

Harston Village News



Harston
Monday
Lunch Club
Celebrates
50 yrs



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August – September 2026

We value your views in the Village News Survey

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Tel area code 01223 (Cambridge)

Parish Council Chair	Rupert Pearce Gould	www.harstonparishcouncil.gov.uk 07836701930
Parish Council Clerk	Jessica Harding	clerk@harstonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Kiddiwinks Preschool	Katherine Cobbald	870345
H.A.T.S (Amateur Theatre)	Rupert Dick	rupertdick@hotmail.co.uk
Harston Folk Dance Club	Vicky	07905 039195
Clubs & Scouts	James Prisk	0775886864
Women's Institute	Marilyn Dickerson	871725
Village Hall	Bookings Secretary	07551606621
Social Car Scheme	Janet Birchmore	07519900894
Lunch Club (Mon 12.45)	June Boakes	870777
Badminton Club	Hilary Roadley	871244
Indoor Bowls	Howard Owen	874636
Harston Local History Group	Hilary Roadley	hilary.roadley@hotmail.com
River Rhee Group	Rupert Pearce Gould	rpg@cmc-group.co.uk
Litter Pick	Chinnu Alexander	harstonlitterpick@hotmail.co.uk
Harston Community Orchard	Andy Lawson	07973 368897
Harston FC	Carl Pedlar	07796931578 harstonfc@hotmail.com
Harston Residents Group		harstonresidents@gmail.com

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Tel area code 01223 (Cambridge)

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Parish Council Clerk	clerk@hauxton.gov.uk 07354604249
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Hauxton Centre Market	hauxtonmarket@gmail.com
Hauxton News Desk	hauxtonnews@gmail.com
Hauxton School association	hauxtonschoolassociation@gmail.com

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Women's Institute	Diane Oakley	871092
Village Rooms Bookings	Bob Croft	
Sports and Social Club	The Steward	871898

COUNCILLORS

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County Councillors	Peter Fane	cllr.fane@scambs.gov.uk
	Laurence Damary-Homan	Laurence.damary-homan@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
District Councillors	Lisa Redrup	cllr.redrup@scambs.gov.uk
	Ariel Cahn	Cllr.CahnA@scambs.gov.uk

Harston Monday Lunch Club

Celebrates 50 yrs

On 1 June 2026, Harston Monday Lunch Club celebrated 50 years of serving the community.

Founded in 1975/76 by Iris Armstrong and Vida Fletcher, the club has provided lunch for up to 40 people every Monday, apart from bank holidays and throughout August.

Over the years, this has meant more than 2,000 Mondays and many thousands of meals, all prepared, cooked and served by volunteers. As records in the parish magazine show, volunteers have always been in short supply!

To mark the occasion, we hired an excellent caterer who served a delicious two-course lunch for 60 people, including current members, volunteers and invited guests. It was our way of thanking the volunteers and the many people in the village who have supported the lunch club over the years. The caterer also supplied all the cutlery and crockery, so there was no washing up!

A raffle in aid of Arthur Rank Hospice was generously supported and raised more than £200.

In 1976 members paid 50p for the meal. It is now £5 having slowly risen with inflation over the years but is still extremely good value.

Everyone enjoyed a long, relaxed lunch and the warm, friendly atmosphere.

If you would like to join Lunch Club as a member or are willing to join our volunteer team please contact June on 01223 870777 or email june@boakes.plus.com





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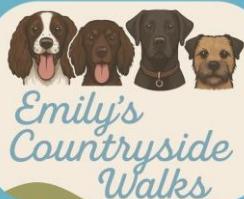
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HARSTON VILLAGE HALL

WHAT'S ON

Don't forget the monthly (1st Saturday) Better Brew and bake sale – come along for coffee and homemade cake. The Hall is a great venue for parties and weddings: just go to the website: <https://www.harstonvillagehall.org.uk>

