VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

Winter 2021



#### PROP:HORTONSIA HEARSAY:DIPSO & BAR

## VILLAGE HALL NEWS



## Horton Village Hall Management Committee

The Horton Village Hall has now fully re-opened and the diary is beginning to fill up. Most regular users have re-started and there are new classes starting in November

including Yoga on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons, a Bloom Baby class on Fridays and a sixweek Ceramic painting course on Tuesday afternoons. Several weddings have been booked for next Summer and we will host several social events such as the Horton Flower Show, Jumble Sales etc. During the closure our account was boosted by a grant from the Government via the District Council and bequests from two long standing Committee members who sadly passed away in 2020. Horton Village Hall's AGM was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm and all Village Activity Groups made their reports and named their representatives for the year. One Committee member has retired and has been replaced and another member has moved away. All officers are re-appointed with the addition of a new Vice-Chair. In the closely-linked villages of Horton and Broadway there are numerous classes, sports and drama groups, Churches and local Charities who would like to see new attendees and new faces on their Committee. Look at everything these villages have to offer and go along to a meeting and hopefully get involved and keep the villages alive before the Community spirit disappears. I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Ken White. Chairman of Horton Village Hall Management Committee 01460 53450

**Horton Village Website:** There have been a few reports that the Horton Village Website Home page & others are provoking security warnings that the page (or even the website) is 'Not Safe'. The warning says that the website doesn't currently have the digital certificate to authenticate & enable an encrypted connection. This message can be prompted via computer anti-virus software. Be assured the website is safe to visit as it never asks anyone to insert a password and/or any credit or debit card details. The website is currently being relocated to a new hosting company and we plan to revitalise the website early next year when the transition is complete. The Webmasters, Horton Village Website

## HORTON: HERE'S A HOW! ... WITH CONTINUED APOLOGIES TO DR SEUSS

COLLINS & SON: CLOTHIERS & MILL OWNERS: Pt. 2: What kind of man was Robert Collins of Horton, founder of 'Collins & Son'? He had local standing as a signatory 'Feoffee' ['trustee'] of the Ilminster Free School (that coalition of the local great and good) and was a clothier/mill owner. One might expect traces of his life to have survived; but little does beyond signatures on trustee matters. There are precious few Parish entries: the baptism of his son Thomas in Ilminster in 1692; the 1720 marriage of his daughter Hannah at Ashill church; his daughter Amy's death (1728) and his own (1729). In these records he is referred to as Mr Robert Collins, but interestingly never 'gent'. Perhaps it marks the nuanced respect for the self-made man in the manner of those Northern mill owners, who were also typically 'Misters' or 'Masters' contributing to local trading wealth. Robert's will written in 1724 and probated early in 1730, provides our best portrait of the man. One thing is for sure, if Robert Collins the manufacturer was as prolific as Robert Collins the father, he was an undoubted success. In his 1724 will, Robert speaks of his wife Mary and 9 children: Robert Jr, William, Thomas, Hannah, Mary, Elizabeth, Phoebe, Martha, and Amy. Ilminster baptisms only record Thomas, so either records are missing, or they came to Horton from somewhere else. The will confirms his daughter Hannah was old enough to have married Thomas Scott, an Ilminster clothier living in Ashill in March 1720. It tells us that his youngest 2 daughters, Martha and Amy were minors, although 4 years later Amy would predecease Robert. Robert describes his home as a 'messuage ... at Horton aforesaid called 'Dunster' but its location is unclear. It might have been the original

#### "EVENTS, **BOY**, EVENTS!!!" DEAR This

where you get to learn what's happening in Horton Village in the coming season



# Carols will be sung & the

#### Saturday 11th December Christmas Bazaar

<sup>1</sup>10-12 noon Church room

Christmas stalls, Tombola, Raffle, Books, Bric-a-brac, Refreshments, Cakes etc. Help most gratefully received; offers of Tombola

පි Raffle prizes also. Please contact Jan on 01460 57702 if you can help.



