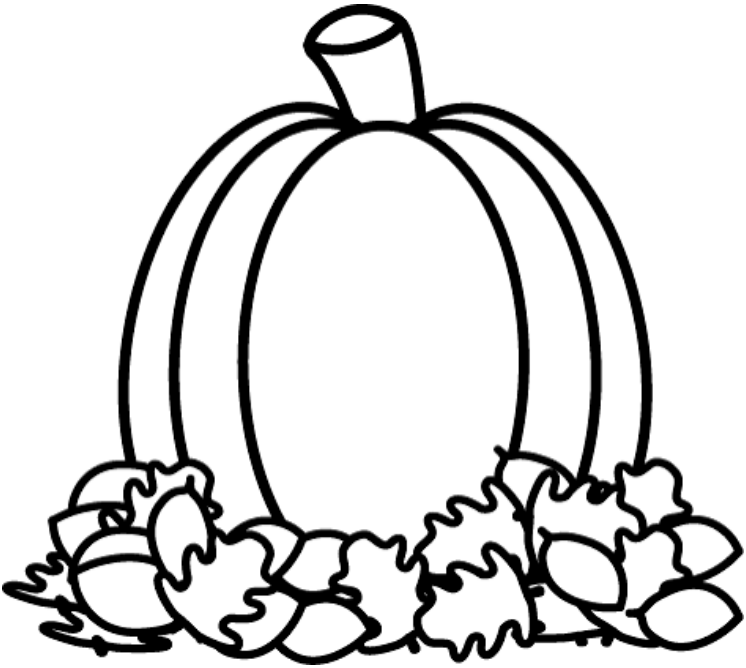
# BRIDE VALLEY NEWS

Online edition



September 2026

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

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## Information for Contributors

**October 2026 issue deadlines:** Articles, photographs, etc must be sent to the appropriate Village Correspondent (contact details at the head of each village section) by Friday 11th September for the October issue. Contributions from outside the Bride Valley can be emailed to bvnburton@gmail.com. Handwritten or typed copy must 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, often with additional items which could not be fitted into the printed version, can be found at bvn.org.uk or via links on 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 Michael & All Angels: Littlebredy
Chilcombe (dedication unknown)
St Martin: Shipton Gorge
St Mary: Litton Cheney
St Peter: Long Bredy
St Mary The Blessed Virgin: Puncknowle
Holy Trinity: Swyre
St Bartholomew: Corton

**Rector: Rev'd Andrew Rawding**

To enquire about Baptisms, Marriages or Funeral arrangements in the Bride Valley & Chesil Benefice Churches please contact Rev'd Rawding by email: rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com.

## Lay Pastoral Assistants

We have 2 Lay Pastoral Assistants in our team and they are available for anyone throughout our community and can respond to any need, great or small, for pastoral care. The team are: Jenny: 07932192908, and Liz: 01308 897451 alternatively you can get in touch with your churchwarden, or Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator, on 01308 897260.

Home communion is available by arrangement.

If you would like to become an LPA, please have a look at the Diocese of Salisbury webpage:

https://www.salisbury.anglican.org/whoweare/news/is-god-calling-you-to-be-a-lay-pastoral-assistant-, and then chat with Rector Andrew.

## 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 Rectory

Dear friends,

Is there more to life than this?

This is a question that is addressed in the 'Alpha Course', which we will be running on Thursday evenings at 7.00pm from 22nd October at the Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH).

I don't know what your 'this' is. We could consider the above question objectively and rationalise it, or we could take it subjectively and reflect on our own life, our mental and physical wellbeing, our relationships, our meaning and purpose, and our sense of fulfilment in life. Is there more to life than this?

'Alpha' is widely recognised as the world's most popular course in Christianity. It has been running for over fifty years and has seen record participation in recent years, particularly amongst younger people or 'Generation Z' who, having rejected materialism, are looking for spiritual experience and encounter, and connections. The Alpha course suggests that deeper longing and fulfilment can be found through connection with God and understanding life through Jesus Christ. Its origins are in the charismatic evangelical ('Holy Spirit inspired Bible-centred') part of the Church of England, but the power of the course is the opportunity it gives for questions and discussion. Each session starts with a video, and then there is time for discussion.

