

BRIDE VALLEY NEWS



June 2024

Bride Valley News – the magazine of the Bride Valley Communities and the Bride Valley & Chesil Churches

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July 2024 issue deadlines: Articles, photographs, etc must be sent to the appropriate Village Correspondent (contact details at the head of each village section) by Friday 7th June for the July 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 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 at bvnl.org.uk or 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 or refuse submissions and cannot guarantee that items will be included.

**The Bride Valley News is delivered to every home in the valley and is entirely produced and distributed by volunteers. Donations to help us continue to provide the magazine would be welcome 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.**

The Bride Valley & Chesil 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
St Nicholas, Abbotsbury
St Peter's, Portesham
St Peter's, Langton Herring

Rev'd Margaret Preuss-Higham (01305) 873978

To enquire about Baptism, Marriage and Funeral arrangements in the Bride Valley Churches please contact Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator, on 01308 897260 (email BVchurchesTA@outlook.com) or for the Chesil Churches please contact Rev'd Margaret at the number above, or email revmph@gmail.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. responding to any need, great or small, for pastoral care. If you need help please contact the Churchwardens, Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator (01308 897260) or one of the Lay Pastoral Assistants who are: *Cathryn Johnson 01308 897169, 01308 898327, Pauline Woodford (Burton Bradstock only) 01308 898327, Jenny Malyon 01308 898768 and Liz Orza 01308 897451.* *Home communion is available by arrangement. Please contact any of the LPAs.'*

A Thank you from James

Dear Friends,

I was overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity within the cards and gifts I received marking my retirement from Licenced Lay Ministry. The occasion coincided with our wonderful United Easter service at St Nicholas Abbotsbury.

I am most grateful and humbled for the support that I have been shown throughout my time serving in the Benefice. It has been a great privilege and in doing so, it could be argued is reward in itself.

It has been with mixed feelings that I reached my decision. I am sorry not to be going forward with the exciting future promised, as the Benefice of the Bride Valley and Chesil matures, and we welcome our new Rector Andrew. However, there is never a good time to step back but there is a time, and that time had come. I now look forward to worshipping with you all in future but from the pews. I may invest in a cushion having previously been spoiled with a comfortable seat at the front!

Once again, my grateful thanks.

James Webster

Visit of Bishop Karen Gorham

On Sunday 30th June, Bishop Karen will be leading a United Benefice Service of Holy Communion at LATCH, starting at 6pm. This is to be followed by a Bring and Share supper - and we hope that this will be an opportunity for the different areas of the Benefice to socialise and get to know each other better. Please bring a donation of sweet or savoury food! Please also bring your own drinks. Water, tea and coffee will be available at LATCH.



The Rt Rev'd Karen Gorham became the Bishop of Sherborne in March 2016 and is responsible for the Dorset parts of the diocese. She works alongside the Bishop of Salisbury and Bishop of Ramsbury to lead the Diocese of Salisbury.

School Governance

Most of you will have heard of school governors but do you understand who school governors are and what they do? Simply, governors are dedicated volunteers who give time and energy to ensure that every child receives the best education possible to achieve their potential.

We now have three Church of England primary schools in the Bride Valley and Chesil Benefice – Burton Bradstock, Thorner’s and Portesham - and each one has a different governing body structure depending upon whether the school is part of a trust or under the local authority. (The governing board may be called a local school committee if the school is part of a Multi-Academy Trust). There are three types of governors - Parent/Carer, Co-opted and Foundation, who are unique to Church of England schools.

Parent/Carer governors are elected by the parents and carers of the school’s children, Co-opted governors are invited to join the governing body for specific skills and knowledge and Foundation governors are appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education (in our case Salisbury DBE) after being nominated by the local Parochial Church Council or in Multi-Academy Trusts the DBE corporate member. Responsibilities are the same for all governors, but Foundation Governors’ Christian faith is fundamental to their role. Governors are responsible with the Headteacher for setting the Strategic Direction of the school and Foundation governors have the additional responsibility with the Headteacher for setting the Vision and Values. They uphold the distinctive Anglican and Christian ethos of the school and preserve and strengthen links between church, school, local community and Diocese to ensure it makes a difference to the children, staff and wider community. Collective Worship and Religious Education must follow the appropriate guidelines/syllabus and Foundation governors are required to monitor them effectively.

All governors hold the Headteacher to account for the teaching, achievement, behaviour and safety of the children and challenge educational standards and performance towards aspirations that are transformational. Governors monitor the school’s statutory duties from the SEND Code of Practice in respect to children with special needs and ensure it does not discriminate against pupils, job applicants or staff based on race, religion, age, disability or sexual orientation. In addition, they monitor children who are otherwise disadvantaged to ensure they are supported

appropriately to access the curriculum and gain the same school experiences as others who are not disadvantaged.

Safeguarding duties are statutory, and governors are responsible for monitoring and ensuring there is a culture of safeguarding within and across the school so that children are safe and know who they can approach to discuss concerns.

In some schools, governors are responsible for checking that finances are well managed leading to probity, solvency and effective use of resources and the maintenance of school premises.

Foundation governors take an active role in the school evaluation process, especially evaluating the progress against the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) schedule. They are expected to take part in the school's inspection and will be questioned on whether the school's distinctive Christian vision is effective in enabling pupils and adults to flourish.

The Chair of Governors is responsible for ensuring that all aspects of governance are covered and that the work of the board is in partnership with the whole school. Individuals often link to areas which interest them such as specific subjects and classes or areas such as Safeguarding, SEND and Inclusion and Foundation governors may be involved in collective worship such as Open the Book. Governors support schools in fund-raising and extra curriculum activities and will often provide an 'extra pair of hands' whenever required.

Time is required to attend meetings, carry out monitoring activities and other additional responsibilities to make sure the children get the education they deserve. You may wonder why people volunteer to take on the role but being a governor of a school is incredibly rewarding and essential in supporting the school to meet its priorities and deliver the School Development Plan.

Pat Lewis-Badgett

Chair of Burton Bradstock CE School Local School Committee (Part of the Initio Learning Trust)

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

Baptisms: Theo Raggett, at Burton Bradstock, 5th May
Thomas Laing - Long Bredy, 19th May
Funerals: David Hedworth - Burton Bradstock, 9th May
Bob Hynds - Burton Bradstock, 19th May

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



Burton Bradstock CE Primary School

With the weather now warming up, the children are all looking forward to getting out and about in the local area over the summer term. Teachers have lots of exciting trips and visits planned which I look forward to sharing with you in the coming months.

