NOVEMBER 2026

HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON

in association with

SOMERSET MOVIOLA

proudly presents

TUNER

(15)

Leo Woodall stars as a gifted young piano tuner whose heightened sense of hearing draws the attention of criminals, who see his talents as useful for opening safes as for tuning Steinways.

With his once-promising musical career over, he works across New York with his mentor Harry Horowitz (Dustin Hoffman), encountering a range of characters, including composition student Ruthie (Havana Rose Liu), with whom he forges an unexpected connection.

in Hardington Mandeville Village Hall on Thursday 19th November.

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.hardingtonparish.gov.uk

Moviola

Charity No 1107640

AROUND THE VILLAGE

WELCOME: Hannah and Tim Osborne with their labrador Mahler recently moved into Woodcot, Hardington Moor. During the purchasing process they found the Messenger and have been reading it and very much look forward to contributing to village life and meeting everyone. We welcome you and wish you well in your new home.

CONGRATULATIONS: Penny and David Parrott were pleased to welcome a new granddaughter Camilla Mae, a 1st daughter for their son Mike and his partner Chloe. Linda and John Eglon also welcomed a new granddaughter, when their son Matt and his wife Olivia had their 2nd daughter Winnie Grace, a sister for Lottie. Congratulations to you all.

THANKS: The Messenger Team would like to thank Jackie Buckingham for delivering the Messenger for a few months recently whilst the usual deliverer was recovering from an accident. We very much appreciate **ALL** our deliverers, some of whom have done this monthly job for over 30 years. We could not deliver the Messenger so widely without you.

GET WELL: Our good wishes are sent to those who have been in hospital recently, especially those we know of, Sonia Nitti, Margaret Wilkins and Alan Grassam.

CONDOLENCES: Unfortunately, we report the death of four villagers this month. David Beckley, who had lived in the village for about 20 years, was well known for being a magician and entertained many of us over the years. Sadly, David died following a fall. Our condolences are sent to David's family.

Angela Lewis, who had lived in Pendomer for several years died suddenly. We send our condolences to her husband Bruce and their family.

Jonathan Chadwick moved to Rydon Farm, Hardington with his wife Fiona almost 30 years ago. Jonathan was involved with St Mary's Church and was a Church warden for a while. Sadly, he was unwell for most of 2026 and died peacefully at home. Our thoughts are with Fiona and family at this sad time.

Hazel Turner of Primrose Hill Farm, has sadly died after a long illness. Condolences to Stan and the family.

THANK YOU:to everyone who has taken the time to visit or send me their best wishes, cards and flowers following my recent health scare. All have been very much appreciated. Thanks again, Heather Ivory

W.I.

The WI gathered on Wednesday 14th October, for an informative talk from Neil Smart of Medical Detection Dogs – a wonderful charity that trains dogs to detect changes in body odour linked to human illnesses. At present, the Bio Detection Dogs can pick up certain Cancers, Parkinson's, Cystic Fibrosis, Malaria, Covid and UTIs.

Medical Alert Assistance Dogs support people with complex conditions such as PoTS, (Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome), Addison's disease, severe allergies and complex PTSD. These clever dogs warn their owners before a collapse or coma, giving them time to get safe. They are registered medical dogs with the same rights as guide dogs for the blind. Dr Guest OBE set up the charity in 2004 after her own dog spotted early-stage breast cancer, and their patron is The Queen.

The dogs are trained through play and absolutely love their work – they all have homes and enjoy walks, games, downtime and cuddles.We ended the evening after this interesting talk with cheese and wine and lots of chatter.For more information about this charity their web address is www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm, we meet in the Village Hall, and new members are most welcome. You will be entitled to 2 free meetings and will be warmly welcomed. Our speaker next month is Angela Lane, and her talk will be on, Good Gut Feeling. There will be an opportunity for members to make their own kefir.

Jackie Buckingham.

