

BRIDE VALLEY NEWS

The Magazine of the
Bride Valley Churches and Communities
on-line edition



September 2023

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October 2023 Issue deadlines: Articles, photographs, etc must be sent to the appropriate Village Correspondent (contact details at the head of each village section) by Friday 15th September for the October issue. Contributions from outside the Bride Valley should be emailed to bvnburton@gmail.com. Handwritten or typed copy should be delivered to village correspondents well before the deadline please! Correspondents are asked to send copy to the editor by 9.00am Monday 18th September.

Please contact bvctc@outlook.com for information on advertising in the BVN.

Articles, notices and advertisements in this magazine may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the Editor or the people and organisations funding and supporting the BVN. Copies of the BVN, in colour, can be found on the Bride Valley village websites.

Note: *Contributors are asked to note that space in the BVN is strictly limited and the Editor reserves the right to edit submissions and cannot guarantee that items will be included. The on-line version can be found on the Village Websites, and contains extra material which could not be accommodated in the printed edition.*

The Bride Valley News is delivered free to every home in the valley, carrying news of local church services, societies, activities, clubs and businesses. It is entirely created and distributed by volunteers. However, our printing costs are considerable, and each copy costs over 50p to produce. Although our loyal advertisers contribute a substantial portion of this cost we also need donations to help us continue to provide the magazine.

Please mention the BVN if you are contacting any of our advertisers!

We ask you to consider a donation and if you feel able to contribute, please make a BACS payment to:

**Account: 'Bride Valley Churches Team Council', Sort code 30-91-21
Account number 00074071, and please quote 'BVN' in your payment.**

The cover picture of Chilcombe Church is by courtesy of Hilary Mousley

The Bride Valley Churches

St Mary The Virgin: Burton Bradstock
St Mary: Litton Cheney
St Michael & All Angels: Littlebredy
St Peter: Long Bredy
Chilcombe (dedication unknown)
St Mary The Blessed Virgin: Puncknowle
St Martin: Shipton Gorge
Holy Trinity: Swyre

Reader: James Webster (01308) 898657

To enquire about Baptism, Marriage and Funeral arrangements, please contact Helen Fry, Bride Valley Benefice Administrator, on 01308 897260, or email BVchurchesTA@outlook.com

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

Within the Bride Valley Churches there is a small team of Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPA's) who are available for anybody throughout our community. What do we do? We respond to any need, great or small, for pastoral care. In times of bereavement, loss, emotional or other trouble. For as long as it takes. We can visit people's homes or call on the phone. We can arrange lifts to services if needed. We are all trained by the Diocese of Salisbury, and we all have experience, professionally or otherwise, of caring for those in need of comfort or practical help. We can access services where appropriate. If you or anyone you know would like such a visit, please contact the Churchwardens, Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator (01308897260) or one of us on the numbers below:

Cathryn Johnson 01308 897169. Pauline Woodford (Burton Bradstock only) 01308 898327. Jenny Malyon 01308 898768. Liz Orza 01308 89745

Church Floodlighting

If you would like to have a church floodlit for a baptism or wedding, or in memory of someone, please speak to the following - Burton Bradstock: Ian Ibbotson 898484, Shipton Gorge: Phyl Webster 898657, Litton Cheney: Freddie Spicer 482617.

From the Registers for May 2023:

Funeral: Mary Burr Burton Bradstock 7th August

Memorial Service

Memorial Service and Burial of Ashes for Mrs. Pat Lepine will be on Saturday 7th October at 2.00pm. All who remember Pat are invited to the memorial service at Burton Bradstock church. This will be followed by tea and cake.

If you are intending on attending, please phone Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator on 897260 or email BVchurchesTA@outlook.com so we can have a rough idea of numbers.

BRIDE VALLEY CAR SERVICE

The BVCS is a volunteer scheme offering residents of the Bride Valley transport to and from medical appointments when they are unable to drive themselves or be driven by relatives or friends.

Clients are charged a mileage fee (currently 50p per mile) plus a standard charge (currently £2.00 per journey). Because the service depends on the availability of volunteer drivers, clients are asked to give as much notice as possible – we are unlikely to be able to respond to requests within 48 hours of an appointment.

To book a journey please call our voluntary co-ordinator on 07393 607025 (note new number) between Monday and Friday.

Calls cannot be taken at weekends.

From the Rectory

Dear Friends,

This is my final letter as Rector of the Bride Valley Churches and it comes with my heartfelt gratitude for all that I have learned whilst being with you.

I don't need to tell you that the Bride Valley truly is a beautiful place to live, that's not just the landscape and the privilege of living by the coast, it is also about the people who live here and how they care for each other. This was particularly evident during the recent pandemic and I will never forget you all for it!

The church buildings across the Bride Valley are all quite different with a variety of stories about how they came to be where they are situated and of course each one has its own unique history. What I'm particularly proud of is the way each one is currently looked after by a dedicated team ensuring that the reality of Jesus Christ is kept alive across the whole valley and people who come and visit us can tell what we believe. We are a group of Christians, the body of Christ, here on earth in this place at this particular point in time, doing our bit, playing our part in the kingdom of God, for the church of today.

And with that comes the responsibility of looking to the future as well, ensuring that our lives, as well as our buildings are honouring our faith in the God of yesterday, today and forever.

My prayer for you as I leave has to be that you will continue to honour God in all that you do, acknowledging his love for you. If you're reading this letter and you've never been to church before, or not for a long time, why not try it ... I can assure you of a warm welcome whichever church you choose.

Love – it bears all things, believes all things and endures all things. Love never ends. (Adapted from 1 Corinthians 13).