Since returning from our Easter break, we have started new topics, voted in new school councillors along with many other things! To celebrate the end of their Art Topic 'Portraits', Robin class families were invited to an exhibition of the children's work in the hall after Celebration Worship on Wednesday 8th

May. They worked so hard completing their works, exploring different portrait styles as you can see from the sneak peek below!



Kingfisher class made Ancient Egyptian sarcophaguses out of clay. They had to research designs then meticulously create it. They proudly presented their sarcophaguses to the parents joining us for Celebration Worship.



The whole school enjoyed a visit from the RNLI just after the Easter break and had a great assembly with lifeguards Jamie and Harry. They taught us all about staying safe on the beach and what to do in an emergency. Find out more about beach safety on the RNLI website: <https://rnli.org/safety/beach-safety>

Owl class have been learning about World War 2 in their topic, 'Britain at War'. They have written some fantastic letters where they imagined that they were evacuees moving from the city to the countryside during the war. They are looking forward to their trip to the Tank Museum just after May half term.

As part of the 'Start Small; Dream Big' national initiative we are holding a careers week from 10th – 14th June. With help from parents and the local community, we hope to showcase a wide range of vocations and jobs to encourage our children to 'dream big' about their future careers. We are looking for parents, members of our local community and ex-students to come in and tell us about their jobs. If you think you would be able to support this, please get in touch with the school office on office@burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk or 01308 897369.

Adam Gough, Headteacher



Thorners CE VA School

Spring term is drawing to a hectic conclusion at Thorners with the usual mix of music, drama, sport and exams dominating the school at this time of year.

Bredy and Eggardon have been having Violin lessons through the Dorset Musicianship Programme - these professional lessons will go on all through the summer and each child has the loan of a $\frac{3}{4}$ sized violin on which to practice at home for the remainder of the spring and the summer term. It is hoped that those who enjoy and show aptitude for the instrument will continue with lessons on an individual basis in the Autumn. Meanwhile Fledglings and Litton have had weekly music lessons from Claire Shaw exploring a variety of songs and rhymes.



Mrs Biggins is rehearsing Alice in Wonderland with our Drama Club members and they will perform this for the school and parents in the summer term. We are delighted to see so many new children join both this club and the choir run by Mrs Shaw.

The older children had a presentation from the Dorset Lifeguard Service about how to stay safe this summer on our coastline and what to do in an emergency and where to swim/paddle and surf across the UK as well as hearing about days and events at our own local beaches. We also learnt a little about the cliffs along our part of the coast and how important it was to stay safe when on the beach as well in our part of the world. Linked to this the children will be taking part in the Lyme Regis Fossil Day in the summer which will show the children how to best explore the wonderful natural history we are so fortunate to enjoy in Dorset.

On the sports field, Thorners recently won the Handball tournament held up at Colfox secondary school and are also taking part in the Kwik Cricket tournament at Symondsburry, as well as several other sporting fixtures including the girls football match against Salway Ash at the end of SATs exam week.

All the children enjoyed taking part in the Church service in Litton for Ascension Day and it was lovely to hear the bells being rung so beautifully and for a wonderful morning that catered for the children and gave them the chance to take part in a "real" service and be part of a proper congregation. Thank you to all at St Mary's that made this possible.

We look forward to more warm weather as we open up our swimming pool and allow the children back onto the field again at playtimes as well as a busy summer term ahead with plenty of trips and treats for the Yr 6 leavers as they get ready for secondary school.

Mike Sitch
Headmaster

Our Night Sky in June 2024

Saturn will be rising in the East about 0300, and Mars about 0400. Jupiter will be lost in the early morning sunrise. The constellation Ursa Major, known as the Great Bear or more commonly, the Plough, can be seen throughout the night orbiting the northern sky. The two left hand stars are known as the pointers, because they point to Polaris, the star closest to the North polar axis.



There are two important fact-finding missions aimed at finding water on the Moon. Firstly, the *Peregrine Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer* which will be onboard Peregrine Mission One. The mission is aimed at studying lunar water cycles and see if water could be extracted from the polar crater in future. This is important, since the rim of the crater is in almost constant daylight, making it the ideal place to have a permanent manned base

Secondly, the project *Softserve* is to “advance the development of extreme environment landing pad technologies and enable safer lunar landings.” The work will involve the creation of a large number of digital simulations of the construction process on the Moon, taking into account the peculiarities and properties of the soil.

I hope to keep you informed of how successful these missions are.

Bill Turnill

The Bride Valley WI

As we write this the Bride Valley WI are enjoying the break in the rain and loving the sunshine.

Our April meeting was our Annual Meeting which included a look back at the year's activities. These were varied and interesting from Belly Dancing to a tour of Dorchester Prison. Crafting, a tour of The Lyme Regis Lifeboat station and a visit from the beautiful Ester, a Guide Dog for the Blind puppy. We were glad to hear we had made substantial donations to both The Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Lifeboat station. Our programme for 2024/2025 looks just as exciting. Our membership is around 40 in number now and if you wish to come along and see if the WI is for you we meet every third Thursday of the month in Puncknowle Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Our monthly walks are now being held on a Thursday evening and Skittles carries on every alternate Tuesday at The White Horse.

Email. bridevalleyWI@gmail.com

Events in the Bride Valley

Summer Wine Tasting with Selected Grapes of Bridport

Thorner's Hall, School Lane, Litton Cheney, DT2 9AU

Friday 7th June 2024 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Tickets £20 to include talk, canapes and Prosecco

To reserve your place contact 01308 863690 or 01308 420071
or email cropayne@icloud.com

Pippa Davis

Chairman of West Dorset Versus Arthritis Fundraising Committee

Family Fun Day!

Shipton Gorge Church and Hall

Saturday 8th June

10am until 1.30pm

Suitable for 3+ years old. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Refreshments and snacks will be available, but please bring your own packed lunch which we'll eat in the churchyard (weather permitting).

To join in, please email back the application form- sent via email from Thorners, Burton Bradstock and Portesham School - or contact bvchurchesta@outlook.com

Exploring beauty in everything around us - and based on 'All Things Bright and Beautiful, we'll be using our senses, collaging, decorating biscuits, making bird feeders, making seed bombs...and more!



Cost: free



Supported by the
Adhelm Mission Fund.