Traditional Service: <sup>I</sup>

Nine lessons & carols with Poems Enjoy mince pies & mulled wine afterwards Roger Allen

Weekly dance fitness class with: Kelly Leigh time : 10 - 11 am at: Horton Village Hall from: Wednesdays £5 per session

> First taster session free **Kelly Leigh**

## Meat Draw 2021

First of all, our grateful thanks for the support that you have given the Meat Draw. Everyone who supported us in 2020 signed up for 2021 plus some new additions. Tremendous.



Here are the first winners: **21st Oct:** £20 Annie Glibbery; £15 Trevor Lant: £10 George Presland; £5 Tim Gibson

**28th Oct:** £20 Jason Bean; £15 Michael Thurgood; £10 M&T McIver; £5 Jonathan Allen.

4th Nov: £20 Jo Lea; £15 Pat Harden; £10 Wendy Green; £5 Nigel Ashley Roger Allen & Mike Baker.

## Lissa Milton Yoga & Mindfulness Horton Village Hall Classes

Friday 3rd December All levels of Yoga experience are welcome, including Christmas Tree Lighting i complete beginners. Visit http://www.lissamiltonyoga.co.uk to Ceremony at 6pm book your spot with 50% off your first class.

Christmas Tree blessed. 09.30 - 10:00 Mondays : Energising Morning Flow **Coffee**, teas & squash will be served. This class starts with 'settling in' time, seated or lying. We'll then Posters for further details. I begin more energising & dynamic movement with standing balances Please bring a Torch ! & fun playful challenges! Together we'll explore active movement to I create space & stillness in the mind. Although a more active class, I'll

always encourage listening to the body & moving in a way that feels easeful, with the option to rest as needed.

#### 13.30 - 14:30 Thursdays : Restore & Relax

Explore slow & gentle movement to help wind down, calm the mind & soothe the body. We'll move through calming breathing exercises & mindful exercises, before gently resting the body. These practices **Monday 20th December** help reduce stress, anxiety, depression & can help increase resilience, Carol Service at 7pm I emotional awareness & stability.

£10 drop in Five class pass @ £8 per class (book online) Ten class pass @ £7 per class (book online) Class passes valid for 3 months from booking. Lissa Milton

#### **Date for your diary ! 5th March : First Lent Lunch** @St Peter's Church Room







LEARN TO DANCE Ballroom dancing is doing well

with an intermediate class at 6 - 7 pm & a new Beginner Class at 7 - 8 pm

Line Dancing on Mon evenings 8 to 9 pm is going well. It is a mix of musical genres & great fun. Not to late to join and you don't need a partner.

For details please contact Val 07776093940.

#### **STOP PRESS:**

A 24-hour Danceathon is being organised by Lucy Coombes in Ilminster Parish Hall to raise funds for The Rosie Crane Trust.

Starts 9am 15th Jan until 9am 16th Jan 2022!

More details on Facebook and the Rosie Crane **Trust website.** See also Page 5

PAGE 3

**"EVENTS, DEAR BOY, EVENTS!!!"** This is where you get to learn what's happening in Horton Village in the coming season!

# Horton Film Club

Film Club re-started in September and has a strong membership again. We have restricted entry to members only so that we can control numbers and facilitate social distancing.

Films for next year will have been decided by the Film Club Committee late in November so please keep an eye out for posters around Horton and Broadway.

Remember Membership is still only £25.00 per person. Membership not only allows you to attend Film Club nights, but also gives you access to our extensive film library of ALL the films we have shown over the past 7 years.

#### All films are on Thursday evenings @ 7.30pm Next Showing : December 16th 2021 - 'Dream Horse'

Dates for 2022 are: January 20th; February 17th; March 17th; April 21st; May 19th; June 16th; July 21st; September 15th; October 20th; November 17th & December 15th. Glyn Ottery Chair, Horton Film Club

#### Garden produce from The Cottage

Many thanks to all of you who supported the sales of fruit, veg and jams from *The Cottage* garden. A total of £265 was raised and this has been given to the Ilminster Food Bank. Joyce & Paul Pickering

## <u>Broadway Health</u> <u>Walking Group</u>

Weekly walks every Tuesday morning walks leaving at 10.00 prompt. Gather at Standerwick Orchard Village Green, Broadway on all Tuesdays except the 4th Tuesday of the month when we meet at the front entrance of Tesco in Ilminster.