All that's left for me to say now is GOODBYE – and according to Joseph T Shipley's 'Dictionary of Early English' (1955) Goodbye is actually a contraction of 'God be by ye'.

And so, may God be with you, now and forever. I shall not forget you.

With every blessing,

Jane

To Jane

“On behalf of all the parishes within the Bride Valley, may I take this opportunity to thank you, Jane, for all your hard work as our Rector during the past four years. Through your service and dedication you have guided our parishes through Covid and in new directions for our worship. We will be thinking and praying for you and your family as you begin your new vocation in a new Benefice.”

Vicky Thomas - Vice Chair of the Benefice Council

Can you Help Weldmar? Need for volunteers

Would you be interested in helping out at Weldmar Hospicecare's local charity shops?



Weldmar Hospicecare is an independent Dorset charity that provides specialist end of life care to people with a life limiting illness, and supports their loved ones. All of our services are provided for free, but we need to raise £26,000 a day! In the Bride Valley area in 2022/23, Weldmar provided support to almost 400 local people, and our charity shops need you! Our local shops provide vital income to allow us to continue providing our services, and we couldn't do this without the help of volunteers. There is a range of tasks to provide variety and interest, such as serving at the till, making sure the windows and displays are eye catching, and sorting through items that have been donated. You can meet new people, be part of a friendly team, and know you are helping a great local cause. Please pop into our charity shop on East Street in Bridport to find out more, or call 01305 458158.

James O'Neill, Marketing and Communications Lead

Our Night Sky in September 2023

Mars will be setting just after sunset at about 8 pm in the middle of the month, while Saturn will be rising in the east about the same time, and Jupiter will be rising in the North east about 2 hours later, and will be the brightest object in the southern sky during the night apart from the Moon. The Pleiades will be close to Jupiter, and by 2am, Orion will be rising from his summer slumbers in the south east.



India had a second attempt at putting a rover on the Moon, launching it in July and expecting its arrival in late August. The target is a crater near the South Pole called Shackleton, whose rim is in permanent sunlight, making it a perfect spot for a permanent base, with constant solar energy. The crater is 13 miles across and about 2.5 miles deep, the depths of which are in permanent darkness. It is hoped that if water, in the form of ice, can be found anywhere on the Moon, it will be here. Extracting it will be difficult, but local water will be crucial for setting up a permanently manned base, so that water does not have to be ferried from Earth.

Water provides the astronauts with drinks as well as Oxygen and Hydrogen when it is broken down by electrolysis, the electrical energy being provided by solar panels. The oxygen can be used for breathing as well as reacting with the hydrogen as a rocket fuel.

By the time you read this, we will know whether it has made a successful landing, and has started its reconnaissance. I hope to keep you informed of its progress.

Bill Turnill

Bride Valley WI

The Bride Valley WI spent a wonderful evening on Hive Beach for its Summer Social. Over 20 members enjoyed a fish and chip supper. The sun shone and some members took to the sea for a swim. The very pleasant evening was enhanced by the amazing sight of dolphins swimming up and down just a little out to sea.

The July walk was led by Phyllis and began by The Great Field in Poundbury. In just under two hours our gentle stroll took in an ancient hill fort dating back to

Neolithic times, a vineyard, a cemetery, a river walk, some quiet, munching cows and beautiful, slender harebells. All the time we were spoilt with views of the stunning Frome Valley.

Skittles are continuing on Tuesdays at The White Horse.

Why not come and find out more about us on the third Thursday of each month at Puncknowle Village Hall from 7.30? On September 21st we will be hearing from Councillor David Taylor about the "Tunnels of Dorchester!!!

Bride Valley Gardening Club



Our annual Flower and Produce Show took place on Saturday 19th August at LATCH in Litton Cheney. There had been concerns about the effects of Storm Betty the previous night, but we needn't have worried. More members entered items than in previous years and as usual the display of flowers, fruit and vegetables was extremely colourful and imaginative. We were delighted at the number of visitors and everyone enjoyed voting for their choice of best item in each category.



Andrea Jackman, our Show Organiser, is to be congratulated on her planning of the event which included extra items in the splendid art display and a quiz. The plant stall provided much interest and the raffle did brisk business. Members had provided a wide range of cakes for the teas so everyone was able to relax with friends over a welcome cuppa. Well done to all who won certificates and cups, and thank you to everyone who helped in so many ways. It was a great team effort. The photos of the event have kindly been provided by Clair Moore.



Our next meeting is on Monday 18th September at 7.30pm at LATCH, when Sarah Hillyer will give a talk on 'Medicinal Herbs in the Garden'. Visitors are most welcome and refreshments will be served from 7.00pm.

Sue Brown
Chair

The Ridgeway Singers

A date for your diary: The Ridgeway Singers and Band, led by Phil Humphries and Tim Laycock, are celebrating their 10th anniversary this year with a 4.00pm matinee concert at St Marys church, South Street, Bridport on Sunday 29th October.

<https://ridgewaysingersandband.org>. Full details will be given in the October BVN.





FROG & HENRY

FRIDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER

New Orleans jazz at Litton Cheney Village Hall,
School Lane, DT2 9AU. Featuring Ewan Bleach
with award-winning group *Frog and Henry*. Doors
open at 7.00 p.m. with Cajun snacks and bar.

Tickets £10 or (under-16s) £5, from Bridport Tourist Information Centre,
01308 424901. Reservations: text 0748 764 0339 with name and details, or
email David on D.Charlton@rhul.ac.uk, cash only on door. Visit the group on
jazzascona.ch/en/frog-henrys and frogandhenry.com.

Bride Valley Book Club Review

The Summer Queen by Elizabeth Chadwick

One of our Book Group was lucky enough to be holidaying where this book about Eleanor of Aquitaine is mostly set. Here's what she wrote....