2024 is a special year for the villages of Portesham and Abbotsbury. Plans are in place to celebrate that 1000 years ago in 1024 King Canute wrote a charter giving the area known as Porteshamme to his manservant Orc. This original charter is stored in Dorset History Centre and this is the first written record that defines the area now known as Portesham. Abbotsbury will also celebrate its Millennium this year, however, the written record has been lost.

There is evidence of humans inhabiting this area since Neolithic times but this document is the first written record.

To mark this important milestone both villages will hold a number of events throughout the year and some have already taken place. Bunting including our logo is already on display. June, July and August will be the time of a series of events where we hope good weather will shine on us. For a list of events see www.MAP24.org These events are open to all.

Six Men of Dorset

The Tolpuddle Play by Miles Malleon and H A Brooks

**Directed by
Tim Laycock and Emma Hill**

For the 190th anniversary of the arrest and trial the New Hardy Players present this play at

7.30pm on Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th June, and also Matinee performances at 2.30pm on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June. Act 1 will be in the Dorchester Corn Exchange, Act 2 at Shire Hall Museum.



Tickets £16 (under 18 and unwaged £10) from dorchesterarts.org.uk, or 10305 266926

BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS



PRESENT

With kind permission of Concord Theatricals & Stage Scripts

“EVENING OF COMEDY”

TWO VERY FUNNY ‘ONE ACT’ COMEDY PLAYS

HEAVEN'S
ABOVE
By Diana Raffle

TICKETS – £10.00
to include
Ploughmans supper

BAR
is being provided by
staff of The Anchor Pub

MURDER AT
LITTLE GRIMLEY
By David Tristram

Both plays contain some adult themes/language

THURSDAY 20th JUNE 7.30pm

FRIDAY 21st JUNE 7.30pm

SATURDAY 22nd JUNE 7.30pm

AT BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM 8th MAY

FROM BURTON BRADSTOCK POST OFFICE OR

CONTACT THE BOX OFFICE ON 01308 898707

Bride Valley Gardening Club

Victoria Medal of Honour

Whilst AGMs are not generally 'fun events' the Club's most recent one proved to be a very good evening and with excellent attendance. Extra chairs were still being added as the formal business of the evening began, led by Sue Brown in her farewell appearance as Chair.



Sue was thanked for all her hard work for the club, the speaker was welcomed and the lights were dimmed. Julian Sutton, an enthusiastic plantsman, kept his audience engaged not only by his wealth of plant knowledge but by his sense of horticultural history. Following his talk, sales of his plants were brisk and members were in no hurry to leave.

I'd just finished drafting this entry when news reached me that our next Speaker, Neil Lucas, owner of Knoll Gardens near Wimborne, has been awarded the Victoria Medal of Honour by the RHS in recognition of all he has done over so many years to increase our understanding of naturalistic planting and garden wildlife. This is their highest award, only awarded 63 times since 1897 and the Club feels very honoured that he'd already agreed to talk to us as our 'Celebrity Speaker'.

On Monday June 17th 'Mr Grass', as he is known, will be talking as the acknowledged world authority on ornamental grasses: "More Wow and Less Work: grasses and their place in the garden". Neil will be bringing copies of his new book, which he'll be happy to sign, and maybe his medal (?). There will be a raffle, the usual plant sale and wine and nibbles to kick off this special evening with doors open from 7.00pm.

This will be a ticketed event - £3 for members and £5 visitors - and tickets **must** be bought in advance from our Secretary Liz (07751 942588, liz_gibbs@hotmail.com) for what we know will be a super special evening. Stampede for tickets – get yours now!

Ali Halliday (balletboots@live.com)

Litton Cheney

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



From St Mary's Church

Lots of good things ahead – on **Sunday 30th June** Bishop Karen will be visiting us to hold a **United Benefice Holy Communion Service at LATCH at 6.00pm**, followed by a Bring & Share supper. This will be a good chance to meet and mix with others from the recently enlarged Benefice, hopefully

enjoying a beautiful summer's evening and the lovely views from the hall.
Everyone is very welcome.

St. Mary's will be hosting a **Village Café at LATCH on Saturday 6th July** to raise funds for the church. Grand Prize Draw tickets are now on sale with some great prizes. The draw will take place at the Village Café - please buy lots of tickets!

Our new Rector, Rev'd Andrew Rawding, will be installed at 11.00am on Sunday 14th July in St. Mary's Burton Bradstock. We very much look forward to welcoming him to the Benefice, together with his wife Loveday and their children.

A Bird called Roger

As you may have noticed, especially when the sun shines, the new gilded cockerel weather vane has commenced duty atop the tower of St Mary's. Very many thanks to those who kindly contributed to the cost, to Stephen Coles of Coles Castings who cast the bird, to Caddy Sitwell of Long Bredy who gilded it, to the team from Tony Humphrey Building who made the new pole and installed it and last but not least to Pete Dennis and Martyn Brooks who did the seemingly impossible in negotiating the cockerel up the tower stairs without handling the gilding. Canon John Wood kindly honoured us by blessing the bird in the presence of the congregation and the bell ringers before a recent Sunday service; he regaled us with a story about his children and their family hens and a cockerel called Roger so we think that name will be apt!

Parish Council

Parish/Village Assembly & Annual Meeting

A well-attended assembly was held on Tuesday 14th May, followed by the Parish Council's Annual Meeting. Rural housing was the debate of the day – the need, the what and the where? Our new Ward Councillor, Sally Holland, was introduced to the far from the madding crowd, and we look forward to a fruitful and constructive relationship over the coming years. Details of the two meetings can be found on the village website littoncheneys.org.uk

We said a sad goodbye to Bella Spurrier who stood down from the PC after seventeen years as a councillor. Bella was presented with a book on Dorset signed by her colleagues, past and present former councillors and clerks. We welcomed new councillor, Rob Matthews, and re-elected Andrew Price. A

final farewell and huge vote of thanks was given to our outgoing Clerk, Maggie Walsh, who after seven years has passed the baton to new Clerk Lucy Beasley.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 9th July, 7.30pm at LATCH.

Bridge over Tranquil Waters

There is an urgent need for a new bridge over the stream at Chilcombe. Walkers of all types who walk that way (!) will no doubt be very aware of the state of the current bridge.

Dorset Council have offered to match fund us if we can raise £500 towards a sustainable and lasting bridge. The public right of way is virtually impassable at the moment, so your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Quentin Blacke 07919 905588 if you would like to make a donation or obtain more details.

