

# BRIDE VALLEY NEWS



November 2024

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

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**December 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 8<sup>th</sup> November for the December issue. Contributions from outside the Bride Valley should be emailed to [bvnburton@gmail.com](mailto:bvnburton@gmail.com). Handwritten or typed copy should be delivered to village correspondents well before the deadline. Please contact [bvctc@outlook.com](mailto: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 [bvnb.org.uk](http://bvnb.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**

Rector: Rev'd Andrew Rawding (01308) 898799

Associate Priest: Rev'd Margaret Preuss Higham (01305) 87397

To enquire about Baptisms, Marriages or Funeral arrangements in the Bride Valley Churches of Burton Bradstock, Chilcombe, Litton Cheney, Littlebredy, Long Bredy, Shipton Gorge, Puncknowle or Swyre please contact Rev'd Rawding by phone (see above) or email [rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com](mailto:rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com)

You can also use [www.acny.com](http://www.acny.com) for Baptism and Marriage enquiries.

Contact Rev'd Margaret Preuss Higham by phone (see above) or email [revmph@gmail.com](mailto:revmph@gmail.com) for enquiries in the Chesil Churches of Abbotsbury, Portesham or Langton Herring.

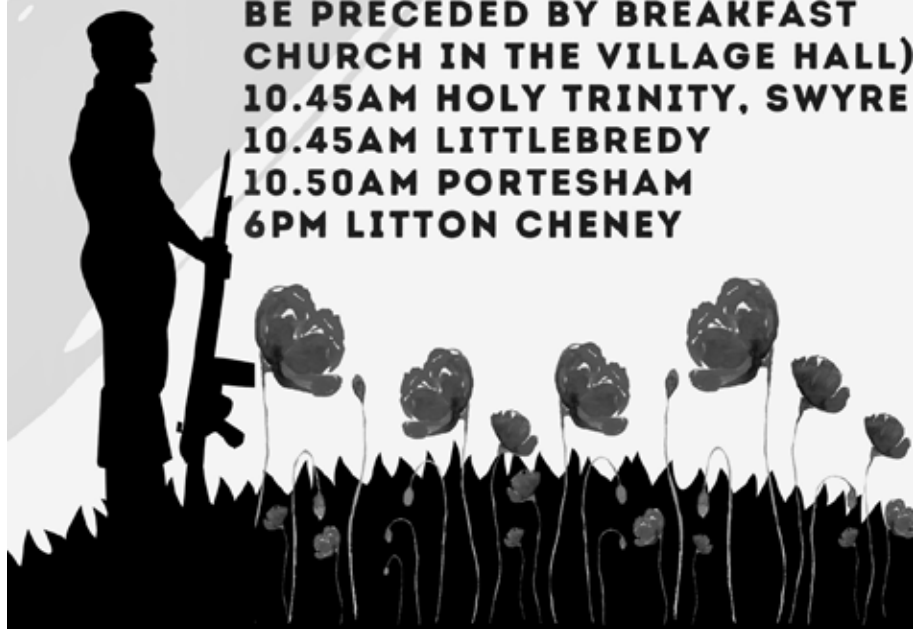
## Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

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, Jenny Malyon 01308 898768 and Liz Orza 01308 897451.*  
*Home communion is available by arrangement. Please contact any of the LPAs.'*

# **Remembrance Sunday Services across the Bride Valley and Chesil Churches**

**November 10th**

**10.15AM ACT OF  
REMEMBRANCE, ABBOTSBURY  
10.30AM BURTON BRADSTOCK  
10.30AM SHIPTON GORGE (TO  
BE PRECEDED BY BREAKFAST  
CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE HALL)  
10.45AM HOLY TRINITY, SWYRE  
10.45AM LITTLEBREDY  
10.50AM PORTESHAM  
6PM LITTON CHENEY**



## From the Rectory

Dear friends,

How are we going to win the Nobel Peace Prize? It's a serious question. What are we doing individually and collectively to make peace, prevent more violence, conflict, wars, trauma, injury, loss of life. Even if we think the Nobel Peace Prize is beyond us, are we working towards any kind of peace prize in our own lives, our families and our communities?

Every Remembrance Sunday many of us say: 'We will remember them'. An increasingly small number will have had any direct relationship with the names read out on the 'Roll of Honour'. So, what and who are we remembering? If we are old enough to remember the terrible pain and trauma of loss, then we could or should be doing everything we can to ensure that no one else suffers the same pain and loss. If we are old enough to remember the impact on families and communities of sons and daughters, husbands and wives, fathers and sons not coming home from war, then we could or should be doing everything we can to prevent others suffering in the same way.

'Never again' was the cry after an estimated 40 million people were killed in World War 1. 'Never again' was the cry after the Holocaust of World War 2. 'Never again' was the inscription on graves in Kigali that I visited after the genocide in Rwanda. I reflected recently that if I had not survived a direct mortar attack on 29<sup>th</sup> January 1992, or a bomb attack on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1992 in Northern Ireland; or been killed on 'Sniper Alley' in Sarajevo in 1995; or killed in anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden in 2008; or killed by a hidden IED (improvised explosive device) on patrol in Sangin, Afghanistan, in 2010, I would not want my family to stand for two minutes in silence to remember me.

First, they would never be able to forget anyway. Every day they would be remembering me. I am never able to forget my British Army and Royal Marine colleagues who are now dead. Secondly, I would not want them to be silent. I would hope that my children would speak out, and use my death as a motivation to action, to find and build peace for themselves, humanity and creation. Two minutes of prayer for peace each day? Two minutes to make peace with or for someone each day? Two minutes each day to reflect on

what is robbing them of peace and accept forgiveness and healing love? Two minutes on the journey to transform hurt into hope. After his death Jesus said 'Peace be with you' to his traumatised disciples and gave them the gift of forgiveness. It's never too late to start working towards the Nobel Peace Prize, starting with us.

*Andrew*

## **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.

## **Safeguarding**

The Churches of this Benefice have adopted the House of Bishops safeguarding policy and are 'Promoting Safer Churches'. The Benefice Churches have an open door to all survivors.

For further information or support please contact our Safeguarding Officer:- Les Keatley. Tel:- 07833545450 email:- Les@Keatley.me.uk

## **From the Registers**

### **Funerals**

Ian Jackson 4<sup>th</sup> October (Crematorium) with Burial of Ashes 12<sup>th</sup> November at Swyre.

Helen Cooper at Burton Bradstock 18<sup>th</sup> October

Jean Burt at Puncknowle 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Rosemary Earnshaw at Shipton Gorge 25<sup>th</sup> October

## Christmas Greetings in the BVN



Its not too late, but please hurry, to place your Christmas greetings to local friends and neighbours via the BVN. Names will appear on dedicated pages in the December issue. There is no fixed fee, and you are invited to make an appropriate donation of your choice.

Donations should if possible be paid directly into the Benefice bank account: sort code 30-91-21, account number 00074071. It is essential however, that these payments are referenced 'XG', and that your name or names for the dedication are included. Please ensure that your instructions are received no later than **Friday 8th November**, in order to meet the printing deadline for the December edition.

Cheques (made payable to '**Bride Valley Churches Team Council**'), or cash, in clearly marked envelopes, can be handed to Churchwardens, or delivered to Liz Orza (2 Bindbarrow, Burton Bradstock, DT6 4RG). Please make sure you include the name(s) for the dedication.

All the donations will be shared between the BVN and this year's charity which is **Heart Response**, based in Puncknowle, which is a registered UK Christian charity that primarily supports the ministries of the Good Samaritan Church, Ocna Mures, Romania. The Romanian church was birthed in 1990 following the overthrow of the socialistic/communist party of the time. It was evident that there was a tremendous need among the poorest of the gypsy people and something needed to be done to help them. Various ministries were therefore established, some of these ministries included an orphanage, gypsy children feeding programmes and elderly support work.