Weekly Events and Booking Information

Mondays 1pm – 2.30pm £5.00 charge Does not operate in August 7.30 - 930pm £5.00 charge	Lunch Club Open to anyone who would like a wholesome home-cooked meal june@boakes.plus.com Contact telephone: 01223 870777 Bowls Club Open for gentle exercise and social interaction Contact davidluhrs@btinternet.com or Howard Owen 8774636
Tuesdays 9.00am – 1.30pm	Pilates Elena Kapitsa elenakapitsa@gmail.com
Tuesdays 1.30pm – 6.00pm	Tai Chi Fiona Tucker Fmt100@gmail.com
Tuesdays 6.00pm – 10.00pm	Folk Dancing Bruce Marshall Bmarshall_uk@yahoo.co.uk
Wednesdays 9.00am – 1.00pm	Flower Arranging Julie Woods Julie.Woods@ajwdistribution.co.uk
Wednesdays 1.30pm – 6.00pm	Children's Dance Classes Harriet Walmesley hotstepsdanceacademy@gmail.com
Wednesdays 6.00pm – 10.00pm	Adult Dance Classes Harriet Walmesley hotstepsdanceacademy@gmail.com
Thursdays 9.00am – 1.30pm 6.00pm – 10.00pm	Slimming World Isobel Skinner Isobel.slimmingworld@gmail.com Tel: 07775791692
Fridays 9.00am – 11.30am	Harston Painters Clive Whitworth c45jw@gmail.com



With World Cup fever gripping the country this Summer, Harston have also been involved in some thrilling tournament action, even lifting a replica World Cup trophy of their own!

Our **U11s** finished their season in the best way imaginable, being crowned outright champions at the Melbourn Dynamos invitational tournament. Our **U10s** also put on a great show after some tough opening games to reach the final of the Bowl Trophy. A huge thanks to John and his team for organising a great event. Thank you again to Porsche Centre Cambridge for sponsoring our kits.

The **U11s** started the group stage with a 0-0 draw that hardly anticipated the excitement to come but a 1-0 win followed by a comprehensive 3-0 win in the final group game secured top spot in the group. In the **Quarter Final** against Haslingfield the team created lots of chances and took an early lead, but Haslingfield fought back to level the game and take it to penalties. Harston's first penalty was buried, the second saved, but our goalkeeper saved the next two to take the team through. A tight competitive **Semi Final** against Girton Greens finished 0-0 and the team had to hold their nerve for penalties again. Our heroic agile keeper again made the saves to get us a place in the final..

The **final** was against a strong Girton Reds team, but Harston made a lightning fast start with an early goal from our striker, his fourth of the tournament. A thrilling game followed, with chances at both ends, and hard fought battles across the pitch. Time ticked away and when the ref signalled it was all over, it was the Harston boys, resplendent in their green and white, who were celebrating.

Harston U12 Colts

Next year the under 11 team will be stepping up to the U12 Colts league and are looking for a small number of keen players to help defend Fortress Harston from opposition goals - if you have a child (current year six starting going into year 7) who could fit that role, please do get in touch.

Contact: Daniel Holyoake - harstonfc@hotmail.com

Harston Girls

We are delighted to be running Harston Girls again next season with some excellent dedicated coaching. We are looking to expand this more and would really welcome extra girls (current year 1 or below).

Contact: Abi Richards - harstonfc@hotmail.com

Harston U7s

Next season we will be launching an U7 team (current year 1s) with some of our graduating Bees. We have some great players and help already but are looking for more players and help with coaching.

Contact: Andy Morris - harstonfc@hotmail.com

In Memory of John Dams

Everyone at the club was deeply saddened to hear about the passing of John Dams. John was a familiar and welcome face on the sidelines, frequently attending both youth and adult matches to cheer on our teams. He was a big part of the club's community, even stepping up as a youth team coach for a while to help guide and inspire our players during their teens.

John's passion for football and his support for our community club will be greatly missed by everyone at the club. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends at this difficult time.