We're not offering the 'Alpha Course' because we all subscribe to the same Christian beliefs, or the same view of the Bible, or opinion on what it means to be a Christian, or how to pray, but because we want to offer an opportunity for people to explore Christianity and the possibility of a deeper spiritual connection, and personal connections that could be helpful. Personally, I reject the idea that we are all 'sinners' deserving of judgement. Childhood environment and experiences, and especially trauma, over which we have no choice or control impact significantly on humans and their development. I reject anything that leads to more guilt and shame, low self-esteem and self-harm. I reject the idea of an all-knowing, all-powerful God that the church has used to instil fear to preserve power and control. The church generally has a terrible track record and has done tremendous harm.

I choose to believe in the power of steadfast and consistent unconditional love. I choose to believe in the power of forgiveness. I choose to believe that I am a child of God, created in and through love, a love which is eternal and transcendent, but immanent and God-breathed within me. I find the example and teaching of Jesus

Christ inspirational and motivating. The central message of Alpha is that Jesus died on the cross because 'Jesus loves you.' I have no idea if Jesus died and rose again from the dead, but I choose to believe in the power of resurrection new life. I believe in love, divine love for me.

Historian Tom Holland, author of 'Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World', has called the Christian concept of resurrection a powerful 'mythology'. I'm OK with that. The alternative for me is to be a victim of my new disability, unable to get out of bed each day; to be a victim of all the trauma of my past. Recently we sang a hymn about the love of 'Father God, adopted in your family' and someone said to me: 'That's my Mum's favourite hymn. She was adopted.'

It's my choice what I believe. It's your choice. It's OK to have doubts and uncertainty. For me, it's a journey of faith, not dogma. If what works for you in life genuinely works for you in terms of purpose and fulfilment and knowing that you are valued and loved, that's amazing. If you are looking for something more and want to consider whether Christianity has something to offer, then you can choose to attend the 'Alpha Course'. It's not for everyone, but it may provide you with more to life than your 'this'. It may provide you with love.

Peace be with you,

*Andrew*

## From the Registers

Funeral: Allan Stanford 5th August, at Burton Bradstock

## 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.*

**A message from our headteacher:**

As I sit writing this in early August, the school is much quieter than usual as the children and staff enjoy a well-earned summer break. Yet, by the time you read this, the school will once again be filled with laughter and learning as we embark on the Autumn term and a new school year.
September always carries a special kind of magic. It is a time of fresh starts and new promises. There is something hopeful about a crisp, blank exercise book, a brand-new pair of shiny shoes and the anticipation of what lies ahead.

This term, we are particularly excited to welcome our newest and smallest members: our new reception and preschool children. Taking those first steps through the school gates can feel like a big leap—not just for the children, but for their families too! We also welcome new families who have moved to the school, as well as our returning pupils and their families. As we embark on the adventures of this new school year, we warmly welcome your continued support for our children, their families and our dedicated staff. By bringing our school values—hope, respect, courage, love, friendship and happiness—to life every day, we aim to make this a year filled with growth, discovery and shared joy.

We have spaces available in our reception class and in our preschool for children who turned 3 before 31st August 2026. If you would like to visit our happy and friendly village school, please contact the school office to arrange a tour: 01308 897369 or office@burtonbradstockprimary.org. We also welcome visits from families looking for school and preschool places from September 2027. To stay up-to-date with all our news and events please follow our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/BurtonBradstockPrimarySchool.

*Holly Varndell-Paulley, Acting Headteacher*

## Thorners CE VA School

Writing this somewhat in advance of the new term there has to be a degree of supposition applied so what you see below is what I know from experience will be the situation come early September.