Heart Response regularly sends money for different projects in Romania. Over the past year it has been able to fund a day trip to the zoo for over 40 very poor gypsy children, it's sent money for a medication fund, which was used primarily by the elderly who struggle to pay for their prescriptions, and it also approved a grant request for two mission teachers' salaries, these ladies work in the gypsy children feeding programmes and work with up to 500 children on a weekly basis, many of which do not attend school.

*Registered Charity in England and Wales no.1185649, Heart Response, 3 Clay Lane, Puncknowle, Dorchester DT2 9BJ  
07880 607684, email at [info@heart-response.org.uk](mailto:info@heart-response.org.uk)  
Tish Robberts, Charity Team Leader*

## 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

**'Do justice; love kindness; and walk humbly with God  
(Micah 6:8)**

*We are inspired by this verse from the bible and how it shapes all we do. We all believe that fairness, kindness and being humble are the key to flourishing for all. The links between this and our school values of Happiness, Friendship, Hope, Love, Courage, and Respect are clear.*

Our Harvest Festival was held in St Mary's Church at the beginning of October. Children in our pre-school and EYFS shared leaf crowns and a song, KS1 wrote and performed a Harvest Kenning poem, Lower KS2 shared their Harvest trees and Upper KS2 recited 'The Diary of a Church Mouse' by John Betjeman as well as sharing Harvest artwork. We collected food for the local foodbank, 'Cupboard Love' as part of our service.

We are showing around families of children due to start school in September 2025 during our open days this term. If you or someone you know would like to come and visit our friendly village school, please make an appointment via the school office: [office@burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk).



Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and school website:  
[www.burtonbradstockprimary.org](http://www.burtonbradstockprimary.org)

Our main submission this month is an article showing what we did in our recent Climate Change workshops. The children thoroughly enjoyed these and look forward to sharing some work from the project at our upcoming 'Coffee Stop' which will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November. We also hope to see you at our Christmas Fair on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 3.00pm-5.00pm at the school.

*Adam Gough*  
*Headteacher*

### **National Trust run Climate Change workshops for Burton Bradstock school children**

Workshops designed to deliver information about climate change to young people in a positive and empowering way have taken place at Hive Beach and Burton Bradstock School this term. These workshops are amongst the first of their kind for the National Trust and the charity is grateful to the children who took part in the sessions for their enthusiasm.

The National Trust, in partnership with Oops Wow Messy Art and Thriving Wild, worked with children in their final years at Burton Bradstock Primary School, which is close to Hive Beach - a place which is seeing the effects of climate change. The children are taking part in four sessions designed to empower them to look at climate change solutions using storytelling, creative activities and group discussions.

During the recent beach session, the children used materials found in the landscape, such as chalk, clay and charcoal to create their own paint to decorate home-made semaphore flags. They then sent messages which focused on being thankful for positive environmental changes we make to our lives today. In the last workshop a domino rally was created which demonstrated how small changes, made by ourselves now, can have big impacts. We broke the children into 5 groups:



Group 1 each made a small domino (made from cereal boxes) and they drew illustrations onto the box representing what change they could make to help the climate (eg cycle more, plant more trees)

Group 2 had one bigger box which represented the community (this showed that individual changes we make can positively impact our community and help our local area).

Group 3 had an even bigger box which represented government. They drew pictures and messages on this for our politicians, the idea being that communities can influence politics.

Group 4 had an even bigger box which represented BIG companies and this had illustrations to show how government needs to put pressure on big companies to encourage them to make positive changes for our world.



Group 5 was the EARTH (and their box was the BIGGEST), this box was full of illustrations of animals and represented a better place once big companies have made positive environmental changes which will help the earth be a better place. We then knocked the small domino so it set off the rally, making a wonderful visual representation of how one small change can create a brilliant and positive chain reaction. The sessions were creative and fun and enjoyed by everyone.

**Liz Flight, from the National Trust said**

*“We believe there is an opportunity to engage children in the issues of climate change in a positive and empowering way. Climate change can be a scary subject, but if dealt with correctly we can find ways to ensure everyone knows that even small changes will make a positive impact.”* **And**



**Adam Gough, Head Teacher at Burton Bradstock School said:** *“Living by the coast, the children are rightly concerned about a changing climate and the effect it is having on our local community. They have witnessed an increase in cliff falls, high tides and flooding in our local area. By engaging with the children in a fun but informative way, we have been able to develop a message of hope for the future if we all do our bit.”*

*If you would like more information about these sessions or would like us to run a similar workshop for your school or group of children please get in touch: [Elizabeth.flight@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.flight@nationaltrust.org.uk)*



## Thorners CE VA School

The children have been incredibly busy and the autumn term was packed with harvest festival celebrations, apple juicing, cross-country races, 11+ exams, cooking lessons, class trips and open days. At our Harvest Assembly, Litton, Chesil and Bredy classes treated us to some wonderful songs and poems which they performed to a packed hall of children and parents. The older class of Eggardon then shared their research into food banks and the growing need for all to support their crucial work and several parents took part in our 'Bake Off' Bread challenge - in which they kneaded and fashioned superb loaves in a record time! Thank you to all staff and parents who supported our food bank collection on the day - this wonderful contribution will make a difference to those in need in the coming months.

The children also took part in our annual apple juicing day in which the children picked apples from our Forest School area - mashed them into a 'pomace' using our scrapper (or 'mangler-wangler' as the children call it) - and then pressed the pulp in our cider press to create delicious apple juice for all to try! It is lovely to see the children experience this process from start to finish and appreciate just how much hard work is required to produce one cup of apple juice. We were also delighted that each class has been cooking so much during the harvest week with crumbles, pies and tarts being made by each class during the week. Thanks to our new oven - the smell of baking filled the school each day.

Our preparations for all of these activities were momentarily halted at the start of the month by a phone call from the Office for Standards in Education - letting the school know that they would be inspecting us on the following two days. Although anticipated, many thanks still to all our staff, governors, children and families for doing so much to get over to the inspectors what Thorners is all about at such short notice. A copy of their report will be out in due course and placed on the school website.

In important news, new pupils have been elected House Captains for the year and a slew of trips have taken place ranging from watching War Horse at the Southampton Mayflower Theatre, trips to Bridport Library and Museum, a tour of the Bovington Tank Museum as well as a visit from the National Landscapes Team in our wildlife area and a well-deserved end of term themed disco organised by our brilliant TSA (Thorners School Association Parent Group). One of these new House Captains, Jesse Boughton-White, led the school team brilliantly at the annual Colmer's Hill X-

Country race finishing third in the boys' race. Well done to all the runners who managed to get round the typically muddy course! We also wish good luck to those of our pupils awaiting their 11+ results this week and congratulate all those children who have received their summer 'Reading Challenge' certificates this month - it is lovely to celebrate books in this way and all credit to those who completed the challenge across the holidays.

Lastly, although we almost feel guilty about mentioning it so early, we look forward to starting auditions and rehearsals for the children's nativity and whole school Christmas production in the next few weeks. We also think ahead to our Christmas church service as well as our now regular series of assemblies with Rev'd Andrew - as we approach Advent. We are trying something different for this year's production, rather than the traditional Christmas plays (Dickens et al.) and the children can't wait for the music to start as well as the important jobs of set and costume design to whirr into action as we head into December!

*Mike Sitch*  
*Headmaster*

## **Our Night Sky in November 2024**

Venus will be setting in the SW by 1900, followed by Saturn at about 0100. Jupiter remains visible throughout the night, as well as Orion, so do make the most of these glorious sights which do so much to beautify the winter nights.



An asteroid or a Comet, landing in the Gulf of Mexico, was responsible for the demise of the dinosaurs, all except for a small mammalian one which eventually developed into human beings! NASA keeps a close watch out for Near-Earth asteroids which cross our orbit, and which, with a slight gravitational nudge, could come dangerously close. The latest is:

Asteroid 2024 ON: NASA says that this asteroid is not currently a threat to Earth, but its speed is a concern. It's a stadium-sized asteroid that will pass close to Earth, but will not be visible without a telescope. If it does become a threat, I will try to let you know before I catch the next Space X flight to the ISS!

As the Man in Black used to say "Pleasant Dreams"!