Walks last between 60 and 90 minutes over a varied range of Footpaths and Rights of Way, some of which can be muddy at times, so suitable footwear is needed. Optional post walk coffee/refreshments often available.

Walk at your own pace, led by trained Health Walk Leaders, and enjoy our beautiful countryside.

Ring Vera Pharaoh on 01460 55437 or 07980 015788 if you have any questions or you want to know more.

## The Horton Ramblers

The Horton Ramblers restarted their walks in June. Currently all walks are from the village

(top of Pottery Road, opposite The Five Dials).

Our coming walks are on 12th December, 16th January, 20th February & 20th March. All these dates are Sundays.

For further details please contact: Ann 01460 54622 or Gill 01460 52033 Ann Winter

## The LUNCH BUNCH

At last we have been able to make a fresh start and after a pause of almost exactly two years we gathered again for a very fine lunch in late October. 10 of us joined for a very sociable occasion and another 14 people said that they would have come but could not make that date.

Once again we met at The Five Dials for a superb meal. Those from outside Horton kept telling us how lucky we are to have such a great pub within the village - but we knew that was the case!

We now hope to plan more Lunch Bunch events for 2022 and are looking for volunteers to select good pubs within an hour's drive of Horton and organise more lunches so that we can enjoy further sessions of good food, good company and good environment.

Paul Pickering 01460 52229

#### "EVENTS, DEAR BOY, EVENTS!!!" This is where you get to learn what's happening in

Horton Village in the coming season!

## **Ding Gardening Club**

at 7.30 pm in Horton Village Hall unless indicated.

Talks :

**o2 Dec: A mix of our own super speakers** followed by

#### Christmas Party with Buffet and free Raffle.

#### January 2022: No meeting

13 Feb: 'Nerines': Jonny Hartnell

At this meeting subs for 2022 will be collected: still only £10 for 9 meetings. New members welcome.

More details from Stuart Davey on 01460 55069 or on the Village Website: <u>www.hortonvillage.co.uk</u>



## Horton Parish Council

Horton Parish Council plans to hold its bi-monthly meetings in St Peter's Church Room.

As usual the agenda and minutes are put up in the bus shelter in Goose Lane.

The next two planned meetings are: Monday 17th January &

Monday 21st March. Meetings start at 6.30 pm and are open to the public.

The agenda and minutes of meetings can be found on the Horton Parish website:

www.hortonparishcouncil.org.uk

However, this is still in the process of being upgraded so there may be a few items missing. Ann Winter

#### DID YOU KNOW ... ?

In case you've been wondering, this quarterly **Horton Gazette** is free to you because the printing costs are covered by Horton Village Hall and Horton Website Advertisers. This has been the case now for over 10 years. Each issue contains information provided by both regular and occasional contributors alongside another team of volunteers who deliver the printed Gazette to your doorstep each season. As Editor I coordinate the whole, typeset it, interface with the printer, research and write the history of Horton articles. After local distribution a PDF copy is uploaded onto the Gazette's page on the village website.

Wishing all our readers, wherever you are, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year ! **HH.** 



## The HORTON COMPUTER HUB

@ Ilminster & Broadway Hill Methodist Church

The Hub is unable to offer 'drop-ins' at present.

The Hub is holding sessions 'by invitation only' at present on a Tuesday 2.30-4.30pm.

The volunteers are happy to serve small numbers of students in a Covid-safe environment. If you have any IT problems with Microsoft, Apple or other devices, please contact:

Sue Parsons on 01460 54581 or 07771 952 777 sue.parsons48@gmail.com or Roger Doughty on 01460 57069.

An invitation will be confirmed.

Contact would also be welcome from any who would like to know more about being a tutoring volunteer :

www.hortonvillage.co.uk/horton-computer-hub

#### **"EVENTS, DEAR BOY, EVENTS!!!"** This is where you get to learn what's happening in Horton Village in the coming season!