The Hardington Poppy Displays

Since early July a goodly number of wonderful Hardington ladies, primarily from the village "Craft & Chatter Group", have been busy knitting over **six hundred** poppies as the basis for Remembrance Day displays in the village. There will be two displays; one at the church entrance and the other, perhaps more visible, at the restored High Street 'phone box. Beside each display will be an explanation of the patches of different colours within the presentation. There will also be a soldier from the 'standing with giants' ethos at both locations. It is hoped that these presentations will refresh the principle of never forgetting individual family's past contribution to conflicts, and that you willingly wear a poppy on your clothing at this time. For the inhabitants of our village, particularly the younger element, it may be poignant to highlight that we have three genuine war graves* within our churchyard that are worth a visit. (*One is a cremation interment of just nineteen years ago at the westerly edge of the churchyard).

Jackie & Iayn Thomas

Useful information from the Parish Council

Roads and Planning

- Temporary closure Primrose Hill, Hardington Mandeville, East Coker and West Coker. Works will commence on 28 October for three days for Wessex Water to replace a chamber. You can check for updates at somerset.gov.uk.
- Halves lane planning permission appeal for 14 light industrial units on the open green space has been dismissed. The decision can be found using reference 3377482 at https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Infrastructure

- Car parking charges; a new charging system will come into effect from autumn 2027 improving county wide consistency and increasing fees by 10%.
- Flood resilience. DEFRA has allocated £50million for flood resistance in Somerset in a plan called 'My Community', which identifies and address flood defences across the county.

Further information on these issues can be found at www.somerset.gov.uk

Community and homeowner grants

- Home energy efficiency. Grants of up to £9000 are available to install heat pumps and other energy efficient systems. A collaboration between Thermly and Somerset Council provides information on green energy and funding options. See www.thermly.co.uk for further information.
- Historic England is offering up to £15,000 until 27 November 2026 to help communities improve their neighbourhood and celebrate its history. Further information can be found at www.historicengland.org.uk and searching for 'neighbourhood heritage grants'.

Sarah Duncan

SHOE BOXES FOR CHRISTMAS

I will be collecting filled shoeboxes to send to children around the world via Samaritans Purse UK for Christmas. You can collect a pre-printed shoebox from me at Springfield Stores and return to me by 10th November. Thank you from Daphne Creed

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The 100 club winners for October were: 1st prize Richard Beatson, 2nd prize Linda Dewar and 3rd prize Alan Grassam. 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 4th November.

This month's film will be held at the hall on 19th November, when we will be showing 'Tuner'. There will be an evening performance only and the doors will open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. We will take a break half way through the film to enable you to purchase refreshments and/or a drink from the bar. We hope that you can come along as no film will be shown in December.

The Committee would like to thank Dy Catford for donating £260.00 from the September coffee morning. Our September film 'The Christophers' made a profit of £145.43 both of these sums were put towards village hall funds. Thank you to everyone for your support and for donating cakes, raffle prizes etc. Our energy costs came to £69.12 for the month of September 26. The hall insurance premium of £1740.46 is due this month.

The flooring in the corridor to the rear of the hall has now been replaced, Simon Paxton has treated the wood surrounding the garage door, Tom Gillingham has painted the area where the ramp used to be and Stewart Ogden and Derek Richards have done some painting. PAT testing was completed on 9th October. The fire risk assessment has been done and the health and safety risk assessment was completed by me with support from Nigel Fowler in October.

You may wish to reserve the date in your diary for the evening of Saturday 9th January when there will be an evening of music and song at the hall performed by local musicians 'Maggot's Diversions', to raise funds for St Mary's Church and the village hall. More details to follow, but I would expect tickets and posters to be available from December.

Finally, my time as chairperson of your village hall came to an end on 31st October 26 and I should like to thank all of you as well as the hall committee for all the help and support you have given me towards maintaining and improving the village hall over the last few years.

Karen Dodge

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

We look forward to seeing you at Dy's next coffee morning which will take place at Hardington Village Hall on 28 November 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 be open from 10 am to 12 noon and there will be a variety of delicious cakes and savoury is on sale for you to try including: bacon or breakfast rolls, bacon and cheese wraps, savoury scones et cetera we also offer a range of teas as well as inside your filter coffee is. 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. If anyone was 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 Dyane Catford on 07956.

Alice in Wonderland – Hardington Players

The Hardington Players invite you to step into the extraordinary world of **Alice in Wonderland** in their upcoming production in December. A cast of your favourite Wonderland characters including The Mad Hatter, the White Rabbit, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, the Queen of Hearts and even a very sleepy Dormouse, will bring to life the curious adventures of a little girl lost down a rabbit hole. Expect flamingo croquet, a chaotic courtroom, missing tarts and the Queen's famous cry of "Off with her head!"