*Bill Turnill*

## The Bride Valley WI

Autumn has certainly arrived in the valley. The harvest has been taking place and people have been working really hard and putting in long hours.

One hopes their working conditions are better than those workers we heard about while visiting The Shire Hall in Dorchester for our September meeting. We were privileged to an extremely entertaining and informative evening. We began by hearing about some of the not so law-abiding citizens of the Bride Valley, who it's seems still have ancestors in and around the area!!!! All law abiding now of course. Not a smuggler amongst them????

The Tolpuddle Martyrs were tried, with little fairness and no justice, at the assizes in 1834 and were then sent to Australia. These men were all pardoned in the next couple of years and became instrumental in the forming of the early union and workers' rights movements.

We spent time in the cramped cells, behind bars and also sat in the assizes where Thomas Hardy was once a magistrate.

We learnt about the dreadful conditions that all the law breakers were subjected to irrespective of age. One young criminal who was later transported to Australia eventually became the executioner of the infamous outlaw, Ned Kelly.

The evening was thoroughly riveting and thought provoking.

Our monthly walk on a dry Sunday morning took us to Symondsburry Estate where the trees were beginning to change into their glorious autumn colours. Our stroll eventually took us to The Holloways via Hell Lane and Shute's Lane where we experienced the mysterious carvings and ancient sunken paths. Our route also ensured wonderful views of the iconic Colmers Hill.

The skittles team have entered this year's WI league and will start playing their games against other teams in the next couple of weeks. Whatever the outcome it's always very enjoyable meeting other WI club members and visiting different alleys.

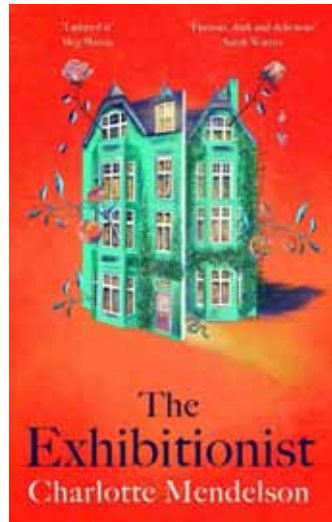
Although not as busy as our usually quiet August I think you will agree September was a full month. If you think you would like to come and join us, contact us on [bridevalleywi@gmail.com](mailto:bridevalleywi@gmail.com). We meet every third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in Puncknowle Village Hall.

## The Bride Valley Book Club

### The Exhibitionist by Charlotte Mendelsohn

The exhibitionist in this novel is ageing and fading artist, larger than life personality, Ray Hanrahan. Ray has delegated to his eldest daughter, Leah, the organisation of a one-man exhibition of his work, his first showing in many years. The novel explores his family and the diverse ways in which he dominates them into a state of paralysis. Anchoring them in North London is the family home, a large but decaying Victorian villa. Quite early on it is clear the novel is hurtling head on for this “show” to be a humiliating car crash.

Ray’s much younger (and much more talented) wife, Lucia, is also an artist who subjugates her growing success to the needs of her overly opinionated husband who is given to temper tantrums and now reliant on prescription painkillers. It seems that as Lucia is increasingly sought after for prestigious art commissions (which she tries to ignore) - Ray’s star is declining and the Art “establishment” has long ceased to take him seriously. Leah is overly devoted to her father and they delude themselves that this “show” will kickstart his career. Their younger daughter, Jess, has escaped her dysfunctional family to a teaching job in Edinburgh. However, she is in danger of being drawn back into the family by her boyfriend who has fallen under Ray’s influence. Lucia’s son, Patrick, is also part of this toxic family. He suffers from extreme anxiety and struggles to assert himself against Ray’s wishes. None of the characters are honest with each other and they are all caught in stormy cross currents as the novel gallops towards the debacle of the private view.



This novel did divide us - incomplete segments of dialogue and exaggeration were amongst the complaints. However, some of us enjoyed the black humour which tipped over into pathos. Those of us familiar with this part of North London enjoyed the local references and a few of us had even met paler versions of Ray in our past lives. At least one of us wanted to visit the Hanrahan house and give it a thorough tidy!

*Liz Pinfield*

## Events in the Bride Valley

**Bride Valley Bingo Fundraising Group** invite you to join us to celebrate 5 years of fundraising for Dorset based charities. Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at LATCH, School Lane, Litton Cheney. Doors open 6.30pm and eyes down at 7.30pm. Great prizes, raffle, bucket draw and refreshments. All welcome. All money raised will go to RSPCA Taylors rehoming, based at Kingston Maurward which will help many animals in care, as they deserve a happy Christmas too!

### A Date for your Diary in the Christmas Spirit Artsreach at Burton Bradstock Village Hall



David Myrne in *A Christmas Carol*

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in Burton Bradstock Village Hall.

Celebrate the festive season with a mesmerising one-man performance of Dickens' timeless, transformative story: *A Christmas Carol*. Bah! Humbug!

David Myrne is a veteran Cornish actor and a founder member of Kneehigh. Spend an evening in the company of a mean, tight-fisted, squeezing, grasping, clutching old miser. This is Dickens' original words with added silliness. Suitable for adults and older children (9+)

Tickets now available online at <https://artsreach.co.uk> or telephone David Witham on (01308) 897403. Adult tickets are £12.50, under 18s are £6 and family tickets are £35.

Also for your diaries in early 2025, please note our next production on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January - "Havisham", another one-person performance related to Dickens, but this time a presentation of the imagined life-story of a much misunderstood character. Full details in the December BVN.

# Bride Valley Gardening Club

## Bride Valley Gardening Club

### Time to reflect

As we come to the end of another year's worth of gardening club offerings, it's the natural time for the committee to consider the popularity of the monthly meetings (and any need for change). It has been another enjoyable year but some were disappointed not to have the traditional Summer Show, for lack of volunteers. Everything the committee does is for the benefit of members, and it relies on feedback and encouragement to enable us to get things right. With a huge range of differing interests, age and garden knowledge the committee seeks to please as many appetites as possible. If we are to stay on track whilst planning over a year ahead, we need your help. A questionnaire has been considered but we've all experienced the frustration of these where there is never the opportunity to say what we really think! Yes, it's often a bother to respond or send one's thoughts to a secretary but the committee would honestly be happy to receive ideas and views that could help shape the future of the club.



Maybe you are happy with things just the way they are. We have a loyal following of those who have been members for many, many years and have served as office holders, as well as newcomers to gardening and to the area, with aspirations not necessarily being the same. It would seem that a good mix of topics delivered by knowledgeable and fluent speakers, a chance to chat maybe over a drink or two is a good start. Add in some seasonal plants to look at or maybe buy, a sharing of plant knowledge and possible introduction to something previously unknown but garden worthy, a summer show with the help from volunteers and maybe we have it right? Would you like a monthly raffle or maybe organised outings or a social event? In the hope that next year can be even better please share your views with Liz our secretary ([liz\\_gibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:liz_gibbs@hotmail.com)) or me, see below.

Hope to see you all next March; meanwhile enjoy your plants and gardens.

*Ali Halliday ([balletboots@live.com](mailto:balletboots@live.com))*



## 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>



### Annual Memorial Service at St Mary's, Puncknowle, Sunday 3rd November at 3.00pm

We shall be remembering our loved ones and lighting a candle in their memory at a simple service of prayer and recollection on Sunday 3rd November at 3.00pm, St Mary's, Puncknowle. Please let us know if you are planning to attend - contact admin Helen by 1st November (email [bvchurchesta@outlook.com](mailto:bvchurchesta@outlook.com) or phone 897260). If you are unable to come, but wish your loved one's name to be read out at the service, please let Jethro Truscott, Sue Lang, the Rector or Helen know.

**St Andrew's Day Coffee Morning**, with cake and raffle  
on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 10.30am-12.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Swyre.  
All proceeds will go to the up-keep of the Church.

### An Invitation to Christmas Tea and Carol Service

You are invited to the Village Hall Christmas tea party on **Sunday 8th December** at 2.30pm. This is a free community event at which refreshments will be provided, making it a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, The Hall will be decorated for Christmas and the fire lit to welcome you in.