Events at Litton and Thorner's Community Hall in June

Weekly:

Mondays: 3.30pm – 4.30pm Big Q Church (Term time only)

Tuesdays: 4.45pm – 5.45pm Short Mat Bowls (Ron Davidson 01308 482661)

6.00pm – Pilates (johanna@larkpilates.com 07920 421783)

Wednesdays: 4.45pm - Table Tennis (Ron Davidson 01308 482661)

7.00pm – Mindful Movement with Jane Hutchins (07882 527697)

Thursdays: 9.15am-11.15am First Steps Toddlers (fortnightly, term time only)

Special:

Monday 17th – Gardening Club meeting 7.00pm

Saturday 29th – 9.30am Tai Chi (Andrew Howard 07912 107950)

Sunday 30th – morning Yoga with Nadiya Wynn (nadiyasime@hotmail.com)

Sunday 30th – 6.00pm United Benefice Holy Communion Service with Bishop Karen, to be followed by Bring & Share supper.

Village Cafés: 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

80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings (1944 – 2024) – 6th June 2024

On Thursday 6th June we will be remembering, 80 years on, the D-Day Landings in Normandy. Dorset because of its location on the south coast of England played a major part in the preparations for the landings, and the springboard for the landings themselves. Local history has identified places and people that played a major part in this event (Operation Overlord) which changed the course of the war in Europe.

On the day we will fly the Union Flag and light a Lamp of Peace in honour of the sacrifice and bravery of many on that fateful day. There will be a National Tribute at 9.15pm with the lighting of beacons around the UK.

Over the course of the coming weeks we will be posting information about the D-Day Landings, and its connection with the Bride Valley and surrounding area on the village website littoncheney.org.uk and village FB pages. If you have a story to tell, it's not too late to send it in to jfirrell20@gmail.com Many thanks.

BRIDE VALLEY FILMS - at Litton Cheney Village/Community Hall

A big thank you to all the team who work together to run our screenings. A positive and totally reliable group. Thank you also film goers, for all your support this season – as always critical to making a great atmosphere and the books balance! We plan to continue in the autumn, sometimes sharing licences with Burton or going for our own choice if we feel it is appropriate.

Both villages are keen to show the highly acclaimed **One Life**, starring Anthony Hopkins and Helena Bonham Carter. It tells the true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued 669 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis. So, licence permitting this will be the first one of the '24/25' season.

Don't forget to put forward any good ideas. Meanwhile have a good summer if one arrives!

Look out for further details on posters, on the website and in September's 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>



Puncknowle Flower Festival

The church was filled with flowers over the weekend of May 3rd – 6th. It looked and smelled magnificent. A huge thank you to the many people who had contributed such lovely arrangements. It was a great way to welcome the month of May – the month of our patron saint Mary.

A big thank you also to those who responded to the letter of help for the church. Your contributions are most welcome. If anyone else would like to give, please contact Geoff Truscott on 07800 893090 / email truscottg24@gmail.com.

Puncknowle Fete will be held on Saturday 27th July (2.00-4.00pm). It will be held in the Manor grounds by kind permission of Sarah Wild. Contributions of cakes for the Cake stall, or bottles for the Bottle Tombola, will be most welcome. If you would like to help in any way please contact Geoff Truscott – details above. Put the date in your diary! More details later.

Puncknowle Art Group

We meet on the last Friday of every month (bar August) from 10.00am-12.30pm in Puncknowle Village Hall. People of all abilities are welcome. We have occasional visiting tutors. To be on our mailing list please contact Rosie- rosiehallett@idnet.com



Puncknowle, Swyre, West Bexington, Chilcombe, Long Bredy and Little Bredy

Lunch Club 2024

in Puncknowle village hall at 1.00pm

June 18th: Sausages, Mash and gravy, Lemon meringue pie and cream

July 16th: Ham or Beef with salad, new potatoes and Coleslaw

August: No lunch

Next lunch: September 17th

Lunches cost £6.00. All meals include fruit juice, cheese and biscuits, tea or coffee

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

Puncknowle 100 Club

Here are the draw results for April

1st Prize: Caroline Cox 2nd Prize: Matt Bunce

What's on at Puncknowle Village Hall in June		
REGULAR EVENTS		
Mondays	10.00am - 11.00am	Tripudio Contact Ali on 07968 370485 or by email ali.russell@hotmail.com
Mondays	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Pilates Contact Sarah on 07885 037340 or by email sarah@modified-pilates.co.uk
Wednesdays	10:00am - 12:00noon	Table Tennis Contact Brian on 01308 897987
Wednesdays	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Table Tennis Contact Brian on 01308 897987
OTHER EVENTS		
Monday 3rd	5.00pm - 7:00pm	Planning Steering Contact Brian on 01308 897987
Tuesday 4th	7.30pm - 10:00pm	Parish Council Open to the public
Thursday 6th	2.00pm - 4:00pm	Craft Club Contact Brenda on b.oliver@btinternet.com
Thursday 13th	7.30pm - 10.00pm	Whist Drive - Jenny on 01308 897863

Tuesday 18th	1:00pm- 2:30pm	Lunch Club Contact David on 01308 898492
Wednesday 19th	7.00pm - 9.00 pm	Planning Steering Contact Brian on 01308 897987
Friday 28th	10:00am- 12.30pm	Art Club Contact Sally on 01308 897987

**PUNCKNOWLE
FÊTE**

In aid of St. Mary's Church
Puncknowle Manor Gardens
by kind permission of Sarah Wild

SATURDAY 27th JULY
2:00pm - 4:00pm

**Grand Draw Teas
Cakes Produce
Bottle Tombola
Chocolate Tombola
Stalls and Games**

**Come & have fun and help us raise
money**

FREE PARKING ENTRY £1 UNDER 12'S FREE

Long Bredy

Village Correspondent: Rebecca Grove
01308 482882 bvn@longbredy.org.uk
Village web-site: www.longbredy.org.uk



Coming up in June...

Talk about the Long Bredy skeletons

On **Tuesday, 4th June** there will be the talk on the skeletons found in Long Bredy during the laying of a pipe in a field and the subsequent archaeological dig.

The speaker will be Martin Papworth from the National Trust accompanied by Nancy Grace. The village hall will be open from 6.30pm to start at 7.00pm. There will be a £2 entrance fee to include refreshments. From what has been found out already from various tests on the bones it should prove to be a fascinating story.

