July

Our next visit to someone's home in the village sees us down Rectory Lane on Wednesday July 8th at 10.30am. We will be at The Walled Garden, the home of Gerald and Sarah Boord, where we will be assured of a very warm welcome. Coffee and biscuits will be on offer as well as the opportunity to have a good old natter. We hope to see you there, especially if you are new to our village.

Pauline Grassam

Georgina's Lucky Day

One spring evening, Ben and I went for a walk before supper up Wimborough Lane. The hedgerows were beginning to green up, and the evening was calm and bright. As we walked along, Ben suddenly stopped and pointed towards the ditch at the side of the lane."I can't believe it," he said. "It's a goldfish." "No way," I replied. "It can't be." But when we took a closer look, there it was—a bright orange goldfish stranded in a small pool of water amongst twigs and leaves. It was alive, but it had nowhere to go and no way of swimming out. We stood for a moment wondering how on earth a goldfish had ended up in a roadside ditch. My theory was that a bird had picked it up from someone's garden pond and then dropped it. Whatever had happened, the fish was remarkably lucky. It had landed in just enough water to survive, and by an even greater stroke of luck, we happened to be walking past.

Ben hurried home and returned with a bucket of water. We carefully scooped up the fish and placed it safely inside. Our first thought was that it might belong to Simon, so we took it round to his house. However, Simon assured us it wasn't his fish—his were all safely accounted for in a covered tank.

With no owner found, we decided to give the fish a new home in our pond. Once released, it quickly disappeared amongst the water plants, looking much happier than it had in the ditch.

I named her **Georgina**.

Several weeks later, Georgina is thriving. She spends her days exploring the pond and nibbling amongst the weeds. What began as a very unusual discovery on an evening walk has turned into a happy ending. Now Ben and I are looking for two more goldfish to keep Georgina company. After all, every goldfish deserves a few friends.

Ria Pandey

Hardington Garden Club

On Wednesday 22nd July we will be having our Summer Social event at Pendomer House, BA22 9PB. We will be starting at 6pm. It's a bring and share supper which Anne Lunt is coordinating. Please let Anne know what and who you will be bringing (partners and friends welcome) at gardenclubevents@btinternet.com. We are really looking forward to celebrating summer with you.

Sally Thompson.

WE NEED BOTTLES FOR THE BOTTLE STALL ON 4th JULY

The WI will be running a BOTTLE STALL at the Street Fayre on 4th July. This is always a popular stall – as there is a prize every time!! Daphne has kindly agreed to have a box in Springfield Store in which villagers can place donations, so please pop any donations in there. Any bottle accepted – from Pepsi to Pernod, Wine to Whisky! Thank you in advance for your support.

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

We look forward to seeing you at Dy's next coffee morning which takes place at Hardington village hall on 25th July 2026. Family, friends, neighbours and newcomers to the village are all very welcome. If anyone has difficulty in negotiating the front entrance to the hall, we do have an accessibility entrance to the rear of the hall which might better suit your needs. As usual, the hall will open from 10 am to 12 noon and there will be a variety of delicious cakes and savouries on sale for you to try including: bacon or breakfast rolls, bacon and cheese wraps, savoury scones, etc. We also offer a range of teas as well as instant or filter coffees. If you have any specific dietary requirements, please call Dy in advance and she will do her best to accommodate you. We also hold a raffle. Our village hall coffee mornings usually take place on the last Saturday of each month. If anyone is able to offer any help or is willing to make a cake for this or any future coffee mornings we would be most grateful, so please contact Dy Catford on 07956448301.

Party in the Park

After 5 years of superb organising, Anne Lunt will not be able to continue as organiser of this event. Our thanks to Anne for her work over the years. It is probably a little late to start the process this year. The PC do have a volunteer who may be able to take over in 2027. If there is someone out there with a desire to see the event happen in 2026 please contact our parish clerk, Nancy, straight away! I am sure Ernest will be a little disappointed if it does not happen!

He likes an excuse to come and visit the village!

Robin Carpenter

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES...

The June Meeting...

Hardington's new village website, 'www.hardingtonparish.gov.uk' is now available! Some Councillors thought that it would still require some tailoring to make it easier to use for other village groups, such as the village hall. Members of the Parish Council will also have new email addresses as the government is keen to encourage parish councils to adopt official [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) email addresses as part of its wider drive to improve transparency and cyber security within local government. This helps users easily identify genuine council communications, and reduces the risk of fraud or impersonation. It also promotes consistency across the sector and demonstrates that parish councils are operating to recognised standards of governance and digital security.

Unfortunately, no-one has taken up Anne Lunt's role of coordinating the Party-in-the-Park this year. If anyone within the village would like to volunteer, then please contact a member of the parish council.