Sitting in my room overlooking a medieval village in Aquitaine is the perfect setting to read this book and gives me long enough to read it. It IS a long book! First of all, I liked it, but my setting helped. This area of France is imbued with the medieval and there are reminders of this is everywhere. This is really a story of how families vied for power by aligning their children with one royal house or another. Eleanor of Aquitaine is a very good subject for an historical novel, A little bit like reading the Hilary Mantel trilogy on Cromwell, this creates a vivid picture of life in her household and the kingdoms of Aquitaine, France and other smaller principalities during her lifetime. The book begins with a carefree childhood but the story of her too early marriage, still in her early teens, is a grim one for the most part. The pilgrimage via Antioch makes very dismal reading. It takes over two years of their lives - and more than 100 pages of the book to journey through this disastrous period of her life. For those still curious enough to read on - it does improve. The lives of the female characters often irritated me where it is clear that they were undervalued or abused. But one begins to understand just what was at stake in medieval Europe and how women were both used as pawns in a power game, as well as being able to influence the course of history through their own behaviour. I liked the chapter headings - just dates in a timeline - much easier to make sense of than some rather obscure time shifting novels that we have read recently. Not being a student of history, I found the storyline and the detail fascinating! And it has left me with a desire to know more. So, as this is the first book of a trilogy, will I read on? Possibly, but not until I have another long, leisurely holiday booked!

Mandi Sturrock

Evidence Gathered About Declining Access to NHS Dentistry In West Dorset

The following is a press release from the Bridport Local Area Partnership which the BVN has been asked to include for the information of local residents.

Findings from a project to gather information about the provision of NHS dentistry in the west of Dorset have been published by the Bridport Local Area Partnership. Those findings show a serious and deteriorating situation regarding NHS dentistry in the area.

The context is that any adult can receive NHS dentistry, with the cost of any treatment being subsidised. This will be provided by a dentist who has signed a contract with the NHS. Furthermore, some groups are entitled to free NHS dentistry, including children, women who are pregnant or with a baby and those in receipt of low-income benefits.

Specific findings from the project include that:

- No dental practices in the area currently accept new patients under the NHS dental contract, though all receive frequent enquiries from people searching for NHS care (which offers subsidised dentistry);
- Some of the practices in the area still treat a portion of their existing patients under the NHS contract, though the extent of this is reducing over time;
- The picture is similar for patient groups entitled to free (NHS) dental care, such as children, women pregnant or with a baby and those on low-income benefits: local dental practices provide this to existing patients, but are not taking on new patients;
- The NHS dental contract is unpopular with dental practices, not least its payment structure (into three simple tiers) and its associated bureaucracy;
- There is a growing shortage of dentists and associated professionals who practice in the area, which is affecting all dental provision, though most of all NHS dentistry;
- Three dental practices in the area have lost a dentist in the fairly recent past and all of them have so far been unable to recruit a replacement;
- Whilst acknowledging this is a nationwide issue, local experience is that recruitment of dental professionals is especially hard in a rural area such as the west of Dorset;
- Specific issues were also noted with dental or oral health care for special needs groups, such as care home residents, those with dementia and the homeless.

These findings have potentially serious and long-term implications for health inequalities amongst the local population. They support the conclusion in a Healthwatch Dorset report, that many on lower incomes are struggling to

afford required dental treatment or even check-ups unless they are already registered with a dentist who maintains a NHS contract.

The Bridport Local Area Partnership is sharing its findings with key stakeholders, including the Dorset Integrated Care Board, NHS Dorset, South West Local Dental Network, Dorset Council and the constituency MP, and in doing so is pressing the case for urgent action to address the deteriorating situation. The Partnership will also explore the scope for some community-based action that could help improve oral health and care in the local area. The full report can be viewed at: <https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/dentistry/Notes>:

The findings reported above refer to that part of Dorset which lies to the west of Dorchester and Weymouth. It includes the towns of Bridport, Beaminster and Lyme Regis.

The Bridport Local Area Partnership is a network, with around 80 member organisations or groups from across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. This includes Bridport Town Council and thirteen nearby Parish Councils.

The Healthwatch Dorset report, which is referred to above, was published earlier in 2023 and was called *Why are people finding it difficult to access NHS dental care in Dorset?*

Important note to all contributors to the BVN

The BVN has to be produced to a very strict printer's deadline, and also within a limited number of pages. Please try to meet the monthly deadlines, which are set out on the inside front cover, and also keep your entries as succinct as possible. Your help on this will be appreciated by the Village Correspondents and the Editor!

Litton Cheney

Village Correspondent: John Firrell
jfirrell20@gmail.com Tel: 01308 482313
Village web-site www.littoncheney.org.uk



St. Mary's Church

The choir was privileged to open the Burton Bradstock Festival of Music & Art by singing Choral Evensong on 13th August, with Organist and Musical Director Paul Cheater.

Our services will follow their usual pattern during the interregnum and we hope and pray that a new Rector will be appointed in the soonest possible time.

Coming up.....**Harvest Festival** will be celebrated on Sunday **1st October at 11.00am** followed by a Bring & Share lunch. Your donations of suitable food items for local charities and the Bridport Food Bank would be very welcome at the service.

Thank you

St Mary's Church wishes to thank an anonymous donor who very kindly gave £500 through the Parish Giving Scheme. The gift with its associated Gift Aid recovery arrived safely in the church account and will be put to good use in the ongoing task of maintaining the church building.

Ride and Stride 2023

Have you sponsored a cyclist or walker yet for this annual fundraiser for Dorset Historic Churches? It's not too late either to get the bike geared up or the boots shod and raise some sponsorship for the event on **Saturday 9th September** and have a great day out with one or two friends or members of the family, choose your own route and go just as far as you want. Sponsorship forms or details of how to set up your own JustGiving page are available from Freddie Spicer (8 Garden Close 482617) and don't forget to nominate St Mary's Church as the Trust will return half the money raised.