There will also be artisan stalls and a chance to win a home baked Christmas cake in the raffle.



At 4.30pm all are welcome to join the candle lit walk to St Mary's for **Carols By Candlelight** and the reading of the Christmas story. This is an interactive service where the children help to create the nativity scene and it will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

### **Thursday 19th December Carols at the Crown at 7.00pm**

Come and join in singing carols together in the comfort of the pub. A great way to welcome Christmas in Puncknowle.

**Christmas Day** Come and join us in the church for a Christmas Praise Service at 11.00am to celebrate Christmas Day.

### **Ride and Stride**

Congratulations to Evan and Ed who cycled around the Bride Valley churches and have raised a magnificent £305 for the Dorset Historic Churches Trust. And thank you to everyone who sponsored them. It was a great effort to support such a worthwhile cause. Well done.

We held our **Pet Service** on Sunday 22nd September. It was a very happy occasion with various dogs bringing their well-behaved owners. Each dog received a blessing and a piece of chicken. It was a time to give thanks for all the love and joy we receive from our pets.

The Church was beautifully decorated for our **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 6th October. All was safely gathered in, and we gave thanks for all we have received this year – despite it being such a difficult year for the farmers. The service was followed by a Bring and Share Lunch held in the Village Hall, which was thoroughly enjoyed. A huge thank you to all those who decorated the Church, and to those who prepared the lunch. A very happy occasion.

### **Puncknowle 100 Club**

Here are the draw results for September

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Nicholas Tait
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	John Turner

Congratulations to the winners!

## Thank You

I have been overwhelmed by the encouragement I've received since having my hip replacement surgery. So many friends and neighbours have stopped to chat and ask after my progress and encourage me. In the early days cards, calls and visits were lovely and thank you for all of those. We are so lucky to live in a village and valley where people care about one another. I'm pleased to say that I am continuing to make good progress and feeling myself again. So, as I thank God for his many blessings, may you good people be equally blessed.

*Yvonne Buckland*

<b>What's on at Puncknowle Village Hall in November</b>		
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>		
Mondays	10.00 am - 11:00am	Yoga with Francesca, phone 07990514948
Mondays	2:00pm - 3:00pm	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 Eonne on 07891 210739
<b>OTHER EVENTS</b>		
Saturday 1st	1:30pm - 5:00pm	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting Open to the Public. More information: <a href="https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/">https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/</a>
Monday 4th	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting Open to the Public. More information: <a href="https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/">https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/</a>
Tuesday 5th	7:30pm - 10:00pm	Parish Council Meeting Open to the Public
Thursday 7th	2:00pm - 4:00pm	Craft Club Contact Brenda on b.oliver@btinternet.com
Saturday 9th	1:30pm - 5:00pm	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting Open to the Public.

		More information: <a href="https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/">https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/</a>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm – 10:30pm	Whist Drive Contact Jenny on 01308 897863
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm – 2:30pm	Luncheon Club Contact David on 01308 898492
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00pm – 9:30pm	Bride Valley WI Contact: <a href="mailto:bridevalleywi@gmail.com">bridevalleywi@gmail.com</a>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am – 12:30pm	Art Club Contact Sally on 01308 897987

## Parish Council of Puncknowle & Swyre

### Public Notice

The Dorset Council Housing Needs Online Survey will be available to complete from Friday 1st November till Monday 25th November. If you cannot access the online survey, there is still time to ask for a paper copy if you haven't done so already.

The QR (quick response) code has been delivered to your home with instructions on how to access and complete the survey. We have arranged several drop-in venues in each village, where you can get help and assistance. You can find details on your public notice boards.

It takes approximately 10 minutes to complete, and paper copies are available for people who do not have access to the Internet at one of our drop-in sessions; details are available on Community Notice Boards.

We need to get as many people who either live in the parish or have a local connection as we possibly can to complete the survey.

The Housing Needs Survey is aimed at households rather than individuals. If more than one person wants to comment, they are welcome to do so or complete the survey themselves if their circumstances differ from the primary occupier. If you know people who have a local connection, but left due to a lack of affordable accommodation, please encourage them to complete the survey. The results of the survey will be available in mid-December. The Parish Council will arrange for the publication of the results in January and facilitate opportunities for community feedback.

If anyone has any questions regarding any of the above, please contact Jacqui Cuff, Rural Housing Enabler for Dorset on 07421 994590 or email [jacqui.cuff@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk](mailto:jacqui.cuff@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk)

*The Parish Council of Puncknowle & Swyre would like to thank you in advance for your support*

## Long Bredy

Village Correspondent: Rebecca Grove  
01308 482882    [bvn@longbredy.org.uk](mailto:bvn@longbredy.org.uk)  
Village web-site: [www.longbredy.org.uk](http://www.longbredy.org.uk)



## Long Bredy 100 Club September Results

£30.00	No. 135	R. Maltby
£15.00	No. 124	R. Maltby
£5.00	No. 92	J. Milne

## Church News

1. Tower Restoration: Plans for repairing the plaster and cracks in the Tower under the Ringing Chamber are ongoing, with estimates from professionals awaited. Fundraising efforts continue, and all donations are appreciated.
2. The craft and nature trail at the Church was enjoyed by many visitors over the summer.
3. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Food Bank during this year's Harvest Festival.

## Monks Supper

The Monks Supper hosted at St Peter's Church in October was a great success raising £500 for the church and bells. The scene was set with the braziers lighting the way up to the church and inside was beautifully decorated with ivy and sweet-smelling herbs spread around, and candles burning brightly throughout the church.

The Monks humble supper of soup, pies and cheeses with apple cake and cream to follow was enjoyed by all. Sheer luck sent us a pilgrim who entertained us well with songs and stories before making his way on to Dorchester. Sincere thanks must be given to all those who helped with every aspect of the evening, before, during and after to make it so successful.

### **Coming up in November...**

#### **Memorial Service**

The Annual Memorial Service will be held at St Mary's Puncknowle on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 at 3.00pm. Attendees can light a candle and have a loved one's name read out. If you can't attend but want a name included, notify Jackie Cain or Rev'd Andrew by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024.

#### **Coffee Break**

The Coffee Break will take place on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November** from 10.30am – 12:00pm in the Village Hall.

This month will include a raffle. All proceeds from the morning and donations from the poppies available through October will be for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Do come along and support us.

#### **Come Along Inn**

The 'Come Along Inn' opens its doors on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November**. Opening time as usual 5.30pm – 9.00pm and there will be a hot supper available. For further information or to book supper please ring 482270 or email: aking44634@aol.com.

#### **Church decorations**

St Peter's Church will once again be decorated for Remembrance, do visit and see the bell ringers' poppy rope around the door and the decorations within.

#### **Note for your calendars...**

#### **Christmas Theme**

This year's Christmas theme is "**Follow the Star: Calm and Bright.**" Households are invited to display stars and angels in their windows or gardens. The Church aims to fill with homemade angels, and there will be a craft table from November 8<sup>th</sup> for making angels, sheep, and Nativity scenes. All ages are welcome, and materials are free.

## **Christmas Coffee Break**

The Christmas Coffee Break will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December in the Village Hall at 10:30am.

## **Live Nativity**

On Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December the Church will host a Live Nativity with the Holy Family and animals. You can view the animals from 9.30am, with the service starting at 10.00am (attendance optional). Guests are welcome to dress as angels or animals, with refreshments served afterward.

## **“Would I Lie to You?!” - POSTPONED**

Due to unforeseen circumstances Long Bredy’s Defibrillator fundraising event **“Would I Lie to You”**, on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, has been **postponed to March 2025**. Watch this space for more information!

## **Please clean up after your dogs**

Sadly, Friday Lane is looking like a dog toilet. Please act responsibly and pick up your dog’s poo wherever they go. Not only is it harmful to farm animals but also to children. Thank you.

### **Could you Write for the BVN?**

We would like to extend our coverage of the Bride Valley into both more general and specific topics, and if you could contribute please let the editor know or contact your local village correspondent. Contributions between 250 and 300 words please, and we can include a picture of two as well. Now is the chance to get into print!