#### ILMINSTER & BROADWAY HILL METHODIST CHURCH A very Happy Christmas & New Year!

From Sept. 2021 the *Ilminster Methodist Church* family joined with *Broadway Hill Methodist Church* hence the new name of the Church. We all look forward to sharing the building together & supporting community events. The local Horton Churches Partnership Covenant support & working with St Peter's Horton will continue.

#### COFFEE MORNINGS 8 Jan 10–12 noon. Coffee Morning Catch-Up!

*There will be cakes, bric-a-brac, coffee & chat.* Proceeds to Maua Methodist Hospital. We have confirmation of gifts received and regular letters providing news.

## **REGULAR ACTIVITIES:**

**Tuesday Group** meets at The Five Dials fortnightly at 7.30pm. For details contact Sue.

**Chattabox Coffee Group :** meets every Thursday 10.30 -12 noon. The Slinky Bus is invaluable in bringing people. Drivers work with patience and safety as a priority.

Wednesday Prayer Group : is on the 2nd & 4th Weds. 11 -11.30am. Please contact Sue with requests or items for thanks. Ilminster Food Bank is still functioning. Please check that

your donation is well in date. Drop in to St Mary's Parish Rooms on Weds. 10–12 noon or during Foodshare on Sat. 10.15– 11.15am. Financial donations can be sent to St. Mary's Church, Ilminster TA19 0DU. Please mark '**Foodbank**' on the rear of the cheque. Please post or deliver to the Parish Office.

**Ilminster Food Share** is open to all on Saturdays 10.15 –11.15 in The Minster Rooms.

**Recycling :** Used postage stamps (small edge paper around) & collectables e.g. postcards, coins and paper money are gathered & guarantined then sent to The Leprosy Mission.

Blythswood Care: Locally 106 shoeboxes are on their way to The Ukraine this year. Through Blythswood nationally, 75,218 shoeboxes were sent to Eastern Europe last year. Thank you to all who have contributed. You are invited to put shoe boxes aside and from January stationary & writing materials will be welcome for 2022

See also P8 or Village Website <u>www.hortonvillage.co.uk</u>

Contact details: Sue Parsons on 0146054581 or 07771 952799 <u>sue.parsons48@gmail.com</u> & Minister: Rev. Anna Flindell 01460261766 or <u>flindell.anna@yahoo.com</u>

## Rosie Crane Trust

Covid-19 Update: Socially distanced dropin, subject to government guidelines. For safety please ensure you have no Covid symptoms, wear a mask & sanitise hands on entering & leaving, fill in NHS Test & Trace details or scan the QR code. Yeovil & Taunton Drop-in Centres are both from 10.30 to 12.30. For bereaved parents to meet in a safe & confidential environment & talk to others able to understand and empathise. Talking is not obligatory as many simply find it helpful just being with others who have experienced the loss of a child. Yeovil: South St Centre, 20 South St, BA20 1QE (Union St entrance) first Sat of the month: 4 Dec (inc. candle lighting in memory); no Jan drop-in; 5 Feb & 5 Mar. Taunton: Middleway Meeting Hall, Churchill Way, Middleway TA1 3QW 3rd Sat in the month. 18 Dec (inc. candle lighting in memory); 15 Jan; 19 Feb; 19 Mar. 24hr Listening Ear Helpline 01460 55120 Answered by bereaved parents able and willing to listen, for support, assurance & friendship. Ilminster Christmas Tree Festival 29 Nov-2 Dec. Guidelines permitting we hope to participate again this year. As in the past we plan to decorate the tree with photo baubles of children we have lost. It looks lovely and it is moving to see them all together. **Opening times**: Mon 11.00 - 18.00; Tues - Fri 09.00-18.00; Sat. 09.00 - 15.00.

Contact information:

<u>www.rosiecranetrust.org</u> or email us <u>contact@rosiecranetrust.co.uk</u> or telephone us 01460 55120.