Coffee Break

The Coffee Break will take place on **Saturday, 8th June** from 10.30am – 12:00pm in the village hall.

Join neighbours and friends to catch up and enjoy some refreshments. All are welcome!

Long Bredy Duck Race and Summer Party

Join us for a Duck Race and Summer Party, all in support of our Village Hall! Mark your calendars for **Sunday 9th June**. The festivities kick off at **4.00pm sharp** with the Duck Race launching from no. 11 The Gardens in Long Bredy. Be sure to get your ducks early – they're available from 3.00pm on race day for £2 each.

After the race, there will be a prize-giving ceremony followed by a Summer Party in the walled garden of Long Bredy House. Enjoy hot dogs, refreshing drinks, and ice cream, and try your luck at our garden games. Remember to bring cash, as we won't have a card reader available.

If you want to secure your ducks before the event or have any questions, please call Caddy at 07794359525. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come Along Inn

The 'Come Along Inn' will be open again on **Friday, 21st June** from 5.30pm – 9.00pm in the village hall. A warm welcome awaits all customers old and new.

Long Bredy 100 Club April Results

£30.00	No. 40	Sam Pitcher
£15.00	No. 118	E. Scothern
£5.00	No. 30	B. Holmes

Recipe Corner

When space permits, we'll be sharing a recipe that you can easily try at home. If there are any recipes you'd like to share with the community, please email them to Rebecca or post it through the door at No. 5 Bedford Terrace.



This month's recipe is... a healthy strawberry sorbet to cool down this summer

Ingredients:

Approx. 3 cups of fresh or frozen strawberries
2 tablespoon raw honey, as needed for sweetness
¼ cup warm water, as needed to loosen

Instructions:

Place frozen strawberries into a blender and blend until smooth. You may need to add warm water and press the mixture with a spatula to facilitate the process. Taste the puree and add raw honey to achieve the desired sweetness. For a softer texture, enjoy the strawberry blend immediately. Alternatively, for a firmer consistency, transfer it to a freezer-safe container and freeze until desired consistency is achieved. Top with fresh strawberries, maple syrup and chocolate chips or add a dash of lemon juice. *Bon Appetit!*

Burton Bradstock

Village Correspondent: Pat Grafton
patgrafton43@gmail.com Tel: 01308 898264
Village web-site: www.burtonbradstockvillage.org.



St Mary's Church Summer 'Songs of Praise!'

The theme for our summer Songs of Praise service on Sunday June 2nd at 11.00am is 'A Caring Community' which will be led by the Rev'd Prebendary Alastair Wheeler.



With six uplifting hymns and some readings based around this theme this is an informal service to which all residents and visitors are warmly invited. It lasts just under one hour and refreshments are served afterwards.

Everyone will be welcome to join us for these inspiring services!

St Mary's Church Fete 2024 – call for volunteers

We hope everyone has the date of Thursday 1 August, 2.00pm to 4.30pm, on their calendars for this year's St Mary's Church Fete.

If anyone would like to volunteer their services to help in any way, we would be delighted – and very grateful.

We need people to help set up the Fete on the early evening of Wednesday 31st July and on the Thursday morning, 1st August – and to take down and clear up from 4.30pm.

The stalls and games that make the event such a success all require people to run them – it's fun, and for newcomers to our village, a great way to get to know people!

And if anyone would like to sponsor an element of the Fete, or donate a prize for the Grand Draw, please let us know.

People to contact are:

Co-ordinator Peter Tompkins 01308 897043

Games – Mel Glazer 0770 2074534, email mj.glazer@gmail.com

Stalls – Carol and George Higho 07394 957191 email
carol.higho@yahoo.com

Grand Draw – Jayne Glazer, email jayne.glazer@gmail.com

Thank you for your support. *The Church Fete Team*

Tots' Time

So far, we have had only two sessions in the church garden since October. How different from the previous two years! Now we hope to be able to spend more time outside with water-play, painting (the grass doesn't mind) and marching around with musical instruments singing 'The Grand Old Duke of York', 'Here we go round the mulberry bush' and other songs. Sorry, neighbours, if we have disturbed you.

2024 is proving to be 'the year of the puppets', as first glove puppets, then peg puppets, and now finger puppets have featured in our Bible story slot. You may see them around as the Tots took them home with them.

On April 26th we said 'goodbye' to Ro, wishing her well, back in Oxford. Ro has made an immense contribution to Tots over the last 18 months, and we miss her hugely. Thank you, Ro!

We are looking forward to meeting our new Rector, Andrew, although some Tots with older siblings, have already met him in the Rectory Garden at an impromptu picnic.

All bumps, babies, toddlers, and pre-school children are very welcome at Tots' Time at 2.00pm every Friday in term time. Please bring your parents, grandparents and carers with you. All sessions are free and end at about 3.00pm-3.15pm. For more info phone Audrey (897227), Heather (897780) or email Helen on BVchurchesTA@outlook.com

Burton Coffee Mates

Burton Coffee Mates meet in the church on the second Thursday of the month from 10.30pm-12noon. 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. If you would like more information please call Pauline on 898327.

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 01308 897648.

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 12.00noon and all are welcome.

Wed 12th June Village Society

Wed 10th July W.I.

Burton Bradstock Films

Now takes a break until September, when we hope to have a list of entertaining films for the Autumn/Winter season. Full details will be in the BVN nearer the time.

General Information

Having had a very busy start to the year running quizzes, coffee mornings and Fayres as well as running the Hall itself, the next 3 months are quieter for the Hall Committee, but the Hall remains very busy with other activities run by the various groups around the Village. Many thanks to all who have helped run and support the various fund-raising events that allow us to keep the Hall in tip top condition.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall “200 Club”

May 2024 Draw

Congratulations to the winners:

1 st	£34.60	No 93:	Mrs V Frazer
2 nd	£17.30	No 91:	Dave Venn
3 rd	£8.65	No 45:	Roger Poole

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the June 2024 draw should telephone Keith Britton on 01308 898008 and let him have £7 – one pound for each monthly draw in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw. *WDDC Licence no: SLO080*

The Friends of Burton Bradstock Library

Our Community Library Liaison Officer, Anne Hurrell retired from Dorset Libraries on Monday 13th May. She had been in this post for 11 years, since the Dorset Community Libraries were set up, and representatives from all four of her libraries, Charmouth, Chickerell, Puddletown and ourselves, were able to say thank you and wish her well at a special coffee morning at Charmouth Library on 8th May.