## Burton Bradstock

Village Correspondent: Pat Grafton  
patgrafton43@gmail.com Tel: 01308 898264  
Village web-site: [www.burtonbradstockvillage.org](http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org).



## Dorset Historic Churches Trust Ride + Stride Fundraising Event

Many Congratulations are due to those who took part in September and Very Many Thanks are due to their large number of generous sponsors. The Rev'd Andrew Rawding ran, and Andrew Bailey cycled, around all the Bride Valley and Chesil churches and are pictured on the right. They started at Burton Bradstock and finished at Abbotsbury covering 26.62 miles in less than 4 hours. Jane Stubbs and Liz Orza walked around all the churches in Wimborne. The amazing sum of almost £2,000 has been raised for the Trust which gives grants for the repair of historic churches throughout Dorset. Half of the monies raised is returned to the local parishes.



## Tots' Time

It was great to start the new session with seven little people at Tots. Normally we begin with three or four. We have had a mix of 'out of doors' and 'in doors' sessions - weather related of course. We have been enjoying Autumn and Harvest themed activities. We are grateful to Gina for her input.



Bible stories have mainly been about David - how God chose him because of his heart, not his age or size or



strength; David the shepherd boy with his sheep, musical instruments and songs; making friends; and David facing the GIANT!!

On 8th November, after our half-term break, we look forward to a visit from Rev'd Andrew, when he will tell us the story, and we will have 'poppy-ish' craft activities.

Tots' Time is freely available for bumps, babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers with parents and carers. We meet at St Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock from 2.00pm to 3.00pm during school term times. Healthy snacks and refreshments are provided for adults and children. Do come and join us. For further information contact Audrey (897227), Heather (897780) or Helen Fry (BVchurchesTA@outlook.com).

## **Burton Coffee Mates**

Burton Coffee Mates meet in the Church on the second Thursday of the month from 10.30-12.00noon. 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. (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](mailto: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 12.00noon and all are welcome.

Wednesday 13th November	Burton Bradstock School
Wednesday 11th December	St Mary's Church

## **Burton Bradstock Films**

BB Films will be showing SAVE THE CINEMA on Friday 29th November in the Village Hall.

When the Lyric Cinema in Carmarthen was in danger of closing, local hairdresser Liz Evans, also the leader of a youth theatre, started a campaign to save it from demolition. Her big idea was to encourage more younger people to go to the cinema and she enlisted the help of Steven Spielberg to secure a special premiere for Jurassic Park. A true story of her determination and belief in the importance of the cinema to the town.

Tickets are £6 each and include a glass of wine or a soft drink, and can be bought beforehand from Burton Bradstock Post Office or on the door if available. Doors open at 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

## **Date For Your Diary**

On Friday 31st January 2025 films will restart after the Christmas break. The name of the film will be announced in the January BVN

## **Christmas Market**

The Christmas Market and Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 7th December from 10.00am to 12.30pm. Following recent years' successful format, half the Hall will be dedicated to a smaller number of market tables selling Christmas related goodies, the other half will be laid out for coffee and cake with table service.

Entrance will be £1 for adults, children under 16 free.

If you wish to register interest for the market tables, which will cost £10 each, please contact the organiser, Richard Ferre via email at [rwferre99@gmail.com](mailto:rwferre99@gmail.com) or phone 897648. It is almost certain that not all who want one will be able to have a table, so please be understanding. Allocation will be on a first come first served basis.

## **Christmas Quiz**

The hugely popular Christmas Quiz will be held on Saturday 14th December, with the Quiz prepared and run by Sue Moores & David Edwards. Doors will open at 6.45pm for a 7.30pm start. The ticket price of £12.50 per head will include a light supper, plus all the normal crackers, party poppers and balloons that add to the festive fun. There will be a sensibly priced bar,

raffle, and prizes for winners and last place. There will be teams of 8 (max) per table and the central aisle will be kept free.

Tickets will go on sale at the Post Office in blocks of 8 on Wednesday 20th November on a first come first served basis. Please purchase all 8 of your team's tickets at the same time. Once you have your team tickets contact Richard Ferre (details above) to confirm your table and any dietary requirements. Individuals or couples unable to make up a team but wanting to participate should contact Richard from Wednesday 20th November onwards (not before please). There will be places available for those people to be put into a team on a first come basis. If history is a guide, tickets will sell out in a few hours, so put the dates in your diary now.

## **Burton Bradstock Village Society**

The Society is always looking for ways to improve and remain relevant to its members while sustaining those things that are appreciated. The committee would always value suggestions from members on how we might improve what we do and events we organise.

We are equally keen for our members to get involved with helping organise events, being part of the "Heavy Gang" or from time to time the committee. Just contact any committee member, details are on your membership cards or email [bbvillagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:bbvillagesociety@gmail.com).

**Christmas Tree Baubles:** There is still time for anyone wishing to buy a bauble. £5 for each which will be hung on the tree for three consecutive years. There are 3 designs and you can have your own message on the back. The money raised will go towards the purchase of lights for the tree which tend to only last 3 years. If you are interested, please email [rwferre99@gmail.com](mailto:rwferre99@gmail.com) or phone 01308 897648.

On Friday 15th November, the Village Society talk will be "The making of a Greenham Common woman", speaker Margi Barber. Margi worked in children's television and is a leading light in the Marine Theatre Lyme and Bridport Arts Centre. She will be giving her perspective of a fascinating time in our social history based on her own experiences.

Doors open at 7.00pm and the talk starts at 7.30pm. Tickets on the door are £1.50 for members and £5 for non-members. Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be served, and there will be a raffle and wine available for purchase. You are welcome to bring your friends.

On Saturday 30th November at 10.00am, the committee, with the help of some of our “heavy gang”, will be putting up the Christmas tree. In the evening there will be mulled wine, soft drinks, stollen cake, a present for the children and music & carols prior to a grand switch on of the lights. This is the perfect way for us to meet our friends and neighbours and then perhaps make an evening of it enjoying our two hostelryes or whatever floats your boat!

Full publicity including timing for this village event will be in the Newsletter, the website, Facebook and posters nearer the time.

## **Colbert's Crafters**

Colbert Crafters are presenting a sale of their hand made and individual items on Sunday 1st December from 10.00am to 4.00pm in Burton Bradstock Village Hall, so do come along to find unusual gifts made with love. Entry is free.

## **The Friends of Burton Bradstock Library**

Thank you very much to all Friends of the Library who have renewed or paid their annual subscriptions for the forthcoming year. This is one of our main sources of funding and if you aren't a Friend yet, please consider joining or encourage others to do so. Forms are available in the Library.

On Saturday 16th November we will be holding our Fund-Raising Luncheon in the Village Hall, with doors opening at 12.15pm. Lunch will be served at 1.00pm. Tickets will cost £12 to include a meal of ham, cheese, jacket potato, quiche, salads, pickles, etc., and of course a choice of puddings. Drinks will be on sale at the Cash Bar. There will be the usual Book Sale and Raffle, and donations of books can be left in the Library in the preceding week. Tickets will only be available in the Library, starting on the morning of Saturday 2nd November from 10.00am until 12.00noon, then during subsequent opening hours. We look forward to seeing you on the 16th!

Following our trial table quiz at the Coffee Stop in September (yes it was Ulysses!), we will have held our first Table Quiz for Halloween in the Library on 24th October and hope to hold another on a Christmas theme nearer the Festive Season. Quiz sheets and answers will cost £1 per person so keep a look out for posters. All are welcome. We are hoping to organise a Craft Display in January for library users to exhibit any kind of craft work along with

the book which inspired them. If the book is in the Libraries West catalogue, it can be ordered in. This can cover woodwork, knitting, sewing, painting, whatever. If you would like to take part, just ring me on 01308 897421. We will be holding a geology display after that, which will be suitable for adults and children. Come and learn about what is under your feet – no, not the carpet and concrete! Our local geology is very special.