(See also Page 2)



#### HORTON: HERE'S A HOW! - CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE

name of the house near the Southfields roundabout, now known as Collins Farm (more of which in the next issue). There is an inkling of a marriage link between the Collins, Dunster and Chirke (or Chicke) families dating from around 1654 which might explain the house name. Of course, it might also have been 'the 6-bedroom house' described by the SIAS study as alongside Hort Bridge Mill. What it isn't is 'Dunsters' the charitable house in Donyatt since its status had already been established by 1624, so both timing and geography argue against it.

Robert's will was personal and substantial; no mention made of the clothing business or mill beyond the bequest to his son William of his finishing & dyeing tools. We must assume his commercial life was settled separately. He left his whole estate to his wife Mary but directed that on her death it was to be divided between his sons. His heir, Robert Jr. had the major portion: '14 acres of meadow Land' near Rippes Mill, 2 ac pasture 'Parkland/Paul's Close' lying near Hortbridge & 'Innoc' land' along with 'Southymooks' being 8 ac in or near Stanton Broadway'. William, his 2<sup>nd</sup> son, would have the 'copy hold tenement  $\mathfrak{S}$  messuage called 'Waldens' & 'Sam's cottage' in Horton' plus 'the toft [another word for 'tenement' or rented accommodation]  $\mathfrak{S}$  close of pastures 'Barnes' and 3 ac 1 rood of land called 'Overfields' in Horton late of Charles Chaffey". Lastly, a '7ac close of land 'Innox Close' would pass to Thomas. The daughters were left £400 apiece, except for Hannah who, having already benefitted by a substantial marriage settlement, got just £200. These lands were notably in and around the Horton Cross area.

One might imagine Robert Collins of Horton Jr. had large shoes to fill. But according to Street, he seems to have been up to the task: 'It is known that in 1765 Robert Collins owned land surrounding both Mills (Hort Bridge and Rose Mill) and their water courses. He produced broadcloth at 4s - 7s per yard of unequalled quality and 1000 pieces annually'. The date confirms he's speaking of Junior not Senior. Robert Jr. took on his father's School Trusteeship but sadly did not match his father's connubial happiness. Despite marrying Jane Raw of Ilminster in Dowlish Wake in 1727 she died 12 years later in 1739, leaving him a widower with no surviving issue. He retained his widowerhood for some 25 years until marrying Joan Hendy of Ilminster 'by licence'1 in May 1764. Robert Jr. died in November 1770 and Joan survived him by 7 years. His will written in 1766 was entirely family focused although completely silent in respect of his widow. One presumes their marriage settlement provided for this eventuality. By now, Robert Jr. had acquired the epithet 'gent' for himself and for future Collins generations, suggesting that his wealth/status had by now transcended mere trade generated income. His 4 surviving sisters Elizabeth, Hannah, Martha and Phoebe received another  $\pounds$ 400 in cash apiece. His sister Mary had become the second sister to die prematurely, with two of his remaining sisters now widowed. Elizabeth was the relict of Ilminster clothier Wallington and had a son, Timothy. His sister Hannah had had 2 daughters (Jane and Mary) by her now defunct Ashill clothier. Martha, meanwhile, had married the Reverend Dr Pierce. It was, however, sister Phoebe who carried the honours on the marital front. At the Minster church in 1730 she married Jeremiah 'Jeremy' Ames, scion of the wealthy Ames family of Bristol with roots in Shepton Mallet. He, one of the 'merchant princes of Bristol', had diverse commercial interests and was in turn Alderman, Sheriff and then Mayor of Bristol. They had 7 children one of whom founded Caves, Ames & Cave later a bank. It is tempting to see in these unions a continuation of the traditional clothier habit of using marriage to cement trade alliances rather than simple love matches.

Having no children of his own, Robert Jr's fortune (except for cash bequests<sup>2</sup>) was entirely settled on his brother William, *'clothier'* of Chard with the proviso that it be divided between William's two surviving sons - John and Thomas on *his* death. So John would inherit all his uncle's freehold and leasehold holdings in Ilminster, Donyatt, Bickenhall whereas Thomas would get his freehold estate in Symondsbury, Dorset. Robert Jr had clearly grown his inheritance.