Anne was quite emotional about the whole event but as you can see from this photograph, it was a lovely sunny morning and she is seen relaxing in the library garden with folk and doggy friend from Charmouth and Chickerell. Note the delicious Charmouth Bakery cake!

Sadly, we have recently learned of the passing of two of our original trustees, Carolyn James and Professor Bob Hynds (pictured on the right). They were both instrumental in the setting up of the Community Library in Burton Bradstock and we remember them fondly. We are thinking of Tom James and Christine Hynds and their families in their loss.



*Carolyn James and Bob Hynds
pictured at the Library Lunch in
2014*

As I write this it seems that Spring has finally arrived, and we will soon be encouraging the visiting children from Burton Bradstock School to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge. It is free to obtain a library card and to complete registration on paper or online. This year's theme of 'Marvellous Makers' is designed 'to fire up children's imaginations and unleash storytelling and creativity through reading'. We will be offering children's craft and Lego mornings during the summer.

Our library opening times are: Monday 2.00pm-4.00pm, Wednesday 10.00am-12noon, Thursday & Saturday 2.00pm-4.00pm.
burtonbradstocklibrary@gmail.com,
www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library, 01308 897563

Sue Brown, Chair

Burton Bradstock Village Society

Over sixty members attended the Society's AGM held on 11th of May where this year's committee was elected; Chair, Richard Ferre, Treasurer, Derek Thomas, Secretary, Roger Ashman, Val Ferre, Pauline Tompkins and Alan Weston and we were delighted to welcome Carol Higo as a new member. Two valued committee members stepped down. Christine Lewis who joined the committee in 2016 had been extremely active in all our events especially with the Flower & Produce Show and catering and Alison Leahy who joined as our Publicity representative and had been responsible for the BVN articles and beautiful posters that we have seen over the last year.

There is space for further committee members should you wish to be part of our active team or if committee work isn't for you then we are always looking for pairs of hands to help us with various events. If you want to know more, please have a word with any committee member.

The following morning, we held our annual plant and cake sale in the Rectory Gardens with a Coffee morning in the Village Hall. The weather was beautiful and the sale of high-quality plants went well as did the coffee morning. The "Guess the weight of the cake competition" was won by Graham Skinner, the cake weighing 1lb 12oz. The event raised £782 which in part goes toward the running of the Flower and Produce show.

Wednesday, June 19th we are holding this year's village outing to Swanage and Compton Acres ornamental Gardens in Poole.

The coach was pretty much full at the time of going to press but if you would like to join email rwferre99@gmail.com with your details or call Richard on 01308 897648 to check availability.

Our planning is well underway for the Flower & Produce Show on 13th of July where we hope for a bumper number of entries from Villagers and children at the school. There are schedules in the Post Office and Library and this can also be found on the village website in the Village Society section under Flower and Produce Show.

Our thanks to members who have paid their subscriptions for 2024-25 season, we have about 100 to go and it would really help our collectors if as many of us could pay before next year's Membership cards are delivered in July. If you are uncertain how to pay, please contact Roger Ashman on 07971 649020.

Supper Club

This month's supper club will be held on Monday 24th June.

Any enquiries please ring me, *Mags Chu* on 07790811905.

Burton Bradstock WI

As I write this the sun is shining and we are finally enjoying some warmer weather – just the right kind of day for the Lunch Club to meet up in the Twilights restaurant at Bridport Golf Club. 18 members attended altogether and we were extremely delighted with our delicious meals. We were even able to sit outside in the sunshine before taking our places at the table – a rare treat! Thank you to the staff and especially the chef at Twilights for making this such an enjoyable occasion. We shall look forward to our Christmas Lunch there, which we have already booked!



We haven't had our May meeting as I write this because it is due to be held after the date for submissions to the BVN, so nothing to report there for the moment.

Our ladies have been working very hard to make items for the Village Fayre and will no doubt be busy baking in the days before. Our craft and cake stalls are always very popular so hopefully we will have made a handsome profit, which will go towards the upkeep of the WI Hall. Thank you to everyone who contributed items or helped out on the day.

Our meeting this month will be on 11th June when Alice May will be giving a talk entitled "Chasing Rainbows", about a true post-WW2 Art Therapy story. This will fit in very nicely with our celebrations for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. We shall be remembering this auspicious event by having an afternoon tea on 6th June, accompanied by music, songs and food reminiscent of the era. We are hoping that some of our older members will share some of their memories of this time, which will be most interesting.

Janet Pearson
01308 898346

Burton Bradstock Players

Burton Bradstock Players held its 2024 AGM on 25th April. Vicki Thomas (Chair) gave a talk on the achievements of not just the last year, but of previous years too. Vicki advised that after many years she had decided it was time to stand down from the role as Chair and also as a member of the committee. Vicki was presented with a thank you gift and will be very much missed for her indomitable spirit and her wide knowledge and experience in the world of acting and directing. Liz Slater stood down as Secretary but remains on the committee and Humphrey Walwyn also stood down from the committee. Humphrey was presented with a thank you gift for all his help, advice and considerable knowledge and experience in the world of acting and putting on shows, as well as being our liaison and media member. A new committee has been formed and voted in as follows:- Alan Hooley (Chair), Carole Houghton (Secretary), Ian Ibbotson (Treasurer) Roy Perkins, Liz Slater, Janet Tolputt, Gill East and Sharon Thomas .

It was felt that with the success of our Panto 24 (Goldilocks) the signs are very positive for increased membership and interest, and that the players are going in the right direction. Come and join us!

Carole Houghton

Reminder - Burton Bradstock Festival of Music and Art Spring Concert

Just a reminder that the Festival's Spring Concert will be held on **Friday 7 June** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

David Juritz (violin), Craig Ogden (guitar) and Adrian Bradbury (cello) will play an evening of music for guitar and strings.

The programme includes music by Bach, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Iannia Xenakis, Gabriel Fauré, Poldowski, Tangu and Nicolò Paganini.