A Road Closure Notice was received for Cold Harbour Hill Lane. The road is expected to be closed from 17/06/2026 to 19/06/2026 to enable Wessex Water to repair a mains leak.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21st July, 7.30pm at the Village Hall. The public can speak for a limited amount of time at the start. The agenda for the forthcoming meeting and minutes of past meetings can be found a few days beforehand on the village website www.hardington.net. You can contact me at hardingtonclerk@rocketmail.com, tel: 07815 965113 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

NEW VILLAGE WEBSITE

As mentioned in the Parish Council report we have decided to move to a new web site managed by Parish Online, a not for profit organisation designed to help local councils be more compliant. Nancy has outlined the reasons for the move in the PC report above. New councillor and IT expert Ria Pandey has managed the transition. The intention is that all the content of the hardington.net website is migrated to the new site. We encourage everyone to look through the new site and identify any issues, which you think should be addressed, as we want it to be as inclusive and user-friendly as possible. Watch out for a change in contact details for the messenger - the old details will still work at the moment. Robin Carpenter

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The 100 Club draw took place on 3rd June 26 and the winners were: 1st prize Martin Buckingham, 2nd prize Margaret Wilkins and 3rd prize Sue Phillips. Congratulations to you all and thank you for supporting the village hall. The next draw will take place at the hall at 7.20pm on 1st July .Just to remind you that there will be no film shown at the hall in July whilst we take our usual break over the summer months. However, there are still plenty of things going on in the village including our ever popular Street Fayre which takes place on 4th July. Weekly classes of Zen Yoga,Tai Chi/Qigong, Mahyong and Pilates take place in the village hall and of course our next coffee morning is on 25th July. See the 'Diary events for July' printed in this Messenger for information on other clubs/events which you may be interested in. The Committee would like to thank Dy Catford for donating £227 from her May coffee morning to the village hall funds. Our June film 'Song Sung Blue' made a profit of £167.91 which again will go towards running and maintaining the village hall. Our energy costs came to £203.26 for the month of May 26. The five yearly 'Electrical Condition Report' was carried out by King Electrical Contracting Ltd on 21st and 22ND May at a cost of £1092.00.

Tom Gillingham has painted the gable wall above the entrance to the hall. Work will be starting shortly on painting and improving the passage at the back of the hall now that other works in that area are complete. Thank you to those of you who have come forward and volunteered to help with this decorating.

Karen Dodge.

Hardington Street Fayre - Saturday 4th July 12-4

Just a reminder – as if you need one! – that the Hardington Street Fayre will take place on

Saturday 4 July, from 12pm to 4pm.

There will be something for everyone, including craft and food stalls, live music, and entertainment from the Bog Dogs, Castle Cary Cygnets, and Enigma Morris Dancers. Visitors can also enjoy a display of classic cars and tractors, a fun dog show, an arts, crafts and spinning exhibition, balloon modelling, face painting, and sculptures in the churchyard.

Refreshments will be plentiful, with a BBQ, light lunches and cream teas in the Village Hall, ice creams, and a bar run by The Wandering Oak. There will also be raffles and games, fascinating animals and insects from Fangs and Feathers, and a Teddy Bears' Picnic competition and display in the church.

We look forward to seeing you there for a fantastic afternoon of fun, entertainment, food and community spirit!

Please do pay attention to the road closure information below to help make this year's Fayre run as smoothly as possible:

The High Street from the junction with Penn Lane to the Village Hall and Broadstone Lane will be closed to ALL traffic including bicycles, tractors and horses from 10am - 5pm. If this closure affects you, and you need to use your vehicle, please ensure it is moved before 10am.

Hardington Street Fayre committee respectively ask that residents do not park behind the church as this is reserved for disabled parking for the day. There is parking available in the field at The Wooden Gate.

Any queries please email hardingtonstreetfayre@gmail.com

Many thanks Street Fayre Committee

Hardington Flower, Produce & Craft Show: Saturday 29 August

It's that time again to start thinking about your entries for this year's show. There are plenty of classes to choose from — all the usual favourites plus a few new additions. Whether you fancy entering an unusually shaped vegetable (one of our public-voted categories) a bottle of homemade wine, or something from our ever-popular photography section, there's something to spark everyone's imagination.

If you haven't picked one up yet, entry forms are available from Springfield Stores and can also be downloaded from the Hardington website within the News and Site Updates section. The website also has an updated Hints and Tips page to help you prepare, so it's well worth a look.

This year's raffle will be raising funds for Yeovil Samaritans and local village causes. We have some fantastic prizes lined up, including:

- Sunday Lunch for Two at Lanes Hotel, West Coker
- A Family Day Ticket for Haynes Motor Museum
- A Hardington Hamper filled with locally produced goodies

Raffle tickets will be distributed around the village in mid-July.

We look forward to welcoming your entries and sharing another successful and enjoyable Show.

Tanya Ogden

on behalf of the Flower, Produce & Craft Show Committee

Hardington and Pendomer WI

“Chair Yoga” , the programme said. Well that won’t be too hard will it? I thought. Maybe something my elderly mother would benefit from knowing about! Do not be deceived! I went along dressed in jeans and a T-Shirt, and not long into the session realised that the name is very deceptive and I had come dressed all wrong! The chair just means you don’t need a mat!!