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7am – 9pm Sunday

Prescriptions are delivered there on Monday and Thursday
There's a drop-off point for Harston Food Hub too.

Both sell a wide range of food and other goods.

Thank you for your continued support

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Better Brew Fair Trade Community Café and Harston Village Hall Bakers

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Saturday 1 Aug & Saturday 5 Sept



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Profits from Harston Village Hall Bakers go towards the operating costs of the hall.



HARSTON SCOUTS

It's been a busy Summer already for Harston's Scouts.

Both the Cubs and the Scouts have spent time kayaking on the River Cam at Grantchester recently. Our younger members, the Squirrels (aged 4-6) and the Beavers (aged 6-8) have also enjoyed a sleepover at the Duxford Scout HQ. As well as fire-lighting and making 'Campfire Pizzas', they used the bouldering wall and tunnel complex – some of them even slept at night.

Our Cubs (aged 8-10.5) will be camping in September, however, our Scouts (age 10-5-14.5) have recently camped at the excellent Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre in Norwich. Crate stacking, backwoods cooking, raft building, air rifle shooting and a cave-bus experience were the activities on offer. The quality of camp cooking was excellent with fine breakfast pancakes, a full English and superb chilli con carne being cooked from scratch by our young people. Most participants were sound asleep by Wymondham on the return journey – always the measure of a good weekend camp.

Once again the Group is struggling for adult leaders, the Cub section is without a full time leader. We'd really like to see three or four adults becoming involved either on a full time or part time basis. As I've said many times before, there is a need for those in their 20's, 30's and 40's to step up and provide the experience for the children of today that they enjoyed as children. Come and join us, bring your skills, change a life.

If you have children that wish to join one of our sections, please contact us. James Prisk. Group Scout Leader (Group Lead Volunteer), 1st Harston Scout Group. joinus@1stharston.org.uk



HARSTON PARISH COUNCIL



Supporting the Community

I was delighted to join in the 50th celebrations of the Lunch Club - I always knew that Iris was older than most of the attendees and it is a fitting tribute that it is alive and kicking under June Boakes after 50 years. And the churches are creating activities outside of services - do creep down and hear Prime Brass practising or the Bells being tolled.

What I do like seeing is the scouts and football teams thriving. The Council is supportive of these activities and it is a joy to see our grounds being put to good use. And I look forward to welcoming a girls' football team - we will need to look again at our facilities if they expand. Do watch out for Friendlies on Saturday afternoons and evening games on Wednesday 5th and Thursday 27th August at 5-45pm.

I am afraid that we cannot quite escape East West Rail. Cambridge University has now said that the impact on the radio telescope will damage their research and I have yet to hear anyone explain why freight needs to go through Harston or Cambridge. Yes, taking it off the road helps but I can only say the route is the most tortuous possible; it should go on a dedicated straight line from Cambourne to Felixstowe - geography pupils please note. A light railway might help our local transport system but that is not EWR's plan. The working Group is still hoping that EWR will move the line further away from us and save Station Rd, Newton Rd and our rural setting.

We are still 4 councillors short of a full team so if this suits you better than running around a playing field please do call me and make an impact on the long-term future of Harston - whether it is planning, improving the highways or making the greens look better and cared for. And don't forget that our orchard needs your help to turn those apples into juice - call Andy - see the article in this edition. Come and join us with new ideas.

Have a great summer.

Rupert Pearce Gould, Chair



Summer is well and truly here, and things are buzzing at The Royal Oak!

 **The Old Tuck Shop Is Open for Business** - Good news for pizza lovers. The Old Tuck Shop is slinging fresh, delicious pizzas regularly throughout the week. Whether you'd prefer to grab and go or settle in with us at the pub, the choice is yours. **Thursday:** 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM, **Friday & Saturday:** 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM (*Takeaway or eat in — whatever suits!*)

 **Friday, 7th August & 4th September Car Club 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**
Classic cars, good food, and even better company - what more could you ask for? The Old Tuck Shop serving up sourdough pizzas and Pimp My Fish bringing their legendary fish and chips. Come early - it gets busy fast!