Litton Cheney Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 12th September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of LATCH. Local residents are actively encouraged to attend.

Village Map – The Queen’s Bench

Now firmly in place as part of the Queen’s Bench and quite literally telling people where to go. Grateful thanks to Ashley Cooper for turfing the whole area, and also ACE (Parks Farm Cheese Dairy) for donating towards the cost of the map.

A Massive Thank You to Philip Dyke, Russell and Chris Randall, Steve Elliott, Paul Kingston and Andy King for their part in providing the village with a truly commemorative edifice celebrating the reign of our late Queen Elizabeth II.

We have refurbished one of the benches at the playing field and will be relocating a second one to where the rather more basic affair currently resides on Chalk Pit Lane. The basic affair (no offence intended) looks to go under the notice board at the entrance to the Snicket, and once Russell & Chris Randall has refurbished the wooden bench that used to sit alongside the bus shelter, that will be placed on Magna Green allowing sitters to rest awhile and look back at the village.

Community Infrastructure Levy

Funds are available to provide for new projects in the village subject to complying with set criteria. Further details can be obtained from the Parish Clerk. This is the first time Litton has had access to such funding. Let’s ensure it’s put to good use. Brains to “Manual”.

Timely Reminder – Bins & Potholes

Please ensure your rubbish and recycling bins do not make an appearance on the roadside too early or indeed stay too long after being emptied.

We know potholes abound but if you come across one clearly in need of fixing please report it via the Dorset Council website. Don’t leave it to someone else.

Events at LATCH – for September

Weekly:

Tuesdays: 18.15 – Pilates (johanna@larkpilates.com 07920 421783)

Wednesdays: 16.45 - Table Tennis (Ron Davidson 482661)

19.00 – Mindful Movement with Jane Hutchins (07882
527697)

Fridays: 10.00 – 12noon - Art Class in Meeting Room (Ann Gray 01308
482216)

Special:

Friday 8th - New Orleans Jazz Evening featuring Ewan Bleach with award-winning group Frog and Henry. Doors open 7.00pm with Cajun snacks and bar. Tickets £10 or (under-16s) £5 from Bridport Tourist Information Centre 01308 424901 (card sales), or email D.Charlton@rhu **Cash on door please!**

Monday 11th - 18.00 Bride Valley Car Service AGM

Tuesday 12th - 19.30 Parish Council meeting

Saturday 23rd - 09.30 Tai Chi (Andrew Howard 07912 107950
bamboogtc@tutanota.com)

Village Cafés: A reminder that the hall is available for hire free of charge on Saturday mornings for a Café to raise funds for any group. It's a good social event for the community and always popular – contact me to book a date.

Hall Bookings/viewings: Wendy Firrell 01308 482532 wtlitton@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls begins again in September at LATCH

Why not try your hand at Short Mat Bowls – a gentle pursuit, social in nature and allows you to brag that you are taking regular exercise. Contact Ron Davidson 482661 who can tell you more and why you need SMB in your life.

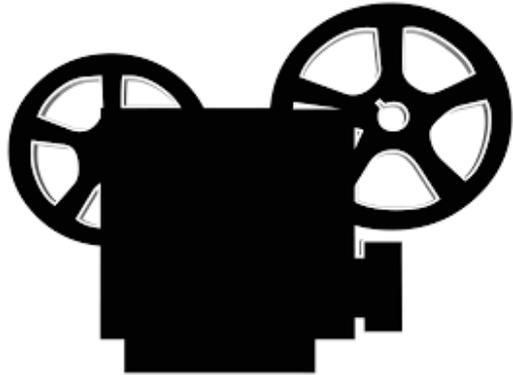
The White Horse

Andy & Liz look forward to your next visit, and will be on hand as usual to provide drink and sustenance throughout September. As we begin to slip slowly into cooler days (!) and darker evenings you may find the thought of a warming fire, finely poured pint or something even finer too much to resist. It is here on your doorstep. Welcome!

Advance Notice!

Bride Valley Films are starting again this Autumn at Litton Cheney Community Hall.

We have decided not to raise our entry price at the moment as times are tough for all, but a good turnout is a help, so please come and support us. Licence and DVD availability permitting, we will be showing.....



THURSDAY 5 October, THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY, 'a surprisingly frank look at a certain British way of life'
Starring **Jim Broadbent** as Harold and **Penelope Wilton** as Maureen. The film is the story of an unremarkable man who sets off on a remarkable journey. Harold lives a life without purpose until he learns an old friend is dying and vows that in walking across England to see her, his journey can keep her alive. Cert.TBA, 1¾ hrs

Further films to follow on THURSDAY 2 November and Thursday 30 November. Details in the October issue of the BVN.

Doors Open: 7.00 p.m. Film starts 7.30 p.m. TICKETS: £5.00 (to include a glass of wine) Tickets in advance from: Sally Dyke 482752, Elizabeth Kingston 482162, Bella Spurrier 482367 or on the door.

We will be sharing the licence for this film with Burton Bradstock who will show it on the previous Friday.

Look out for further details on posters, on the website and in the BVN.

Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington

Village Correspondents:

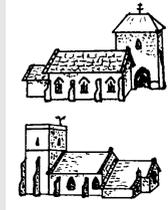
Elizabeth Slater (Puncknowle)

liz@ruddle.org.uk Tel: 01308 897751

Jill Neill (Swyre & West Bexington)

Jill.neill@live.co.uk Tel 01308 897479

Village website: <https://puncknowle.net>



St Mary's Church Puncknowle

St Mary's welcomes everyone to join us in our services – visitors and locals will all receive a very warm welcome and hopefully join us afterwards for coffee in the pub opposite.