What a summer the children will have enjoyed! It will be lovely to hear all their stories of days out, trips and holidays as they return to school this week. It will also be lovely to see everyone come back (with the obligatory mix of new pencil cases, shoes and haircuts) as well as, of course, welcoming our 16 new starters into Reception. They no doubt will settle in well and all credit must be given to staff and parents for helping make this such a smooth first few days via their care and attention.

As they take their first steps with us, we also wish all our (now Yr 7) leavers the best possible start at their secondary schools.

Huge thanks to Luke Heywood and his team for all their hard work in the playground, constructing us a new playhouse and reading den across the summer holidays; the children will love the extra spaces! This term promises to be full of trips, sport and drama but for now it will be just lovely to see all the children back, busy with friends in the playground, as the school bell rings to mark the start of another year.

*Mike Sitch, Headmaster*

## 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

We always welcome new drivers.

## Bride Valley WI

For the last meeting before the summer break, the Bride Valley WI held a Garden Party in the beautiful garden of Eve, one of our members. Thank you, Eve.

29 members came together bringing delicious food for us all to share and this was of course accompanied by a glass or two of Pimms. It was a lovely evening, the weather was superb, plenty of chat and laughter. Croquet, giant Jenga and tossing the bean bag caused great frivolity and a little competitiveness!! A big thank you to all our members who contributed to making it a very enjoyable evening including Eve's husband Andrew who ensured the garden was perfect. We look forward to seeing everyone in September when we continue with our varied monthly meetings.

Our Thursday evening walk took place on a beautiful evening with a small group of ladies setting out from Langdon woods car park to scale the highest peak in Dorset!! Golden Cap. The shade in the woods was much appreciated and the steep but thankfully short climb was worth it for the tremendous views to Portland in the East and the coast of Devon in the west.
On our return journey we popped into the George in Chideock for a refreshing beverage. It was a very pleasant evening, and we look forward to the next one on 20th August when we will be on Maiden Castle.

Skittles for fun continues every other Tuesday at the White Horse.

Craft Club members continue to work towards the Melplash Show entry. Under 4 weeks away at time of writing.

If you wish to join the Bride Valley Women's Institute, please come and meet us all. We meet every 3rd Thursday of the month in Puncknowle Village Hall at 7:30pm. Should you wish to contact us our email is bridevalleywi@gmail.com

## Bride Valley Gardening Club

Well, it's still very hot and dry and the results of this weather are definitely showing in the garden. I'm sure we are all beginning to look at what drought resistant plants we can put in for next year.

We didn't have a meeting in August but are very much looking forward to welcoming Joy Michaud of Peppers by Post and Spring Seeds in West Bexington who is going to be telling us about preparation for, and winning a Gold at Chelsea. It will be fascinating to learn about the hard work that goes into the buildup for Chelsea. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Monday September 21st.

Meetings are held at LATCH (Litton and Thorners Community Hall) DT2 9AU and take place every third Monday evening of the month (except August). Doors open at 7.00pm for drinks and the talks start at 7.30pm. We serve wine, soft drinks, teas and coffees. Guests are always welcome for a £2 entry fee.

For further information please contact Liz, Secretary, bridevalleygc@gmail.com

## Portesham Surgery

Portesham Renovation Update: We are delighted to share that Phase One of our surgery refurbishment was completed in July. This has provided a bright and welcoming new waiting room, along with a new fully accessible patient toilet. Phase Two is now well underway, and
we expect the new reception area, nurse store and additional clinic room to be completed by mid-September. These improvements will help us provide an even better experience for our patients and create more space for delivering care.

The final stages of the project, Phase three and four, will begin on Monday 21st September and will focus on modernising our dispensary. To allow this work to take place, we will be temporarily relocating the dispensary into two clinic rooms.

As you can imagine, moving and reorganising the dispensary is a significant task. To ensure this can be done safely and efficiently, the dispensary will be closed for all routine prescription requests on:

Wednesday 16th September
Thursday 17th September
Friday 18th September

We kindly ask patients to plan ahead and order any repeat medications in good time to avoid disruption. We would like to thank all our patients for their continued support, understanding and patience throughout these works.