Fortuitously for our story brother William died a few months after Robert Jr. Thus Robert Jr's will and a very simple 1770 will by '*William Collins, Blue Dyer of Chard*' were probated simultaneously in early 1771 by William's widow Mary. William's will speaks only of his wife Mary & her brother Hayes and a trust established for a granddaughter Mary (offspring of his late son Robert). Without the joint probate ruling I doubt it would have been possible to tie the two together. Robert's pre-existing dispositions for his nephews clearly facilitated William's testamentary simplicity. So despite some personal misfortunes, by the middle of the 18th century the Collins family were seemingly both commercially successful & personally wealthy. Would it last? **HH**.

#### Notes:

- 1. Pursuant to a recent Marriage Act 1753 'for the preventing of clandestine marriages'
- 2. £1000 to nephew Robert Collins, clothier of Ilminster, £500 to nephew Timothy Wallington & £400 to niece Hannah Collins, spinster of Bridport, Dorset.

Not a lot to pin up at the moment!

The Horton Gazette

DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
01: WI 'Xmas Celebrations: HVH	08: Catchup Coffee: IBHMC	7/14/21/28: Art Group: HVH
02 : DGC Xmas & Speakers: HVH	10/17 /24: Art Group: HVH	
03: Tree Lighting: SPC	12: WI 'Kinesiology': HVH	03 : DGC 'Nerines': HVH
6: Art Group: HVH	15/16 : RCT Danceathon : IIm	09: WI : 'SW GSD rescue': HVH
11: Xmas Bazaar: SPCR	16: Horton Ramblers: See PO	17: HFC TBA : HVH
12: Horton Ramblers: See PO	17: Horton PC Meeting : SPCR	
16: HFC Dream Horse: HVH	20: HFC TBA: HVH	20: Horton Ramblers: See PO

Also Mark Your March Diaries for.

Lent lunches (they begin on 5th); Horton Film Club (17th); Horton Ramblers (20th) & Horton PC (21st)

### Winter Church Services in Horton



## Ilminster & Broadway Hill Methodist Church

All services at IBHMC unless stated 1st Sun: 10.30 for 11.00 MORNING WORSHIP<sup>1</sup> 2nd Sun: 10.30 for 11.00 MORNING WORSHIP<sup>2</sup> 3rd Sun: 10.30 for 11.00 FAMILY PRAISE at St. Peter's Church, Horton *(no service at IBHMC)* 4th Sun: 10.30 for 11.00 MORNING WORSHIP<sup>3</sup> 5th Sun: 10.30 for 11.00 MORNING WORSHIP<sup>3</sup> 0/1 Notes to the above services are as follows: <sup>1</sup> Incl. 2 Jan (led by Bob Hicks). <sup>2</sup>12 Dec is a CAROL SERVICE with refreshments led by Rev Flindell. <sup>3</sup>On 26 Dec. there is no service at IBHMC. Additional services: 22 Dec: 5.45pm Do join us in a 30 min 'Family Carols' with Nativity story & favourite carols & Refreshments. 25 Dec: Short Christmas Day Coffee and Carols 10am

<u>Ath March is 'World Prayer Day</u>': *I know the plans I have for you: said the Lord*'. A supper followed by a service is planned at IBHMC Names to Sue please by 18th Feb. Informal, interesting & dramatic. All welcome. See also P5& the Village Website



As ever, the Editor thanks the Horton Village Website Group, the Horton Village Hall Committee and *all* contributors for their support in the production of this newsletter. Hopefully the next issue of *The* Horton Gazette will appear at the beginning of March 2022 but these days such predictions are risky. Nevertheless to insert something in the next issue, comment or feed back historical material, please contact Hortonsia on 01460 57069 or via the "Contact the Editor" button on the Gazette page of the Village Website: <u>www.hortonvillage.co.uk</u> by the 15 February 2022. Copies are delivered to all the residents of Horton by volunteers. We are, as always, really grateful to them for their efforts. Hortonsia Hearsay