Pets Service at 3pm on Sunday 24 September

Do come and join us for this short light-hearted service when the animals, both live and toy, are blessed. Bring your favourite pet – or all of them! All animals, both great and small, welcome.

Defibrillator Training

There will be a free Defibrillator training session held in the Manor, West Bexington on Sunday 10th September at 10.00am.

Swyre Church Garden Angels

Saturday 23 September 2023

We would love some help to tidy the churchyard in Swyre on the morning of Saturday 23 September. Everyone is welcome. If you bring your own tools and protective gear, we will provide tea and coffee and cake. Starts at 9.30am but come any time to suit.

Best wishes from us all at Holy Trinity

PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE, WEST BEXINGTON,
CHILCOMBE,
LONG BREDY AND LITTLE BREDY

LUNCH CLUB

PUNCKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL - 1.00pm

Enquiries - please contact **David Buckland, 01308
898492** for more details.

LUNCHES COST £6.00

19th September 2023

**Cottage Pie, Apple Crumble, Custard/
Cream**

October 17 - Fish Cakes, broccoli, peas, carrots
Chocolate brownies/ice cream

Future dates:

November 21

December 19

2024 January 16

*All meals include fruit juice, cheese and biscuits
plus tea or coffee*

We continue to follow current COVID rules

Long Bredy

Village Correspondent: Susan Dyer
bvn@longbredy.org.uk Tel: 01308 482882
Village web-site: www.longbredy.org.uk



Long Bredy 100 Club July Draw

£30.00 No. 22 J. Cain
£15.00 No. 23 D. Peretz
£5.00 No. 57 R. Horsley

Drawn on 21.7.23 at the Come Along Inn.

Coronation Correspondence

After the village celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, printed photographs of the various events, together with a copy of our programme, were sent to Buckingham Palace for the King and Queen to see how we celebrated the event. We have received a lovely official letter and photograph expressing their thanks. These are displayed in the church in a frame on one of the window sills for anyone who wishes to see.

Thank you, Jackie, for organising this.

Harvest Festival

This will be held on Sunday September 17th at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to this service of celebration and thanksgiving and to the refreshments afterwards.

Help with decorating the church will be very welcome and the church will be open for children and adults either to bring decorations or decorate the church with materials provided on Friday and Saturday September 15th and 16th.

Donations of money and non-perishable food can be left in the church, or given to Ruth Cullingford or Jackie Cain. These will be taken to the Food Bank in Bridport.

Coffee Break

As always, there will be an array of home-baked refreshments and a warm welcome on Saturday September 9th from 10.30am until 12 noon in the Village Hall. Do pop in and have a natter, whether you live here or are just passing through.

Come Along Inn

Our ever-popular pop-up pub will be open again on Friday September 15th between 5.30pm and 9.00pm serving beers, wine and soft drinks. See the village notices for any food which may be available.

Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday, September 25th at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Anyone is free to attend and listen to the matters being discussed.

Littlebredy

Village Correspondent: Philip Williams
pw@bridehead.com Tel: 01308 482232
Village website: <http://www.littlebredy.com>



Congratulations to Tim and Angela Laycock, who have reached their Golden Wedding Anniversary in these last few weeks. Their various celebrations have included gatherings for family, neighbours and the many artistic groups to which they have contributed drama, music and song for years. May there be many more anniversaries for them.

At the other end of the marital scale, congratulations too to Robert Quincey, who married Jemma Ruth at a ceremony in the Abbotsbury Tropical Gardens on August 3rd. He is the only one among all the Quinceys to have escaped the village, moving out from Pitcombe Gatehouse (all the way to Winterbourne Abbas) some years ago, while there are three Quincey households still here. All very best wishes to the newlyweds for a long and happy married life together.

The **Harvest Thanksgiving** Service will be held in Church this year at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 24th September, and will be followed as usual by a communal bring and share meal. Liz Eaton has kindly offered the Mill Lane Barn at the Walled Garden for this, and further information will follow, asking how many from your household would like to come, and what you can contribute to the meal. It is usually a very convivial event, made all the better of course if there is a good attendance.

In a similar vein, there are rumours that the Social Club is awakening from a period of hibernation, and planning a village get-together for all ages with drinks and nibbles, probably on the cricket ground, in the evening of Friday 8th September. As details take shape, they will be circulated, probably by a flier inside this magazine and also among the village messenger group. Please can everyone save the date (and if you are not in the messenger group yet and would like to be, please contact Mandy Wilkinson on 482550).

Burton Bradstock

Village Correspondent: Pat Grafton
patgrifton43@gmail.com Tel: 01308 898264
Village web-site: www.burtonbradstockvillage.org.



St Mary's Church 'Songs Of Praise!'



Our Songs of Praise service on October 1st at 11.00am will also be our Harvest Festival Celebration. It will be led by The Rev'd Richard Kirlew, the lead Chaplain to the Salisbury Livestock Market, who will be speaking about his work amongst the rural farming community. With traditional Harvest hymns and readings and lasting just under one hour this is a service to which all residents and visitors are warmly invited. It will be followed at 12.30pm by The Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall. Tickets for this two course lunch are £8 and on sale in the Post Office from 6th September until Wednesday 27th. Please note: no ticket sales at the door.

Our next Songs of Praise service, on November 5th, will be led by the Rev'd Jonathan Herbert, Chaplain to Gypsies and Travellers in Dorset and Wiltshire.

Come and join us for these inspiring services!