FRIDAY 7 JUNE
BURTON BRADSTOCK
FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND ART
Village Hall, Burton Bradstock
SPRING CONCERT
David Juritz violin, Craig Ogden guitar
Adrian Bradbury cello

J S Bach Sonata BWV 767 - 801
Arranged for violin, guitar and cello

Heitor Villa-Lobos Bachianas Brasileiras
Iannia Xenakis Chigi Zyla
Gabriel Fauré Scène en fa
Poldowski Tango
Nicolò Paganini Tarantella in D major

Burton Bradstock Festival of Music and Art
18 to 18 August 2024
www.burtonbradstockfestival.com

Tickets are £14 and can be booked through the Bridport Tourist Information Centre 01308 424901. Tickets can be booked by telephone, by calling in at the TIC, or online at www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk/tickets/ Preparations are well under way for the main Festival, from 10th-18th August, with a nine-day art exhibition and six days of wonderful music performed by internationally acclaimed musicians. More information at www.burtonbradstockfestival.com

Jenny Malyon

Chair of the Festival Committee

Burton Bradstock Parish Council

Elections

Thank you to all those that took the time to vote on the 2nd May, it was a great turnout of 52%. Congratulations to all the elected councillors and we wish them well in their role. Please come along and meet your councillors at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 29th May at the Village Hall.

Annual Village Clean-up

A village clean-up has been re-arranged for Saturday 15th June. The meeting point is at the Reading Room at 9.30am and is expected to last approx. 1.5 hours. Dorset Council will provide a litter picking kit but please wear appropriate gloves and safety glasses if you have them. All welcome so please come along and join in.

Parish Council Meetings

All meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of every month in the Reading Room at 7.30pm.

Dates for the year:

15th May, 29th May (Annual Parish Meeting at the Village Hall) 5th June, 3rd July, 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December, 8th January 2025, 5th February, 5th March.

All residents are welcome to come along and share their thoughts and views.

D-Day Celebrations

The Parish Council are planning to place a beacon on their land at the top of Cliff Road and a Fish & Chip van will also be in the village.

Handyperson

The Parish Council are looking for a handy person for general repairs and maintenance around the village. For further information please contact the Clerk.

If you have any concerns or thoughts to share regarding the village, please contact:

Clerk: Leanne Way

Email: clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk

Littlebredy

Village Correspondent: Philip Williams

pw@bridehead.com Tel: 01305 482232

Village website: <http://www.littlebredy.com>



Many congratulations to Annabel Armstrong, who took part in the London Marathon at the end of April. Despite limited (as she freely admits) training, she completed the course in a very creditable four hours or so, running on behalf of Oxfam. If anyone would like to sponsor her retrospectively, Jim and Nic at West Lodge will undoubtedly welcome any boost for the funds.

Leaving the village to the east, just opposite the bottom of the Valley of Stones, there is a sight not seen very often – the demolition of a house almost brick by brick. This is the current fate of Basket Hill Cottage, formerly the Longstaffs' house, which will be rebuilt by the new owners in a more modern and eco-friendly style once the site is cleared.

If that (a clear site) is achieved before June 22nd, it could provide some additional parking for the Reception following the wedding of Bernie Lozowski and Gina Price, to be held in the Abbotsbury Tropical Gardens earlier in the day. Congratulations to them both, and we wish Bernie and Gina, with little Nico, a great wedding day and then many years of happy married family life together.

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:
shiptongorgediary.co.uk

SHIPTON GORGE
VILLAGE DIARY

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.

St Martin's Church

Floodlight Sponsors for June:

Andrew remembering his mother Mary George

Jane Mallet for Tony's birthday on 9th

Karen Gould for Dave's 50th birthday

Linda & Ed Buck for their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 20th

Ann & Tony Jones for daughter Suzanne and Son Edward's June birthdays

Ann & Tony remembering Ann's Dad, who would have been 100 this month

Diane James for her birthday

Harry & Lily Myers in loving memory of their daughter Beverley.

Doreen, for all those wedding anniversaries

Thank you to all our floodlight sponsors We are rather short of sponsors for the coming months so your support is very much appreciated. For a suggested donation of £5 you can have your occasion mentioned in the BVN. Please contact Phyl Webster on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post-box.

Benefice Family Fun Day at St Martin's Church and the Hall on Saturday 8th June 10.00am-1.30pm. See poster in Valley section for full details.

We are hoping for volunteers to make cakes or biscuits to serve as refreshments. Please contact Helen 897260 or email BVchurchesTA@outlook.com

Morning Worship 9.30am 9th June

Holy Communion 11.00 am 23rd June

What's on at The New Inn

8th June, hanging of the flower baskets outside the pub & choosing the winner. June also brings a feast of football at the New Inn.

Why not pop on down & have a drink & maybe something to eat as you cheer on our boys as we attempt to remedy 58 years of winning absolutely nothing.

We're currently planning on showing the following games:

14th June, Scotland v Germany KO 20:00

16th June, Father's Day + England v Serbia KO 20:00

20th June, England v Denmark KO 17:00 + Spain v Italy KO 20:00

23rd June, Scotland v Hungary KO 20:00

25th June, England v Slovenia KO 20:00

30th June, England game TBC? Fingers crossed

27th June, Quiz night from 6:00pm. Cold buffet also available.

13th July, tickets now on sale for our Summer blues night with local legends Stomping Dave, Earl & Lucy on the drums. It promises to be another great night of entertainment & you can book your advance tickets for £10 by contacting Simon on 0778 720390, call, WhatsApp, text.

Starts at 5:00pm with a BBQ & salad also available to purchase on the night. Music from 7:30pm.

Plus don't forget we have two lovely ensuite rooms available for bed & breakfast. If you have a special event planned & need guest accommodation or maybe you have friends who would like to stay in the village?

If so, then please call the pub on 01308 897302 or visit the New Inn in person for bookings.

Village Hall

May 2024 100 Club Draw results:

1st, 79, £25 Jane King. 2nd, 80, £10 Sally Parker. 3rd, 125, £5 Mark Welman.

Congratulations to all winners

Village Society

Shipton Gorge Village Fete and Show 2024

A date for your diary - 27th July. A full programme of what is happening on the day will be advised in the BVN in next month's issue. In the meantime, get your flowers and vegetables ready for exhibiting and for those producing a hanging basket for the New Inn, could these be brought along for hanging on 8th June 11.00am. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a good day out supporting your village. See you all there.

Shipton Gorge Heritage

Heritage Gin Club – The winner in the May draw was Ruta Skriniskiene – a bottle of gin has been delivered. Congratulations Ruta.