Website: www.princeofwalessurgery.co.uk
Facebook: Prince of Wales Surgery and Portesham Patient News

## Our Night Sky in September 2026



Saturn will be rising about 2100 followed by Mars at about 0230. Orion will be rising at the same time, while Jupiter will be making a welcome appearance at about 0430.
"Little red dots" (LRDs) are a newly discovered class of compact, highly luminous astronomical objects found by the James Webb Space Telescope, existing about 600 million to 1.6 billion years after the Big Bang. They are believed to be rapidly growing supermassive black holes hidden inside thick, dense cocoons of hot gas. I hope to be able to tell you more about these fascinating objects next month.

We were all perfectly placed to see this Eclipse, which unlike the previous total, was clouded out for us, and rained out for Patrick Moore!
My family had a perfect view from the cliff tops, while I hoped to see the shadow in Annings Lane. 'Twas not to be, but my family took me to another spot still in partial eclipse to see the moon leave the sun.
We will have to wait another 50 years for the next eclipse, so make sure you are prepared.

*Bill Turnill*
*With thanks to the James Webb Telescope*

# Events in the Bride Valley

It's St Giles' Day on Tuesday September1st, so why not join a walk exploring the life of the saint, hearing about the church of St Giles, West Bexington and its link to Puncknowle Church? Meet at West Bexington Beach at 10.00am.

It's one of our Pilgrimages of Peace (PoP), so expect the chance to meet and connect with others, a bit of history, maybe some readings and definitely some moments to pause and reflect on your own life and anything you can learn from the life of St Giles.

Here's a few things to get you tuned in for this walk!
Did you know that West Bexington was once a much larger village?
Do you know where the church is that was once there, dedicated to St Giles? And do you know where part of that church is now?
Did you know that in 1439, West Bexington was targeted by French raiders and the village was under siege?

You don't have to be religious to enjoy this! People who come on our PoPs from many different backgrounds. It's open to everyone - and your four-legged pals can come too, but on leads please.

For more information contact bvchurchesta@outlook.com

## Ride & Stride

Ride + Stride for Dorset churches 2026 will take place on Saturday 12th September. Plan a route around Dorset's beautiful churches and raise money for their upkeep. Contact your Church representative to join this event, Peter Broomhead for Burton Bradstock (07987815408), email: pwbroomhead@gmail.com, or Kathryn Brooks for Litton Cheney (01308 482548), email: kbrookslcpc@btinternet.com.
*For further details please see www.dhct.otg.uk.*

## Bride Valley Films

**Bride Valley Films** are starting their 17th season and will be delighted to welcome residents of the valley and beyond. Tickets still £6 for entry and a drink. See Litton Cheney section for more information.

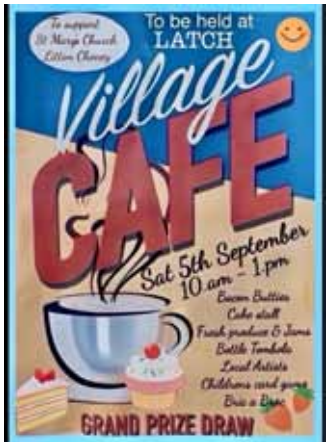
## Litton Cheney

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



## St Mary's

### Village Café




A reminder to please come and support the village café in aid St Mary's Church, at LATCH on Saturday 5th September from 10.00am-1.00pm. Bacon butties, tea and coffee etc plus stalls including bottle tombola, cakes, fresh produce and home-made preserves, Bric a Brac, local artists, games. Tickets for the prize draw are available now. Donations for the bottle tombola and Bric a Brac in advance please (litton.bottles@gmail.com). Donations for cake stall and produce either in advance or on the day. For more information, please call 01308 482548 or email kbrookslcpc@btinternet.com

**Dorset Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride**.

The annual Ride and Stride will take place on 12th September. Walk or cycle round our local churches and help raise funds for the upkeep of our church. If you are interested in taking part, please email Kathryn Brooks on kbrookslcpc@btinternet.com or call 01308 482548.