Burton Coffee Mates

Burton Coffee Mates meet in the church on the second Thursday of the month from 10.30am -12 noon. Although everyone from the village is welcome, this is particularly suitable for older people and facilities are provided for wheelchair users. Do come and join us and if you would like more information, please call Pauline (898327).

St Mary's Church Fete

We were so very lucky on 3rd August – the pretty dire weather that was forecast didn't happen and the Fete went ahead without a drop of rain all afternoon! It was wonderful to see so many people of all ages enjoying themselves and the youngest ones just loved magician Chris Howat's terrific show.

Huge thanks to all the visitors who made the event such a success. And to the volunteers who stepped up and made it happen plus the local businesses and organisations who supported us so generously with donations and prizes. The great news is that the Fete raised some £6,000, a wonderful achievement! That will go towards the continuing enhancement of the Community Space in the church, for the use of everyone in the village.



Many, many thanks to our Rector Jane Williams and husband Nigel, who let us take over the Rectory Garden. Rector Jane opened the church fete once again. However, as she makes tracks for pastures new, the community of Burton Bradstock wished to show their appreciation for all that she has done and achieved. The last few years have been challenging for everyone, and Jane has identified ways in which the church continued to be a force for good throughout the pandemic.



To show our gratitude, we presented Jane with a unique clock, created by skilled artisans in the village. We were delighted to learn from Jane that she is very fond of unusual clocks. Following this, the Parish Council presented Jane with an original painting of Hive Beach by a local artist, a particularly poignant



scene, to thank Jane for all her efforts. Those who were gathered in the village hall expressed their appreciation in the usual manner.

Sincere thanks from the Church Fete Team

Tots' Time

On the right is a picture of Rev'd Jane with a group of Tots, parents and helpers before she left us in July. We do wish her well and appreciate all she did with Tots while she was here.



We shall be looking at some Moses stories during September. Plenty of scope there for water-play, manna (rice crispies), teaching on being brave and on not grumbling.

Also, we hope to be outside for as many sessions as possible, and do various craft activities using Autumn leaves. Of course, there will be activities involving food, and our usual times singing nursery rhymes, and free play with all the toys.

Free drinks and healthy snacks are always available for adults and children, and we look forward to seeing our former Tots coming over to see us in their new school uniforms after school for drinks and nibbles too.

Do come and join us if you are a bump, baby, toddler, or a pre-school child along with your parent/carer. For more info, contact Audrey (01308 897227), Heather (01308 897780) or Helen on BVchurchesTA@outlook.com

Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Village Hall Bookings

Should you wish to use the Hall at any time, the booking officer can be contacted via email at bbvht.bookings@gmail.com or by phone on 01308897648.

Coffee Mornings

The popular monthly coffee mornings where you can get a sensibly priced coffee/tea and cake plus a chat with friends will be held on the dates below. They run from 10.00am to 12noon and all are welcome.

Wed 13th Sep Organised by Friends of the Library

Wed 11th Oct Organised by the Bowls Club

Burton Bradstock Films

Burton Bradstock Films will be returning to the Village Hall on Friday 29th September to start the 2023/24 season. Tickets will remain at £6 each and will still include a glass of wine or a soft drink. Tickets can be brought prior to the evening from Burton Bradstock Farm Shop and Post Office or, if still available, at the door on the night. Doors open at 7.00pm and the film will start at 7.30pm.



Subject to the granting of a license, our first film will be *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, a story about an unremarkable man who sets off on a remarkable journey. He is a man without purpose, living on the sidelines, until he learns an old friend is dying, writes her a letter, then decides to walk across England to see her, thinking he can save her. Starring Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton, the film remains true to the book. A feelgood story which has made a smooth transition to the screen and Broadbent & Wilton give terrific performances. We look forward to welcoming you.

Replacement Shed

At the time of writing the new shed is 60% finished, as always, a simple building project has been complicated by unforeseen circumstances, such as discovering 3 manholes that had been covered up years ago. Work has been stopped for the music festival week and will resume immediately after, when the roof will go on. Once complete any damaged tarmac will be rectified. Apologies to Hall users and local residents impacted during the work.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall “200 Club” August 2023 Draw

Congratulations to the winners:

1st	£34.20	No 35:	Mr Roger Ashman
2nd	£17.10	No 89:	Mrs Pauline Tompkins
3rd	£8.55	No 25:	Mrs Veda Bull

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the September 2023 draw should telephone Keith Britton on 01308 898008 and let him have £4 – one pound for each monthly draw in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw.

WDDC Licence no: SL0080

Friends of Burton Bradstock Library

The Children’s Summer Reading Challenge has been going well this year with well over 12 children from Burton Bradstock School taking part. Many thanks to Marion Stewart-Smith for encouraging the young people to take part and well done to those who are collecting stickers and working towards reading the six books which earn them a medal and later a certificate when they return to school.

The Lego morning in early August welcomed 8 children and their families, who tackled the sporting theme with gusto. A rugby pitch, swimming pools, forest hideaway and a castle were just some of the works created. These pictures show some of them and I shall report on the craft day which is planned for later in the month, for children and adults.





Voting for favourite sports has produced some interesting preferences but the final result will be in the BVN next month. Hopefully you have all been in to the Library to add your stickers.

The Friends of the Library will be providing refreshments in the Village Hall Coffee Stop on Wednesday 13th September and there will be second-hand books for sale in the Library that morning. Donations of books will be greatly appreciated during the preceding week, please leave them in the Library.

Louis our Digital Champion is being kept busy on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. Booking is via the Digital Hotline on 01305 221048 (during the morning).

Finally, we shall be holding our fund-raising Friends' Lunch on Saturday 4th November and details will be available in October.