Burton Bradstock Community Library opening times are:

Monday 2.00-4.00pm

Wednesday 10.00am-12noon

Thursday & Saturday 2.00-4.00pm

burtonbradstocklibrary@gmail.com [www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library](http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library)  
01308 897563. *Sue Brown, Chairman of Trustees*

## Burton Bradstock WI

Following a very interesting and informative talk at our October meeting about “Plant Medicine” given by Sarah Hillyer, a qualified herbalist, we are all now very much aware of what to do to keep ourselves calm, stress free and relaxed - and even how to improve our memory! We didn't realise how useful the herbs and flowers that grow freely in our gardens are in achieving these effects, namely Rosemary, Lemon Verbena, Yarrow, Lavender and Roses.



Sarah explained how to use these herbs in making teas and tinctures – and we even had a few samples to try. I think we all went home feeling very soothed as a result!!

Hopefully we will continue to be stress free during our busy time ahead in November. The main event is our Early Christmas Coffee Morning on 9th November at 10.00am until 12.00noon. There will be lots of delicious cakes for sale as well as Crafts, Christmas Gifts, Books, Puzzles and a Raffle. There will be teas, coffee and mince pies on sale too, so hopefully lots of people will come and support us by starting their Christmas shopping and also having a good chat with their friends. As you can imagine, our members are already busy baking, knitting, sewing and crafting to provide lots of lovely items for the stalls.



Burton Bradstock WI Early Christmas Market and Coffee Morning

Saturday, 9th November 10.00 – 12.00

Crafts Cakes Books & Puzzles Fancy goods

Christmas decorations Raffle Mince pies



Our usual Kurling, Mah Jong, Book and Craft groups will be meeting up throughout November and we are also considering starting a Board Games group soon, which should be fun.

Looking back over October, our quiz team went to Moreton to represent us at the Dorset Federation Annual Quiz. They actually decided to make a day of it and went early in the afternoon to visit the gardens and the church with the beautiful etched windows. The tea rooms were just closing but luckily they found the pub to have some sustenance before going to take part in the brain searching quiz. They didn't win but said they enjoyed the whole experience of their afternoon and evening together.

Our meetings will be at 2.15pm in the afternoons for the next few months in order to avoid the dark evenings. On 12th November Kathleen Crouch will be giving a talk entitled "How I won BBC Gardener of the Year". Hopefully we will get some tips for our own gardens which are sadly looking a bit rain drenched at the moment.

*Janet Pearson*  
01308 898346

## **Burton Bradstock Parish Council**

### **Road Safety**

Burton Bradstock Parish Council would like to draw the attention of those who live and work in the village to the importance of registering with Dorset Council the occurrence of all road traffic collisions and near-misses. Dorset Council uses information about these to decide on requests by the Parish Council for improvements in road safety in the village, and it is essential that it has a full picture of all incidents and not just those that result in serious injury or death. Dorset Council has a dedicated web page to submit this information:

<https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report-a-non-injury-collision-or-near-miss>

## Allotments

Would you like to grow your own fresh fruit and vegetables? We have plots available. This is a great time to start an allotment – you can plan your plot over the next few months so it will be ready in time for spring.

For more details please contact [clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk)

## Flood Warden Recruitment

We're currently recruiting flood warden volunteers! Do you want to play a key role in helping your community prepare for, respond to and recover from flooding? For further information please contact [clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk)

## Burton Bradstock Bridge Club

We are a very friendly group who meet in the Village Hall every Tuesday afternoon from 1.45pm until 4.30pm to play duplicate bridge. If you have played bridge before but feel you are a bit rusty this would be ideal! We could find you a partner if necessary and you would be assured of an enjoyable afternoon with a break for tea and biscuits. Please come and make some new friends. We start the new season on Tuesday 3rd September. For more information, please contact Kathy on 01308 485626.

## Supper Club

This month's supper club will be held on 11th November.  
Any enquiries please phone Mags Chue 07790 811905



## Burton Bradstock Greenfingers Club

Thank you to everyone who attended/contributed to the Coffee Stop. We

raised over £100, drank lots of coffee and tea & had some lovely cake! Thank you also to all who came to October's meeting on Winter Hanging Baskets with Mark Bugler (pictured on the right). The plastic to wrap the flowers & the spare tub in the planter idea were a revelation to me.



The next meeting is at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th November when Karen Broad will talk on 'A Taste of France at Christmas', with some tasters!. As Karen is a local resident, writer & columnist in the West Dorset magazine it will be an evening not to miss. Don't forget to bring any spare plants (proceeds to Weldmar Hospice). As always, there will be tea, coffee & a raffle! Entry: £1

*Carol Higo*

**Cilla's November Checklist** - Divide congested hardy perennials such as asters and chrysanthemums. Lift & divide gladioli, store corms to plant out in spring. Insulate vulnerable perennials with thick layer of mulch/garden compost. Sow sweet peas individually into deep pots. Plant tulips in borders & containers. Pot up lilies for next year. Bring prepared bulbs such as hyacinths into a well-lit area for flowers at Christmas. Sow broad beans & peas under cloches. Protect tender herbs by bringing indoors/covering with fleece or cloches to keep them cropping. Finish planting garlic cloves outside. Before lighting bonfires check they are clear of sheltering wildlife; clean out bird boxes; regularly clean bird feeders and bird baths.

## Littlebredy

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



Carved in sonorous Latin around the inside of the dome in St. Paul's Cathedral is the epitaph of its designer Sir Christopher Wren: "Si Monumentum Requiris Circumspice" ("If you seek his memorial, look around you"). Now that Charlie McCormick has left the village, much the same could be said of the quite exceptional Harvest Thanksgiving decorations in the Church on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Yes, of course there was teamwork involved, but all concerned would concede that Charlie's, as usual, was the pre-eminent contribution, and his displays of flowers and vegetables feature in many photographs. As said in the last edition, his and Ben's time in the village will not easily be forgotten.

They typically marked their final evening here with a blog (and yet more photographs) extolling the wonderful sunset. Within a few hours that had



been exceeded by a rare sighting this far south of the aurora borealis (more Latin!), i.e. the northern lights. Several villagers took fine photographs, but the ones forwarded from 300 miles further north by Carol & Rod McCaskill, formerly of Foxholes Farm Cottage, not surprisingly showed the lights to even better effect in the Lake District.

There was another sad “si monumentum” moment in October, with the death in Somerset of Judy Yates at the age of 80. The current fine condition of the walled garden area here is partly due to her. It had been derelict for years when she and her husband Chris first began to tackle it in the late 1980s, and they later retired from separate banking jobs in Dorchester and moved to Gardens Cottage to be closer to the project, eventually opening it to the public as “The Scented Garden”, by which time it contained part of the national lavender collection. They left the village in 2008 with the garden transformed, and Liz Eaton and her team of volunteers would admit that much of the groundwork had been done when they took it over and continued its renaissance and popularity. Judy remained an indefatigable gardener almost to the end, and we send all sympathy to Chris in his loss.

The death of Syd Brown, formerly of Orchard Cottage and then 2 River View was recorded a few editions ago, and if anyone noticed a small gathering in the Churchyard at the end of October, it was his ashes being buried with those of his parents and his late wife Janet.

As usual, Remembrance Sunday falls on the second Sunday in November (the 10th) with the service commencing at 10.45am.

## Shipton Gorge

Village Correspondent: Richard Hewlett  
Greenways, Shipton Gorge  
01308 787278 richardhewlett419@gmail.com  
Village web-site: [www.shiptongorge.org.uk](http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk)



Welcome to our village diary  
Just search for Shipton Gorge Diary or  
go directly to  
<https://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 November:

Doreen in remembrance of Frank  
Janet, Caroline & Faith remembering their parents, John and Bee  
Epplestone on their wedding anniversary.  
Christine & Terry in memory of Christine's mum  
Sally Parker thinking of Steve Larcombe

Sincere thanks to our floodlight sponsors and my apologies to Sally Parker and Anne Crowe for spelling their names wrongly. Anne is very forgiving and Sally agrees that Steve would probably just laugh. Bless him! The dark nights are with us now and we need your sponsorship to keep St Martin's floodlights glowing, especially for Christmas, so please, if you enjoy seeing the church lit up, why not sponsor them and I will try hard to spell the names correctly! For a suggested donation of £5 you can light up the church and have your occasion mentioned in the BVN. Please contact Phyl Webster on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post-box.