 **Quiz Night — Sunday, 27th September, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**
Got a competitive streak? Put your knowledge to the test at our charity Quiz Night, hosted by the brilliant Ben or Gary! **Entry:** Just £2 per person.
In aid of: Forget-Me-Not charity. It's a great night for a great cause.
Round up your team, dust off your general knowledge, and come join the fun.
All proceeds go directly to Forget-Me-Not - so every £2 counts.

 **Bank Holiday Garden Celebrations** - The bank holiday is the perfect excuse to pull up a chair in our garden and enjoy the sunshine. We'll be open all week, so whether you fancy a cold beer, a refreshing spritz, or something in between, come find us outside. We'd love to see you!

 **Our New Opening Hours** - We've updated our opening hours - here's everything you need to know before your next visit:

The Pub: Monday - Thurs Lunch 12.00 - 22.00,
Friday / Saturday 12:00 - 23:00 & Sunday 11:45 - 18:00

The Restaurant - We are Now open at 5pm!
Monday - Fri lunch 12:00 - 14:30, Monday - Thurs eve 17:00 - 20:00,
Friday Evening 17:00 - 20:30, Saturday 12:00 - 20:30, Sunday 11.45 - 16:00

Amelie & The Royal Oak Team
Call: 01223 870791. Email: royaloak@cambscuisine.com
FBook: www.facebook.com/ROakBarrington

Nature Table

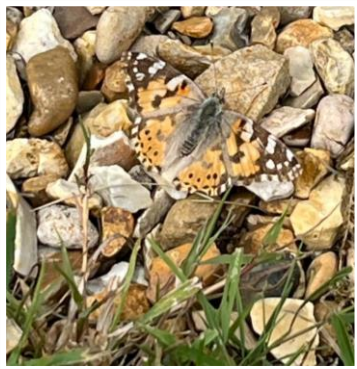
Elizabeth Judge



50% of our **butterfly species** is in long term decline. The usual reasons are given, habitat loss, pesticides and climate change. Butterflies are highly sensitive indicators of the health of the environment and play a crucial role in the food chain as well as being pollinators of plants. In the UK there are 60 species of butterflies and two regular migrants, the painted lady and the clouded yellow. They have been around for at least 50 million years. Blue tits eat an estimated 50 billion moth caterpillars each year. To encourage butterflies, you can grow buddleja, lavender, verbenas and scabious. I recently went for a walk through Trumpington Meadows and I think there are more insects around than last year. The wild flower planting there is fabulous.

I came across a **hornet mimic** hoverfly recently, unfortunately dead but an interesting little creature. The mimicry helps to protect it from predators, harmless to humans. Capable of buzz pollination where they rapidly contract their flight muscles without moving their wings. This creates intense vibrations used to shake pollen out of firmly locked, tube-like flowers. It is essential for fertilising many staple crops, including tomatoes and blueberries.

I was fortunate enough to go to Rutland Water recently and see the **ospreys** despite the bad weather. It was a first for me and lovely to see the resident breeding pair with their clutch of 4 eggs from the comfort of the cafe via the camera.



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WED 9.00am SAWSTON

Free Church Hall, 1 High St,
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**THURS 9.15am & 6.00pm
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Reaching **London Road**, cross over to right and walk along grass verge until you reach **Donkey Lane**, a dirt track on your left.



Follow the lane into **Hauxton**. At the road T junction turn left and walk along **Church Road** past the church.



Continue along Church Road to **A10**. Cross over to left using road island and take the public bridleway opposite, up to **Rectory Farm**. Continue along the bridleway until you turn left on a public footpath leading to **Button End**.



After **Beech Farm Cottages** take the public footpath to left walking through pastures until you reach **Church Street**.



Turn left and you arrive at **The Green** with the sign for Harston.