Performance times:
Friday 4 December – 7.30pm
Saturday 5 December – 2-30pm Matinee, where the audience is warmly encouraged to dress up and embrace the absurdity of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party.
Saturday 5 December - 7.30pm

Tickets go on sale at Springfield Stores from Friday 30 November. They will also be available at **The Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea Party,** hosted by **The Royal Oak on Sunday 1 November**, where children and adults are invited to dress up and join some of the characters from the story while enjoying sandwiches, cakes and scones prepared by The Royal Oak team (adult and children's menus available.) Bookings and dietary requirements should be made directly with The Royal Oak. Tanya Ogden

THE PARISH CLERK WRITES…

The October Meeting…

The application for two new houses on Lyatts Hill has now been approved.

Cllr Carpenter reported that he had received a photo of someone riding a horse in the nature reserve, which is not allowed. This has happened several times this year. He has contacted the English Nature manager to report this, who has now decided to lock the top gate of the field to prevent access for horses. Anyone who needs wheelchair access to the nature reserve should contact Cllr Carpenter to obtain the combination number. The English Nature reserve manager will not hesitate to prosecute if this happens again, please report any further transgressions to the parish council.

Tim Marsh has kindly offered to 'top' the 'wild flower area' on the community field. The PC thanked Tim for offering to do this once again.

The Ranger has fitted anti-slip grippers to the Climbing Frame steps in order to make it less slippery when wet.

Cllr Hall announced that Karen Dodge is resigning as Village Hall Chairman at the end of the month, and thanked her for all her work and dedication. The rest of the parish council also thanked her.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20th October, 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.hardingtonparish.gov.uk You can contact me at clerk@hardingtonparish.gov.uk, tel: 07815 965113 or in writing at Grove House, Pendomer, Somerset, BA22 9PH.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

VILLAGE AT HOME COFFEE MORNING NOVEMBER

You are welcome to join us at our next at home coffee morning on Wednesday November18th, 10.30 to 12 noon. Our hosts are Chris and Sue Turner at Beech Cottage, rectory Lane. We enjoy a good natter and catch up of village news over a cup of coffee. All villagers are welcome, especially those new to the village. We look forward to seeing you.

Pauline Grassam

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What's On At The Royal Oak

ROYAL OAK
Sonny's

Sunday 1st November

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Join us for afternoon tea from 3.30pm. In association with the Hardington Players and their production of Alice in Wonderland

Thursday 5th November

Bonfire Night

Bring the whole family along for another of our great village firework displays.
BBQ from 6pm
Fireworks from 7pm

Thursday 12th November

Quiz Night

Book in for the monthly charity quiz night.
Bring a team of up to 6 people and have a great night.

Saturday 14th November

Big Breakfast

The best way to start your Saturday!
From 9am until 11am
Booking is highly reccomended

Thursday 19th November

Acoustic Night

Live music from the very talented local legends... The Flying Bray Brothers
Playing from 7-9pm

Friday 27th November

Surprise Supper

The last of this year's themed evenings will be another brilliant surprise supper. With a completely secret menu that you won't know until you get here.
Book in now

Don't Forget:

Thursday Lunch Club

£12 main courses

Served 12-2pm

Bells, bride and poetry

Gordon Rendell's father Bert, one time villager and choirboy here, wrote a book entitled 'It all started with a ferret, Memories of a Somerset Choirboy'. This book is still available at £13 from Gordon. I recently purchased a copy, and Gordon gave me a poem written by my father Maurice, poet and bell ringer of sorts, which I had never seen before, and is printed below. It would be interesting to discover who the happy couple were! Robin Carpenter

Epithalamium for two young Ringers

'Twill be London', and the Lord knows what
Now these ringers tie the knot:
Treble treble bobbing up
And hunting back till time to sup:
Second, sickened by the weather
Weaves these bright bell-threads together,
While the third goes like a bird
Touching melodies unheard.
Lying, dodging, four and five
Strike their blows as if alive;
Listen to the agile tenor
Booming out from here to Zennar,
Make this merry celebration
A campanological occasion.
My verbal tintinnabulation
Offers this congratulation.
All joy! Now, Gordon, make the call.
Bob! Single! Bob That's all!
MC (*An epithalamium is a poem written specifically to celebrate the bride on her way to the marital chamber)*

Hardington Garden Club

We will be meeting in the Village Hall for the last time this year, on Wednesday 25th November, for our Annual General Meeting and Festive Supper, cooked and served by Martin and his team from the Royal Oak. Anne Lunt is coordinating numbers for the supper. Please contact her at gardenclubevents@btinternet.com as soon as possible as spaces are limited. The cost is a very reasonable £25 per head.