### **Rosemary Earnshaw**

Sadly, Rosemary, one of our oldest residents, aged 100 +, has passed away. She died peacefully at home on 5<sup>th</sup> October. Her devoted carer, Loveness, who has been nursing her for the last 10 years, was with her.

### **Churchyard Maintenance Day**

Thank you to everyone who came along to the maintenance day. It was a really good turnout and between 16 of us we achieved a huge amount. It was also a very sociable occasion with lots of chat during the coffee break and a good opportunity to meet the new Rector Andrew, who also came along to assist.

## **Village Hall**

### **Village Hall 100 Club**

On behalf of the Village Hall I would like to thank you for your continued support of the 100 Club. Not all of our tickets have been taken up, so if you

would like to join us the cost is only £10, for which you will be entered into 12 monthly draws. Payouts are £40 per month with June and December each paying £170. Please select your chosen number from below and forward your payment to me, Graham Garner, tel 897357.

Thank you once again.

45, 63, 90, 88, 112, 113, 148, 149

Graham

October 2024 100 Club Draw results

1 <sup>st</sup>	84	£25	Jo Warren
2 <sup>nd</sup>	62	£10	Tony Lock
3 <sup>rd</sup>	41	£5	Tim Cheers.

Congratulations to all winners.

## Artsreach presents

Lev's Violin

Greg Lawson & Phil Alexander



Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December,  
Shipton Gorge Village Hall 7.30pm

Born with a beautiful sound, but no name, Lev's Violin was valued as worthless. Although its origins remained a mystery, many tales were attached to Lev's Violin, some true and some wonderfully untrue. Old and worn by its travels, it eventually broke a few years ago, and the instrument became the subject of a book by Helena Attlee and a BBC Radio 4 reading. It has since been through an extensive restoration, and, having passed through the hands of countless musicians, travelled continents and played the music of many cultures, it is now in the



possession of violinist Greg Lawson. Joined by former Moishe's Bagel bandmate and accordionist Phil Alexander, follow the violin's journey and hear some of the music from its past – from Bach and Arvo Pärt to Armenian and Macedonian music and Klezmer.

Suitable for all ages

Tickets £13, £7 (u18s)

Tickets available via Ticket Source at [www.artsreach.co.uk](http://www.artsreach.co.uk) / from Mark on 01308 897649

Please note: A pre-event supper will be available at the New Inn, Shipton Gorge – 5.00pm–7.00pm, a 5 minute walk from the venue – please book direct on 01308 897302.

## Parish Council

A reminder that our next meeting is on Thursday 21st November at 7.30pm in the village hall. We are going to have an open forum starting at 7.00pm before the formal meeting, so do please come along to discuss any thoughts or ideas you have for the village. Look forward to seeing you on the 21st.

## Village Society

### Howard's QUIZ of the Year

Shipton Village Hall will be hosting a quiz night on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6.45pm. During the interval we will serve up your ordered FISH and CHIP supper. Tables of up to eight. Bottle of French sparkling wine for the winning team.

This is always a popular event. Please book your team together with your F & C order with Sally on 897168. Cost will be £12 which includes food and quiz.

## Shipton Gorge Heritage

**Heritage Gin Club** – The winners in the October draw were Terry Parrott and Christine Davey – Gin has been delivered. Congratulations to both of you.



## Saunders Richardson Wood

As the wildlife makes some preparations for the winter ahead, we will be helping them by installing a few more nest boxes in the Wood over the next few months. We also have a number of small trees to plant up in the wood or to fill in some gaps in the hedges.

National Tree Week this year is from 27th November to 5th December – purpose being to encourage us to plant trees and to appreciate their beauty and importance in our environment.

## Shipton Gorge Orchard

By the time you read this, most of the apples in the Orchard will have been picked, with windfalls being left for wildlife. Some will have been taken off to Dorset Nectar Farm to be turned into juice or cider, some will have been tasted or pressed at our own Apple Day event. We hope those who took the trouble to pick some and either ate them fresh, or made them into tasty treats, enjoyed them. The grass which had been left to grow long over the summer has now been scythed and raked off providing habitats for overwintering insects and allowing wild flower seeds to scatter ready for next year. Look out for notices around the village for dates when we will be working either in the Orchard or in the Wood.



## Shipton Gorge Heritage AGM

This will be held on Thursday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall - Mince pies and Mulled wine will be provided for those keen enough to join us. Please come along to hear what we have been up to during the year.

## Shipton Gorge Pre Christmas Get- Together

This will be hosted this year by Shipton Gorge Heritage and held on Sunday 24th November, 12.00noon to 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Routine is same as before, please bring a plate of food and something to drink – and prepare for an hour or so of good company.



Everyone is welcome – and if you are new to Shipton, this is an ideal opportunity to put some names to faces and find out what a lovely, friendly bunch we are!

If you are interested in supporting the charity in any way, please contact Anne Crowe on 07393 214635 or email [annecrowe2016@hotmail.com](mailto:annecrowe2016@hotmail.com)

Details as usual on our website:

[http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton\\_Gorge\\_Heritage\\_\\_16417.aspx](http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton_Gorge_Heritage__16417.aspx)  
and in the Shipton Gorge Diary <https://www.shiptongorgediary.co.uk>

## Litton Cheney

Village Correspondent: John Firrell  
[jfirrell20@gmail.com](mailto:jfirrell20@gmail.com) Tel: 01308 482313  
Village web-site [www.littoncheney.org.uk](http://www.littoncheney.org.uk)



## St. Mary's Church

**Lest We Forget - Remembrance** at St. Mary's will be marked with a special **Choral Evensong at 6.00pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**, then on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup>** there will be wreath laying and 2-minutes silence at 11.00am at the War Memorial in the churchyard at which all are welcome.

On Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a short service of thanksgiving to remember Ian Jackson at Holy Trinity, Swyre at 11.30am followed by interment of his ashes in the churchyard. Janet would be pleased to welcome those who would like to attend the service and join her for refreshments afterwards.

Looking ahead to next month, on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December** there will be a special service for **Advent Sunday at 6.00pm**. This is an atmospheric service, mostly candlelit, providing a calm and inspiring start to the Advent season leading up to Christmas.

**Christmas Greetings** for the December issue of BVN need to be submitted by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** at the latest. Full details are on page 7 of this magazine.

## Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November in the Meeting Room of LATCH at 7.30pm. All welcome, plus the chance to have your say during democratic time. There is pressure on smaller councils

to increase their precepts in readiness for having to bear more of the costs previously shouldered by the unitary authority. Fair? This will be a consideration for the PC at this meeting.

As you are probably aware our present Clerk, Lucy, will be departing once we have found a replacement. We are in the process of interviewing candidates, and it is possible we will have found a replacement by the time of the November meeting. More news in due course.

### **Full Fibre Update**

Just a small update this month as there has been a little less activity in the village during October as most of the poles now have the overhead wiring in place. Some residents are waiting on specialist teams to come along and dig trenches across roads and in at least one instance the complex installation team is due to appear. The focus of the Openreach engineers is to those who signed up for Full Fibre via the voucher scheme, but others such as those in "The Paddocks" who hadn't signed up now have the option to do so! If you are unsure whether or not you can be connected to Full Fibre, just go to [www.openreach.com](http://www.openreach.com) enter your postcode and they will tell you when your property can be connected. Should you have any queries, issues or problems regarding Full Fibre, please get in contact with me at [robertmatthewslcpc@gmail.com](mailto:robertmatthewslcpc@gmail.com)

### **Litter Pick Alert**

We plan to carry out a litter pick during November once the vegetation has died down, and before winter really sets in. Please stand by to help. Premier Crew members will be contacted by email and information on when and where will be placed on FB.