For more walks in and around Harston purchase for £2 a copy of the booklet compiled by Hilary Roadley. They are available at the Harston history group stall at Better Brew coffee mornings in the village hall on the 1st Sat of the month.



Your Village News Shaped by You



Harston Village News

has always been at its best when it reflects the interests, ideas and voices of the community. As the village continues to evolve, we would love to hear from residents about what you would like to see more of in future editions and how Village News can continue to grow for the future.

Have Your Say - Scan the QR code to complete the short survey online



Or, if you prefer, simply tick the questions below and return this page to Harston Post Office. What would you like to see more of?

Please tick any topics that interest you:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Local news and village updates | ☐ Arts, creativity and photography |
| ☐ Community events and clubs | ☐ Local achievements and celebrations |
| ☐ History and memories of Harston | ☐ Community groups and volunteering opportunities |
| ☐ Nature, walks and wildlife | ☐ Eating out |
| ☐ Young people's activities and voices | ☐ Sports if so what |
| ☐ Planning and village development updates | ☐ Water sports - river activities |
| ☐ Features on local people or businesses | ☐ Shopping |
| ☐ Health, wellbeing and volunteering | ☐ Garages and car issues |
| ☐ Other ideas (please add) | ☐ Old people - chess or bridge clubs |
| | |
| | |

Printed or Digital?

As Village News develops, how would you prefer to access future editions?

- ☐ Printed copy delivered to your home
- ☐ Digital/online version
- ☐ Both printed and digital
- ☐ No preference

Could You Help Shape the Next Chapter?

We are looking to expand the Village News editorial and volunteer team and would warmly welcome residents with skills or interests in:

- ☐ Writing and interviewing
- ☐ Editing and proofreading
- ☐ Photography
- ☐ Graphic design and layout
- ☐ Social media and digital communications
- ☐ Website or digitisation support
- ☐ Advertising and local sponsorship
- ☐ Community outreach and ideas generation
- ☐ General volunteering/helping occasionally

Whether you can offer regular support or occasional help, fresh energy and new perspectives are always valuable. It is a rewarding way to contribute to village life, meet people, enhance your own skill set and learn from one another while helping strengthen community connections.

Additional Comments / Ideas

.....
.....

Interested in helping or hearing more?

Name:

Address:

Email or mobile number

.....

All responses will be used only to help shape the future of Village News and community engagement in Harston.

Harston Local History Group

What are the origins of local house names?

Many detached houses were built on the High St, and named before the advent of Post Office numbering. Some name origins are obvious such as the Old Police House, but others such as Lacock House, Walton Cottage, Laurels, Hayden Cottage, Southfield, Hethersett and Redville may have an interesting history behind them. Please let us know if you have any information about the origins of any Harston house names.

Kerrymead is one such house (125 High St/ 2 Sheepshead Lane). We knew from the late Tony Gatward that the Michell family lived there. Census information told us Eric Michell & wife Irene had moved there by 1921 and that Irene came from Kerry, in Ireland, hence the name. He met Irene when serving in the army in Ireland. Although Eric was born in Steyning, West Sussex, his family were reasonably well off and he went to Cambridge University so perhaps moved here because he discovered the village then. Kerrymead below in 1920s.

When Eric & Irene sold up around 1950 to move to New Zealand, their son built a house fronting the High St on some of Kerrymead's land, that now has the BP garage.



That house was built in early 1950s and named Cautley Croft. In the same way Eric had named his house after his wife's old Irish home, so too did his son Brian, naming Cautley Croft after a waterfall (Cautley Spout) near the town of Sedbergh in the Lake District where his wife Mary grew up.

Hilary Roadley July 2026. More information can be found on our displays at Better Brew in Village Hall or on www.harstonhistory.org.uk

Harston Community Orchard & Meadow



Have you visited the orchard and meadow recently?

If not there is an opportunity coming up in September when the Orchard Volunteers will once again be picking apples to be juiced, bottled and sold to raise funds to help look after the orchard and meadow.