Sue Brown
Chair of Trustees

Burton Bradstock Village Society

September sees the start of our 2023-24 season of monthly Friday night talks. Tim Laycock is a folk musician, actor and storyteller and will entertain us with, "A night at the Music Hall with stories" on September 15th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Entrance is £1.50 for members and £5 for non-members with complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits served during the break.

Please look out for details of our Christmas celebration which will be a 'must attend' event in December for all villagers.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 21st October ~ 10.00-12.30

Burton Bradstock Village Hall

This event will be an opportunity to welcome the Autumn; the time of year when the many village activities recommence.

Whether you are new to Burton Bradstock or have lived here for some while, do come along to meet representatives of the village's societies, groups, organisations, and Hall users. Learn about their activities, sign up for classes, and/or volunteer to lend a hand with future events or tasks.

And, of course, there will be time to meet up with old friends, make new ones and enjoy some lovely cakes and hot or cold drinks too!

**This event is supported by the Village Hall,
the Village Society and the Online Group.**

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR FUND



*Look out for more details on
Posters around the village and on
the village Website and Facebook.
If you would like to represent your
group or society or require further
information, please email
fionalomax55@hotmail.com or
telephone 897864.*

Burton Bradstock WI

We didn't have a meeting in August but that's not to say we haven't been busy! The Book Group, Mah Jong players and the "Busy Bees" craft group all met as usual. The ladies in the craft group treated themselves to an afternoon tea out when they couldn't use the Village Hall due to the fact that it was needed for the Art Exhibition. Well that was their excuse anyway!

Several members were on hand to help at the Church Fête - the cake stall did exceptionally well to raise nearly £500 and the craft stall also did extremely well as usual. Well done and thank you to everyone who contributed items to be sold on these stalls.

Also in August six members had a trip out to Coldharbour Mill near Cullumpton. This is one of the oldest woollen mills in the country and because it was a "Steam Day" they were able to see some of the machines in action - all run by steam. Apparently, the ladies also enjoyed a long, leisurely lunch break during which they all enjoyed a good chat.

Finally, a team of four has taken part in the first round of the annual Dorset Federation quiz – hopefully we will have done well enough to get through to the final at the end of September. We wait to hear, but whatever the outcome we can definitely say we enjoyed racking our brains to think of those answers which we were sure we knew, if only we could remember!

Our next meeting is on 12th September at 7.30 pm when Alice May will give a talk entitled “The House that Sat Down” – we are all intrigued!

Janet Pearson
01308 898346

Supper Club

The next supper club is on the 25th September. Any enquiries please telephone Mags Chue 01308 897543

Burton Bradstock Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club in Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Our new season of weekly meetings
begins on
Monday 11th September at 6.45pm and
Wednesday 13th September at 2.15pm.



New members welcome.

If you are interested in joining just come along to any session
(first one free)
or email John Lewis on jal84910@gmail.com for more details,
or call (01308) 897304.



BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS

Pantomime 2024

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

We are hoping to perform the Pantomime next February (15 – 17). There will be readings and auditions held this September. Please do come along – it is always good fun to be part of a pantomime. There will be 2 sessions for reading through the Pantomime and 2 sessions for auditions – (come to one or both!). The dates are:

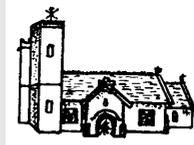
Read through ----- Thursday 7 and Thursday 14 September

Auditions ----- Tuesday 19 and Thursday 21 September

All sessions will be held in the Village Hall. Children from 6.30 -7.30pm and adults from 7.30pm-9.00pm. Looking forward to meeting up and having some fun! Take a look at our Facebook page – Burton Bradstock Players Pantomime 2024!

Shipton Gorge

Village Correspondent: Richard Hewlett
richard@c-m-sltd.co.uk Tel: 01308 897278
Village web-site: www.shiptongorge.org.uk



Welcome to our village diary.

Just search for Shipton Gorge Diary or go directly to <https://shiptongorgediary.co.uk/>

You'll be able to find out all that's going on in the village from the Village Society,

the New Inn/ New Inn Support, the Village Hall, Shipton Gorge Heritage, the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council

SHIPTON GORGE
VILLAGE DIARY

St Martin's Church

Breakfast Church

9.30am

Sunday 10th September

with Vicky & James in the Village Hall

Floodlights Sponsors for September.

Ann & Terry Hunt for their wedding anniversary
Paul & Martine for their wedding anniversary on 18th
David – an honourable gentleman
Hilary & Richard Cunningham
Claire & Darren for a wonderful Dad, Peter (Mick) Edwards, lighting up our village on his 100th birthday on 8th September

Thank you so much to our sponsors for this month. Your support is very much appreciated. If would like to keep the church lighting up the dark nights over the next few months, please contact Phyl on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post box. Maybe you have a special anniversary or a memory coming up. We would love to hear from you. (The suggested donation is £5).

Ride 'n Stride for St Martin's, Shipton Gorge

You may have heard of Ride and Stride before. It's a way of raising money for Dorset Historic Churches and our own church by riding or striding between churches in Dorset. This year, St Martins is getting involved again – and we need everyone's support! Looking after our church and maintaining it is an ongoing challenge - our current project is to fix the falling plaster near the tower entrance - a cost of over £2000. So, we would like to raise some funds to support this!

You don't have to be a member of the church to take part - just get in touch with Helen Fry bvchurchesta@outlook.com. It might be true that you'd rather sponsor someone else than take part yourself! Please give to the Team St Martin's on Just Giving: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/helen-fry-1692024730632?newPage=true>

Helen Telephone 01308 897260

Village Hall

August 2023 100 Club Draw results

1 st	38	£25	Janice Symes
2 nd	123	£10	David Greasby
3 rd	1	£5	Kate Chomacki

Congratulations to all winners, *Graham Garner*

Parish Council

At last, the swings have been installed in the Playing Field, and many people have already tried them out. The Parish Council successfully applied for Lottery Funding for this project and it was managed by Councillors John Porter and Allan Evans. We believe that the old swings were between 60 - 70 years old and wondered if the new swings will last that long!