### **Dog Owners - Neospora Caninum is an invariably fatal disease – Your Part in its Eradication**

Failing to pick up after your dog, allowing it to wander unchecked in fields with livestock, and failing to have it regularly checked out for worms and other infections, probably means you (not your dog) could be responsible for a farm animal having to be put down due to being infected with Neospora Caninum, caused by ingestion of dog poo. Your dog can also be infected with possible dire consequences.

**How to avoid this happening? Pick up, bag it and bin it, plus regular vet checks.**

The Parish Council together with other local councils and administrations, and in conjunction with local farmers, will be campaigning in an effort to get the message out there, and putting in place further measures to assist local residents in disposing of their pick-ups. You are reminded – bagged up dog poo can be placed in your household rubbish – the preferred scenario for one and all. Please do so.

The Law - Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000.

The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse.

## **Events at Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH) - November**

### **Weekly:**

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

Tuesday: 4.45pm. Short Mat Bowls ((Ron Davidson 482661)

Wednesdays: 4.45pm - Table Tennis (Ron Davidson 482661/Paul Kingston 482162)

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

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

### **Special:**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>: 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting in Meeting Room

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>: Village Café in aid of “Stepping Out” (Cancer Rehabilitation)

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>: 10.00am Morning Yoga with Nadiya Wynn

(nadiyasime@hotmail.com)

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>: Bingo Night – see separate announcement in Valley Notes and below.

**Coming Up:** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December: 7.30pm Film Night “Save the Cinema”

**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](mailto:wtlitton@gmail.com)

**Bride Valley Bingo Fundraising Group** invite you to join us to celebrate 5 years of fundraising for Dorset Based charities. Friday November 29th at LATCH – see more details see page 15.



**A Special Mention** – On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, around sixty local residents and a few more besides attended a wonderful concert by VRi, a Welsh folk ensemble. It was an evening sponsored by Artsreach, and organised and administered by Patricia and David Charlton, with several friends in support. These much-enjoyed events would not be possible without people such as Patricia and David. The events require considerable effort to organise and make a success, and this dynamic duo do it time and again. Thank you Patricia and David, plus Sue Overton who is part of the team. We are lucky to have you living amongst us.

## **Bride Valley Films at Litton Cheney Village Hall**

### **Reminder - THURSDAY 31st OCTOBER – “WICKED LITTLE LETTERS” *‘the British comedy of the year’***

Based on the real life scandal that rocked 1920’s Littlehampton. When deeply conservative Edith (**Olivia Coleman**) and fellow residents begin to receive wicked letters full of hilarious profanities, rowdy Irish migrant Rose (**Jessie Buckley**) is charged with the crime. However, as the town’s women begin to investigate the crime themselves, they suspect that something is amiss, and Rose may not be the culprit after all. Perfectly cast with Timothy Spall, Anjana Vasan and other famous faces.

Cert.15 1hr.40”

### **THURSDAY 5th DECEMBER – “SAVE THE CINEMA” *‘a funny heart-warming film, based on a true story’***

Inspired by the campaign run by Liz Evans, a hairdresser and lynchpin to the local Carmarthen community. In 1993 her mission is to stop The Lyric Cinema being demolished. Together with the mayor and a local politician, they enlist the help one of Hollywood’s elite to offer a very special treat for Carmarthen, but will this save the cinema?

**Starring Samantha Morton, Jonathan Pryce**, Tom Felton, Susan Wokoma.  
Cert.12 1hr 45”

**Doors Open: 7.00pm. Films start 7.30pm. 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. (All nos. 01308)  
**Look out for further details on posters, on the website and in the BVN.**

## **Village Cafe**

Please come along to the Village Cafe at LATCH on 16 November 2024, 10am till 12:30, supporting the Stepping Out Cancer Rehabilitation Group.

The group meets at Bridport Leisure Centre twice a week to support members with their recovery, during and after their cancer diagnosis.

There will be drinks and breakfast rolls, plus a raffle and information about the group and its aims. If local art or craft people would like a stall on the day, in return for a donation, please contact Nichola Chitson for further information on [njchitson@gmail.com](mailto:njchitson@gmail.com) or go to <https://www.steppingoutbridport.co.uk/>

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



My dear Nephew Darren,

I suppose it had to come, but combining parishes is now firmly on the agenda for our villages. I had always wondered what the first Earl of Stowe was trying to prove, building a church here in 1347 to accommodate 800 people when the total population has never exceeded 250. In the short term - which in this village is measured in centuries - it seems to have been to house the tombs of his 13 successors. I now realise it was to make uniting with adjoining parishes in the 21<sup>st</sup> century more difficult. Clearly the first Earl had formidable foresight. None of our neighbouring churches seem too keen to share their reserves to help maintain our cathedral-sized building.

The threat of the closure of St Herve the Bard has, inevitably, caused outrage - not so much from its regular congregation of three, but from all those in the village who would never think of attending. People do so *like* to have a church not to go to.

The church of St Bregowine, built by a wealthy parishioner in the 19<sup>th</sup> century because she did not like the high church practices of

the parish church of St Iwig, is refusing to re-unite, even though the two churches stand only 100 yards apart, in a village with a diameter of 300 yards. If only they could get over the trauma of seeing the incumbent putting water in the wine on Easter Day in 1894.

(Although it must be conceded that the Bregowinians were equally affronted that when the daughter church opened in 1895, they found that the Iwigers had provided no brass troughs at the end of the pews for umbrellas. That they have subsequently refused to install them has only compounded the offence.)

Meanwhile St Plegmund is in discussions with the Church of South India as a way of avoiding uniting with anyone. Should it happen, I will be interested to see what travelling expenses the new incumbent claims. It will be difficult to tell when the present incumbent resigns, as he has not been seen at a clerical meeting for the last 30 years. Some of my colleagues suspect he is mythical, that a bloodless coup took place in the 1980s and that the church is now entirely run by the Mothers' Union.

The church of St Maximus of Constantinople in our nearest town has rather grandly offered to take all of our churches under its wing, but as a parishioner has pointed out: how could we possibly consider joining with a parish that fought on the other side at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

In the meantime, we will serenely carry on, as we seem to have done for the past six centuries; parish mergers and reductions in numbers of clergy seem to be of less interest than debating the suggestion that we change the brand of coffee served after Services.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

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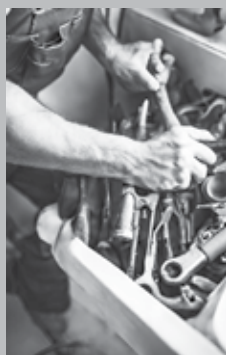
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## Benefice Services

NOVEMBER	<b>November 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <small>First Sunday</small> All Saints Day	<b>November 10<sup>th</sup></b> <small>Second Sunday</small> Remembrance Sunday	<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b> <small>Third Sunday</small> Second Sunday before Advent	<b>November 24<sup>th</sup></b> <small>Fourth Sunday</small> Christ the King
Burton Bradstock	11.00am Songs of Praise	10.30am Remembrance Service	9.30am Café Church	8.00am Holy Communion
Litton Cheney	9.30am Holy Communion	6.00pm Remembrance Evensong	9.30am BCP Matins	9.30am Morning Worship
Swyre		10.45 am Service of Remembrance	11.15am Holy Communion	3.00pm Evening Prayer
Puncknowle	3.00pm Annual Memorial Service			11.00am Café Church
Shipton Gorge		9.30am Breakfast Church 10.30am Remembrance Service		11.00am Holy Communion
Long Bredy	11.00am Holy Communion		9.30am Morning Worship	
Littlebredy		10.45am Remembrance Service		11.00am Morning Worship
Abbotsbury	11.00am Holy Communion	10.15am Act of Remembrance		10.00am Family Praise
Portesham		10.50am Remembrance Service	11.00am Holy Communion	9.00am BCP
Langton Herring	9.00am BCP	9.00am Said Holy Communion	10.00am Family Praise	
6 <sup>th</sup> Nov Holy Communion at Burton Bradstock 11.30am				