Last year we picked enough apples to make several hundred bottles of juice. Keep a look out on the Harston and Newton Families Facebook page for further details of the apple picking event. Come and join us!

In the meantime the volunteers are hard at work all through the year cutting back brambles, planting and pruning trees and battling against the moths that infest the trees during the spring/ summer.



If you would like to help us at our monthly working parties please email andy.lawson1@yahoo.co.uk for further details.



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Village Hall

1 Aug: History of
Station Road

5 Sept: Harston
History through maps

www.harstonhistory.org.uk

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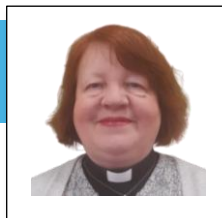
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Letter from the Vicarage



They say you should never meet your idols, largely because they usually disappoint if they have been elevated to such a high position in your eyes. In meeting them, we see they are completely human, just like us. My daughter and I had this experience recently when, on holiday, we found ourselves being invited to be extras for a well known Channel 5 TV show that is set on a cruise ship. Very soon our glamorous ideas about filming on location with well known actors was blown out of the window when we experienced the boredom of waiting around, having hold ups and doing lots of takes with little movement. But it was an experience nonetheless. And we met a couple of our idols who turned out to be very lovely and ordinary people. Of course they were.

Similarly, we recently had a visit and a wonderful evening at All Saints' church in early June when we hosted the extraordinary Dame Evelyn Glennie. Her reputation precedes her and it is fair to say that the church was packed with her fans, some of whom couldn't believe they were in the presence of such a famous musician. She didn't disappoint and we were treated to a fascinating insight into her story and her inspiring comments on what music brings to our lives. Again, she came across as very natural, lovely and ordinary. Of course she was.

Jesus has been depicted many times in film and the portrayal is extraordinary. Yet Jesus says he is one of us... he walked and lived among us so we can know him and relate to him. When we pray and ask him to be with us, it's not like a celebrity turning up on set with cameras clicking and selfies being taken. No, when Jesus turns up, he sits down beside us, unobserved, and asks how we are doing... and we take it from there - no 'airs and graces' just starting a normal conversation... after all, as well as being fully divine as God's son, he is also fully human - just like us.

And just to advertise... 😊 On Thursday October 14th at 7 for 7.30pm we welcome Lord Simon Woolley to All Saints' church, Harston for our final 'In Conversation' evening of 2026. Lord Woolley is noted for many things: a wide ranging career as a politician, activist and cross bench member of the House of Lords. He hails from a Leicester council estate and his mother was part of the Windrush generation, Lord Woolley has much to share about aspiration, educational opportunity, equality and diversity.

Book your place on our website at www.hhn.church
We hope to see you there! Mandy

SERVICES AND EVENTS AT HARSTON, HAUXTON AND NEWTON PARISH CHURCHES

Our churches are open for services and private prayer. Everyone is welcome. For further details, including changes after the magazine has gone to press, please look at notice boards and our church website for the three churches:

www.hhn.church

AUGUST		
Sunday 02 August	Harston	Holy Communion, 10.00am
Thursday 06 August	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 09 August	Newton	Holy Communion, 10.00am
Thursday 13 August	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 16 August	Harston	Holy Communion, 10.00am
Thursday 20 August	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 23 August	Hauxton	Holy Communion, 10.30am
Thursday 27 August	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 30 August	Newton	Holy Communion, 10.00am

SEPTEMBER		
Sunday 03 September	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 06 September	Harston	Holy Communion, 10.00am
Thursday 10 September	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 13 September	Newton Hauxton	Holy Communion, 10.00am Morning Prayer, 10.30am
Thursday 17 September	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Saturday 19 September	Harston Newton	Come and Sing Evensong (2.30pm rehearse, 6pm service) Harvest Supper, 7.00pm
Sunday 20 September	Harston Newton	Holy Communion, 10.00am Newton Harvest Festival, 10.00am
Thursday 24 September	Harston	Morning Prayer, 08.45am
Sunday 27 September	Newton Hauxton	Morning Prayer, 10.00am Hauxton Harvest Festival, 10.30am

What's On? All Saint's Church Harston



Saturday 19 September

COME AND SING CHORAL EVENSONG

No previous experience necessary

WHAT IS CHORAL EVENSONG?