Previous resident of Hardington, Fiona Shaw, was an excellent teacher, leading us through the different yoga moves with their exotic names, calmly encouraging us to stretch and breathe (never have I found “just one more breath” to last so long). We worked through some of the moves... the cat-cow stretch, the warrior, seated mountain to name but a few...before enjoying a some calming and relaxing moments at the end. I don’t think it was just me who found the session surprisingly taxing. An excellent introduction to a hugely beneficial form of exercise. Perhaps I will give it a try – maybe it’s not just for my elderly mother after all!!!

Throughout the month members of our WI have also enjoyed a range of other activities – the two skittles teams have both been in action and done well against other local teams, the Craft and Chatter group continue to make knitted poppies to be sent to the “Standing with Heroes” display, and the Walking group enjoyed another afternoon together, this time a circuit of Langport and the River Parrett. Other activities that various members have attended include Golf Croquet - a friendly evening with members from other local WI’s - and a live-link video of the National WI AGM. Coming up, some members are joining a trip to the Poppy Museum, and those who like a musical are off to Bristol to see The Bodyguard! There is so much available for members to enjoy catering for a wide range of interests. Our next meeting on Wednesday July 8th is a Garden Party, kindly hosted by one of our members. I am looking forward to that – so let’s hope the weather behaves!

All ladies, old or new to the village, are always welcome to our meetings and can have two free taster meetings to see if the WI is for you.

Rowena Murray

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY

ST MARY'S HARDINGTON

Sun 12 th	Holy Communion	11.00am
Sun 26 th	Family Service.	10.30am
Wed 29 th	Morning Prayer.	9.30 am

ST ROCH PENDOMER

Sun 10 th	Family Service	9.45am
Sun 17 th	Holy Communion.	9.15am
Sun 24 th .	Family Service.	9.45am

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JULY

Wed 1 st	Village Hall Draw, Village Hall, All Welcome.	7.20pm
Sat 4 th	Hardington Village Street Fayre.	12 -4.00pm
Wed 8 th	Village at Home Coffee Morning, The Walled Garden,	10.30-12noon
	W.I. Garden Party , Note Earlier Time	6.30pm
Tues 14 th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm

JULY 20th LAST DATE FOR AUGUST MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardington.net

Tues 21 st	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, All Welcome	7.30pm
Wed 22 nd	Garden Club, Village Hall.	7.30pm
Sat 25 th	Village Hall Coffee Morning, Village Hall, All Welcome	10.am-12noon
Tues 28 th	Choir Practice, Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor.	7.30pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon	Zen Yoga, Village Hall.	9.45am
Tues	Tai Chi/Qigong, Village Hall.	6.30pm
Tues	Mahjong. bijac@hotmail.co.uk .	7.15pm
Wed	Pilates, Village Hall.	11.30am
Fri.	Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's	7.45pm



Every Wednesday

Grill Night

A whole selection of dishes on the grill menu every week. From beautiful steaks to homemade burgers, chicken and fish!
Book now to enjoy.

Every Weekend

Specials Menu

Every Thursday to Saturday we have an incredible choice of specials for you.
A lot of freshly caught fish as well as local lamb, pork and beef.
And our latest popular menu item: the fantastic seafood platter!

What's On At The Royal Oak

Takeaways

Did you know you can order anything from our menu to takeaway!

If you fancy lunch but what to enjoy it at home, let us know.

Can't make it to steak night?

No problem!

Craving a sweet treat? We have you covered!

Royal Oak Lunches

From pub classics, garden salads, filled ciabattas and a choice of light bites, we have you covered when it comes to lunches.

However hungry you are feeling, there is always something for you to enjoy.

Wednesday - Saturday!

Don't Forget:

Thursday Lunch Club

£10 main courses

Served 12-2pm



Peter Whiteman

Dyane and I would like to thank everyone for their kind messages and support after Dad's passing; we are both devastated to have lost him so soon after Mum but his health was failing and he missed Mum so so much. Although Dad did spend some time in hospital Dyane and I managed to get him home with the help of the wonderful doctors nurses and palliative care team. Family and close friends had visited him at home and he was so pleased to see them. Dad passed away peacefully on 1st June at home overlooking his beloved garden and beehive with Dyane and I cuddling him.

Dad being the ever practical man organised his own cremation which will have taken place already so sadly there won't be a funeral.

Dyane and I and the family will be scattering Dad's ashes with Mum's shortly and will be arranging a small send off for him around that time, possibly in the garden (we will put details in Daphne's for anyone who would like to join us). Mum and Dad are together again now but Dyane and I will miss them both terribly, they were perfect parents and we are what we are today because of them and everything they did for us. God bless them both and love to you all, Elaine and Dyane.