Chanelle Dunstan has volunteered to take over the role of being the point of contact for Footpaths and Rights of Way from Wally Axford. Chanelle can be contacted via the Clerk (07429065155 or clerk@shiptongorge.org.uk)

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 13 Sept at 7.30 in the Village Hall. All Parishioners are invited to attend, and at the start of every meeting an Open Forum is held where parishioners can raise issues. It should be noted that there is no obligation for parishioners to attend all of the meeting and can leave at any time.

Hilary Cunningham

Shipton Gorge Heritage

Heritage Gin Club – Good news as all tickets for the year ahead have been sold. First winner for this year is Diane James and her prize has been delivered. Congratulations Diane!



Saunders Richardson Wood

There have been regular open days in the last month, trying to keep paths, etc. free of the rampant growth of nettles, etc. Open sessions in September are planned to be Wednesday 6, 13, 20 & 27 – 10.30am to 12.30pm. Any changes to this, we will advise via village Facebook and email. Please come along – either to have a walk through or help out. Members only, however, it is free to join, and we can sign you up on the day. The nettle tea fertiliser – brewed from nettles sourced from the wood – has proved very popular. Will try to get another batch on the go from the endless supply!

Shipton Gorge Orchard

Unfortunately, the weather was not at all good for our session in early August and only a minimal amount of work was possible. Look out for notices of when another date can be organised. There is mixed success this year with the apples, most trees have lots, some are looking quite bare. Please check the notice in the Orchard for advice on which apples are eaters, cookers, cider apples and the best timing for picking – this should avoid any unpleasant surprises!!

Also, keep an eye out for signs in the Orchard illustrating certain bees which might be spotted out and about in the month.



Another casualty of the weather was the Afternoon Cream Tea which had to be relocated indoors to the Village Hall. A huge thank you to everyone who came along regardless and enjoyed the lovely scones and cream, bought raffle tickets and plants and helped us to take around £450 on the day.

If you are interested in supporting the charity in any way, please contact Anne Crowe on 07393 214635.

Details as usual on our website:

http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton_Gorge_Heritage__16417.aspx

and in the Shipton Gorge Diary <https://www.shiptongorgediary.co.uk>

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'

*The Rectory
St James the Least*

My dear Nephew Darren,

Your suggestion that every month at clergy meetings someone should review a book of theology they have been



reading, was bound to be greeted with uneasy resistance. It would mean that the majority would have to start opening books, rather than just occasionally dusting them. Possessing books does not necessarily imply that they are ever read.

Your high church colleagues will only read the *Racing News*, low church members the *Railway Review*, liberals the *Knitting Weekly* and those with tendencies towards non-conformism, the *Vegetarian Times*. Clerical studies may be lined with books, but they are largely for effect - and to hide damp patches on the wallpaper. Anything with hard covers will have been bought with the best of intentions - but somehow the vicarage lawn or the church hall drains will have taken precedence. And from what I know of your colleague over at St Crispin's, the only books he will buy will be to colour in. I do try to keep up with my reading, but sleep mercifully intervenes after the first 10 minutes. On those days when I sit by my study window, so passers-by can see me deeply occupied in intellectual activity, it is most useful that my large tome on the letters of Eusebius can easily conceal an Agatha Christie inside it.

I confess that I was once gloriously put down when I tried to impress one of our blue stockings by mentioning a new edition of a Dostoevsky novel. She replied: "I have never read Dostoevsky in translation." It only confirmed my suspicions that she had worked as a Russian spy in earlier years.

I was hugely impressed when, during the bitter cold of last winter, the Earl of Stowe, whose library would comfortably contain one of our cathedrals, told me he was slowly getting through its contents of tens of thousands of volumes. It was only sometime later that I discovered he meant he threw the occasional one on the fire, when he was running low on wood.

No, my dear Darren, the only literary activities that will spark interest will be crosswords for the majority, or diocesan reports for the truly dedicated - with weighty tomes being used as door stops.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

History of the Bride Valley News – How Far Back?



A kind friend in Burton Bradstock recently came across this copy of the Bride Valley News from 1991. As the on-line archive only goes back to January 2000 it set the editor wondering if there are any earlier editions prior to 1991? Please let the editor know if you have an earlier edition, email at bvnburton@gmail.com.

Many thanks!

SEPTEMBER 2023	1st Sunday 3rd Sept Trinity 13	2nd Sunday 10th Sept Trinity 14	3rd Sunday 17th Sept Trinity 15	4th Sunday 24th Sept Trinity 16
Burton Bradstock	11am Songs of Praise	11.00 Holy Communion	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Café Church	11.00 Holy Communion
Chilcombe				6.00 Evening Prayer
Shipton Gorge		9.30 Breakfast Church Back to school Ride and Stride		11.00 Holy Communion
Swyre	6.00 Evening Prayer	9:30 Holy Communion	11.00 Morning Worship	
Puncknowle	9.30 Holy Communion		11.00 All age Holy Communion	3pm Pet Service
Litton Cheney	9.30 Morning Worship	9.30 Holy Communion	6pm Evensong	9.30 Holy Communion
Long Bredy	11.00 Holy Communion		9.30 Harvest Festival	
Littlebredy		11.00 Holy Communion		11am Harvest, followed by harvest lunch
Midweek	11:30am 6th September Holy Communion followed by Light Lunch at Burton Bradstock			