Evensong is a 470-year-old choral music tradition. It's a c.45-minute service, in which almost the entire service is sung, not spoken, including a psalm, anthem and some other songs. "Heard at the 'even' point between the active day and restful night, allowing listeners time for contemplation – church members, agnostics and atheists alike"

2.30pm Rehearsal then delicious tea, before... 6pm – c.6.45pm

Evensong Conductor:
Luke Fitzgerald, Director of Music at Pembroke College

Cambridge Organist:
Alastair Oatey, Organist at All Saints' Church, Harston

All ages are welcome!



Sunday 04 October 3-4pm

PRIME BRASS

All Saints' Church, Harston

Tickets £12. For further details nearer the time, please check the website:
www.hhn.church

Wednesday, 14 October

Lord Simon Woolley of Woodford



Politician, Activist

Principal of Homerton College, Cambridge

Doors open: 7.00pm

Conversation starts: 7.30pm

More info including how to book tickets: www.hhn.church



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Harston Village Hall

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SCAN ME





The Hot Bottle Water. A true Story By Helen Roseveare

One night, in Central Africa, I had worked hard to help a mother in the labor ward; but in spite of all that we could do, she died leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying, two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive. We had no incubator. We had no electricity to run an incubator, and no special feeding facilities. Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts.

A student-midwife went for the box we had for such babies and for the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly, in distress, to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst. Rubber perishes easily in tropical climates. "...and it is our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk; so, in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over a burst water bottle. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways. All right," I said, "Put the baby as near the fire as you safely can; sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm."

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with many of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle. The baby could so easily die if it got chilled. I also told them about the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died.

During the prayer time, one ten-year-old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt consciousness of our African children. "Please, God," she prayed, "send us a water bottle. It'll be no good tomorrow, God, the baby'll be dead; so, please send it this afternoon." While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added by way of corollary, " ...And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?" As often with children's prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say, "Amen?" I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything: The Bible says so, but there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator!

Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time that I reached home, the car had gone, but there, on the veranda, was a large twenty-two pound parcel! I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone; so, I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string,

carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box.

From the top, I lifted out brightly colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then, there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children began to look a little bored. Next, came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - - that would make a nice batch of buns for the weekend. As I put my hand in again, I felt the...could it really be? I grasped it, and pulled it out. Yes, "A brand-new rubber, hot water bottle!" I cried. I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, "If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly, too!" Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully dressed dolly. Her eyes shone: She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked, "Can I go over with you, Mummy, and give this dolly to that little girl, so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?"

That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my former Sunday School class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. One of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child -- five months earlier in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it "That afternoon!"

Helen Roseveare a doctor missionary from England to Zaire, Africa, told this as it had happened to her in Africa. She shared it in her testimony on a Wednesday night st Thomas Road Baptist Church.

"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." (Isaiah 65:24)

Sunday Services

10.30am we meet in our building for an hour of worship, prayer, teaching from the bible and monthly communion followed by refreshments. During the service we run a creche and a Sunday Club for primary-aged children.

6.00pm on the first Sunday of the month we meet in the church lounge for prayer.

On the 3rd Sunday we meet for communion. Both services are followed by refreshments.

On the Sunday evenings we are not meeting in the building we have a zoom prayer time at 6pm.

Coffee Mornings

Every Thursday from 10.30am - 12 noon we have a coffee morning in the church lounge. On the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month during the Harston Community Food Hub session we serve coffee & refreshments in the lounge from 11.30am - 12.30pm.