Members please come for 7pm for a 7:30pm start as there are a lot of us to seat. The formal proceedings involve electing our new committee for 2027 and celebrating all that we have been up to in 2026, from a busy speaker programme, our highly successful Plant Sale, to our Village Flower, Produce and Craft Show. We will then move on to the fun part of the evening, our Festive Supper. Please remember to bring what you would like to drink!

Sally Thompson

WEEKLY EVENTS.

Mon.	**Zen Yoga, Village Hall.**	**9.45am**
Tues.	**Tai Chi/Qigong , Village Hall .**	**6.30pm**
Tues.	**Mahjong. 07853420202**	**7.15pm**
Wed .	**Pilates, Village Hall.**	**11.30am**
Fri.	**Bell ringing practise St Mary's Hardington.**	**7.30pm**

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

ST MARY'S HARDINGTON

Sun 8th	**Remembrance Service.**	**10.45am**
Wed 11th.	**Morning Prayer & Remembrance Vigil.**	**10.30am**
Sun 22nd	**Holy Communion**	**10.30am**

ST ROCH PENDOMER

Sun 8th	**No service**	
Sun 15th	**Holy Communion**	**9.15am**
Sun 22nd.	**Family Service.**	**9.45am**

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Wed 4th **Village Hall Draw,** Village Hall, All Welcome. **7.30pm**
Tues 10th **Choir Practice,** Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor. **7.30pm**
Wed 11th **W.I.** Village Hall, New Members and Guests Welcome **7.30pm**
Tues 17th **Parish Council Meeting,** Village Hall, All Welcome. **7.30pm**
Wed 18th **Village at Home Coffee Morning,** Beech Cottage **10.30am-12noon**
Thurs 19th **Hollywood in Hardington,** Village Hall, **Doors open 7pm**

DECEMBER 18th LAST DATE FOR JANUARY MESSENGER

Please send copy to: messenger@hardingtonparish.gov.uk

Tues 24th **Choir Practice,** Weavers Cottage, Hardington Moor. **7.30pm**
Wed 25th **Garden Club, AGM, Festive Supper** Village Hall. **7.30pm**
Sat 28th **Village Hall Coffee Morning,** Village Hall**,** All Welcome **10am-12noon**

Bright future for cricket at Halves Lane

The success of our ongoing junior programme was evident at the end of season awards at the Jubilee Pavilion in September. Over 60 players and parents from our U10, U12 and U14 teams were in attendance supported by our coaches and volunteers. These players have progressed through the All Stars and Dynamos National Initiative that is run through May and June at Halves Lane, and hopefully we will see some of the older players progressing into to adult cricket section of play in the near future. Supporting our juniors is the lifeblood for sustaining the village club, and we were delighted to have received a record 45 registrations of girls and boys for this year's All Stars & Dynamos Friday night sessions.

Our senior sides also fared well with the Saturday league team missing out on promotion by just one point and our Women's team enjoyed another season in the Gibson pairs division. The mid week T20 cavaliers supported by Will Brooks' had their 2 year winning streak ended by a single run against a Symonds & Sampson XI, but managed to out eat and drink them at The New Inn!

Other events we proudly supported at Halves Lane this summer were the Somerset Cricket Foundation girls U14 tournament and disability cricket sessions for young adults in the Yeovil area.

Thanks to the work of our volunteers, supporters and Rec Ground Trustees the club is thriving and we welcome anyone interested in getting involved to contact us at westcokerhardington@gmail.com

Finally, a big thank you to our club sponsor, Martock Dental Practice, who have seen the value of being associated with a village community hub. There is always room for more sponsors!