Saunders Richardson Wood

Lots of signs of growth in the wood. The hedge which was layed over the winter along the lane has greened up and will thicken up during the year. The recently planted trees are now coming into leaf and some planted a couple of years ago are now getting to be tall enough for the leading branches to hopefully be out of reach of the nibbling deer. The bins have now been filled and the nettle fertiliser is fermenting nicely – just requiring some regular stirring – a lovely smelly job! The end result should be available in late June/early July. No open dates planned in June at the moment but look out for notices around the village in case something gets arranged.

Shipton Gorge Orchard

The Orchard has been mown and the meandering path has been extended a little to make it easier to walk along. We are trying to keep the borders free from nettles and keep the rosebay willow herb in check – to allow a greater diversity of pollinator plants to flourish. Wildflower seeds have been spread in various areas and we just need to wait and see what makes an appearance. The bees have been busy pollinating the apple trees, so we look forward to a good crop later in the year. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts with the tree guards, a few of the trees have been damaged so badly by rabbits that they appear to have succumbed and will probably need to be removed. We will be doing some



low-key maintenance on Wednesday 5th and 19th June 11.00am-12noon. If you would like to help, you are very welcome to come along!

We had planned to hold a Cream Tea event in June, unfortunately, a few things have now cropped up and we are no longer going to be able to do this - sorry.

If you are interested in supporting the charity in any way, please contact Anne Crowe on 07393 214635 or email annecrowe2016@hotmail.com
Details as usual on our website:
www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton_Gorge_Heritage_16417.aspx
and in the Shipton Gorge Diary www.shiptongorgediary.co.uk

Drop-in Café at the Village Hall, Friday 7th June, 10.00am to 12.30pm

Free refreshments: Teas, coffees (including de-caff), biscuits (including gluten and dairy-free) and fruit squash

This will be the last Drop-in Café before there's a break over the summer so, take the opportunity to 'Drop-in' and having a good old natter with friends and neighbours. With crayons and pictures for children to colour in, the Seed Swap Box for you to take any seeds to plant (please bring your left-overs for others to enjoy) and the facility to drop off any recycling (pens, stamps, contact lens cases, ink cartridges and pill blister packs) there are plenty of reasons to Drop-in. In addition, Janet (violin) & Sue (piano) will be providing some musical entertainment, so please come and support them

If you'd like to 'Drop-in' but would appreciate a lift – just phone Richard Hewlett (897278) or Chris Huxtable (897519) in advance and it will be arranged. **See you there.**

The Duck Race by Quentin Blacke Episode 2 – Friends reunited

As twilight fell, Frank felt more and more lonely without his Ida, who had been swept away along the ditch towards Puncknowle. Ida's plaintive cries had grown weaker and weaker as the gap between them widened, only adding to his feeling of helplessness and loss.



He tucked himself in to a little gully for the night and waited for dawn. Ida too, felt totally bereft and her sobs did not diminish. Suddenly, a large bird

emerged from the reeds. It had short, sturdy legs, a long, pointed beak, the neck of a swan, a big grey body and small beady eyes. It was a heron! “Can I help you, my dear,” it asked, in a kindly voice, “you sound very distressed”. Ida told him what had happened and how she had lost her mate.

“Oh no, we can’t have that,” said the heron, “it’s too dark now, but in the morning, I’ll find him for you. Don’t worry, it’ll be fine. Sit by me here on the bank and get some rest.”

True to his word, the heron took off at first light and used his huge wing span to glide majestically along the main stream in his search for Frank.

The wait was interminable for Ida, but suddenly, with a loud flapping of wings and a rush of air, the heron was back and landed effortlessly beside her. To her astonishment, Frank was clamped firmly in his beak!

Having thanked him profusely, the pair were gently put back in the ditch and floated away together, thrilled to be reunited.

Where will their adventure take them next?

Will they make it to freedom?

Has Frank got a taste for flying?

Find out in July’s edition of BVN. (Episode 1 can be found in May’s BVN).

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



The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

On the impossibility of keeping silence in church

Your remark that you rather liked the silence we keep before starting Services gave me pause for thought. I suppose all things are relative. I know that the noise your congregation makes before worship resembles a packed stand on the football terraces any Saturday afternoon, but the days seem long-gone when I could expect our congregation to sit in real silence for ten minutes.

There’s the sound of the treasurer counting the previous day’s jumble sale takings, of the ladies at the back asking each other when the fish van will next

come round, and of Major Hastings's deafening whisper as he comments some women's choice of hats. Add to this the weekly competition between the organist and the bell ringers to see who can make the most noise, the roar from the choir vestry as they all complain they don't like my choice of hymns and the sound of books, umbrellas and collection money being dropped. I sometimes suspect that an informal rota is arranged whereby people volunteer to drop heavy objects in rotation, thus maintaining a constant clatter, for which no single person can be held responsible.

There is also the weekly ritual when the verger - always waiting until the church is full - goes round each microphone, giving them a bash and bellowing "Testing, testing" and relishing the echo as it bounces off the walls.

The only time the noise level drops significantly is if the congregation see Miss Simpson sidle up to me to have one of her confidential little chats about someone in the village. Everyone knows that her information will provide more than enough to keep gossip flourishing for the following week.

Equally, periods of silence during Services are rarely welcomed; some find them threatening, but the majority simply assume it means I have lost my place. I gave up after one occasion when, on announcing we would say the Lord's Prayer and then leaving a time of silence for recollection, a choirman leaned over to me and whispered helpfully: "It begins 'Our Father'"

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Important note to all contributors to the BVN

Please try to meet the monthly submission deadlines, which are normally set out on the inside front cover, and also keep your entries as succinct as possible. If you can, please submit articles to your Village Correspondent set to A5 format, with pictures and illustrations set to 'wrap text square' (if using Word). Our font is Franklin Gothic Book 10.5pt for the main text (14pt for headings) and if you can use these settings the editing job will be easier!

For consistent presentation we do not use headings which consist of all capital letters, and you may have noticed that any such headings are revised accordingly! If you can, please set all gaps between paragraphs at 6.5pt as this saves space.

Also, we only use one space following full stops!

Your help on this will be appreciated by the Village Correspondents and the Editor!



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June 22/23 Beaminster more dates and venues to follow.

For all details: www.jackiehunt.co.uk contact jackie@jackiehunt.co.uk - 07785 512546

and visit my workshop for Dorset Artweeks May 25 - June 9

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- Transportation
- Cleaning & Laundry/ Ironing Service
- Office & Holiday Let Cleaning
- End of Tenancy Cleaning
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