If you would like more information about the life of the church, please look at our website www.harstonbaptistchurch.org.uk or contact Scott our minister on 01223 870434 / 07519 346710 or by email: spatonhbc@gmail.com



Harston Litter Pick

Sunday 27th September 2026: 2-4pm
(provisional date)

Harston Recreation Ground, CB22 7QT

**Please join our Autumn community
litter pick and help keep Harston tidy!**

We will provide equipment & instructions –
plus hot drinks & cake!

Please bring your old gloves to reuse.



Harston Residents Group

harstonlitterpick@hotmail.com
<https://harstonvillage.co.uk>



**HARSTON
FOOD HUB**

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Photo by [Michelle Henderson](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Your wonderful generosity has enabled us to support local families in need for over five years. But it's not easy.

We're keen to talk to local companies and businesses in the area who would like to support this essential community resource through financial donations or donations of long-life food* and household goods. These donations make a huge difference to the support we can offer.

**For example, we've recently had a fantastic donation from a local company of dozens of different types of tinned beans. A donation like this will help us for many weeks, thank you!*

If you are interested in finding out how you can play a part in helping our community thrive, please get in touch.

Harston Food Hub, Chapel Lane, Harston

Contact us by email: harstonfoodhub@gmail.com

Pop in and have a chat and see how we operate and what we need. We are open each Wednesday and Saturday from 11.30am to 12.30pm.

Donations can be made directly to our Bank Account: Harston Community Food Hub Sort code 30-99-50 Account number 11912862



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Cambridge Water Customer Service and 24hr Helpline	01223 706050
Harston Doctors Surgery Dispensary	01223 870250 01223 871588
Shelford Medical Practice	01223 843661
NHS 24hr Helpline	111
Mobile Library Hauxton: 2. 40-3.20pm The Green 3.25-4.15pm St Edmunds Way	Harston: 1.20-1.50 The Limes 2-2.30pm Queen's Close

A2B TRAVEL GROUP



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For timetable visit
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Collection dates for waste and recycling

(Information taken from SCDC website,
correct at time of printing)

Tuesday 04 Aug	Blue/Green
Tuesday 11 Aug	Black
Tuesday 18 Aug	Blue/Green
Tuesday 25 Aug	Black
Tuesday 01 Sept	Blue/Green
Tuesday 08 Sept	Black
Tuesday 15 Sept	Blue/Green
Tuesday 22 Sept	Black
Tuesday 29 Sept	Blue/Geen
Tuesday 06 Oct	Black

CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd, Mandy Flaherty The Vicarage, Church Street, Harston, CB22 7NP	01223 650330 vicarhnn@gmail.com
All Saints' Harston Churchwardens: Francis Clarke Joy Richardson	Churchwarden.harston@gmail.com
St Edmund's Hauxton Churchwarden: Thomas Nixon	Churchwarden.hauxton@gmail.com
Music: organists Alastair Oatey Mike Knapton	AlastairOatey77@gmail.com <u>Pmknapton58@gmail.com</u>
Music Group: Rebecca Fitzgerald	Rcf29@cam.ac.uk

Our group of churches also include St Maragret's Newton, who have their own newsletter. For further information about all three churches please see our website : www.hhn.church

Roman Catholic Church

Catholic Mass is celebrated in Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston. Parish Priest: Canon John Minh. Email: Cambourne.sawston@rcdea.org.uk. Contact: 01223 832397.

Charlene Ward is the contact person with Harston. Please feel free to reach out on rcharstonhauxton@gmail.com, whether you are Roman Catholic, of another Christian denomination, or none, with any questions or suggestions

Baptist Church

Minister: Scott Paton, spatonhbc@gmail.com

Tel: 01223 870434

The Village News

Copy Deadline: **13th September 2026**

Email: Paru Naik at hvillagenews@outlook.com

Items are included and may be edited at the discretion of the editorial team. short. All submission should be in Ariel Font 11 (A5). If you are interested to help the editorial team put the magazine together, please do get in touch and email Paru Naik on hvillagenews@outlook.com

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