To sponsor Martyn Brooks for St Mary's head to: https://www.justgiving.com/page/littoncheneystmarysmblb23?utm_source=WA&utm_medium=DT;

**Flagpole Appeal**

A big thank you to everyone who responded to the PCC's appeal for funds towards refurbishment of the flagpole on top of the church. Thanks to your generous support, we have been able to proceed with the project and the work is now scheduled for 2nd September. We can look forward to seeing flags flying proudly over our village once again.

## Parish Council – Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th September, 7.00pm in LATCH Meeting Room

How does the Parish Council use your money? If you come to one of our meetings or consult the minutes of meetings all will be revealed. You may even have ideas of your own in using it more effectively in which case why not come and join us! See village website for details of who to contact.

**Potholes**: See Them, Hate Them, Report Them! – Don't leave it for someone else to do it.

**The Village Website** (littoncheney.org.uk) is full of information on a myriad of relevant village subjects. Our grateful thanks to webmaster David Hearn for his many years of maintaining this extremely useful and informative facility.

**The Bride Valley Bingo Fundraising Group** will be holding a bingo at LATCH on Friday 11th September to raise funds for the Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance. Doors open at 6.30pm and eyes down at 7.30pm with great prizes, refreshments, a bucket draw and a raffle. On behalf of the Fundraising Group, we sincerely appreciate the support that you give us each time and we make a point of keeping the charities as local as possible, rather than national. Also, a grateful thanks to the businesses that support us with prizes; we appreciate your constant kindness. All welcome – do come.

*Jackie Horsley*

**What's on at Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH) in September**

**REGULAR EVENTS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tuesdays | 9.30 -10.45am | Morning Yoga with Jane (Meeting Room) (07882 527697) janehutchinsyoga@outlook.com |
| | 4.45 – 5.45 t.b.c. | Short Mat Bowls (Ron Davidson 482661) |
| Wednesdays | 4.45 – 5.45pm | Table Tennis (Paul Kingston 482162) |
| | 7.00pm | Yoga with Jane (contact as above) |

**OTHER EVENTS**

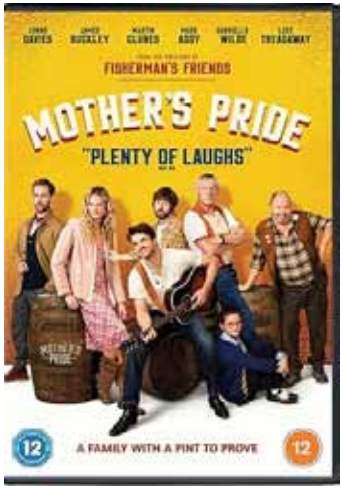
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|---|---|---|
| Wednesday 2nd | 7.30pm | Book Club in Meeting Room |
| Saturday 5th | 10.00am – 1.00pm | Village Café + stalls in aid of St. Mary's Church |
| Tuesday 8th | 7.00pm | Parish Council meeting in Meeting Room |
| Thursday 10th | 6.45pm | W.I. Craft in Meeting Room |
| Friday 11th | t.b.c. | Bingo Night |
| Sunday 20th | 10.00am– 1.00pm | Restorative Yoga with Nadiya Wynn (07800 712998) |
| Monday 21st | 7.00pm | Garden Club Meeting |
| Thursday 1st | From 7.00pm | Film Night returns! |

**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.
Hall Bookings/viewings: Wendy Firrell 01308 482532

## Bride Valley Films at Litton Cheney Village Hall.

We hope everyone has been enjoying the amazing weather. We are returning for our 17th season and will be particularly grateful for your support as Burton Bradstock are no longer running regular films, which means all licence costs will be covered by us.

We are continuing to be amazing value at £6 per ticket including a drink!




### Thursday 1st October – Mothers Pride
***'charming British movie with a great cast and gentle humour'***

From the team behind 'Finding Your Feet' and 'Fisherman's Friends', Mothers Pride follows a grieving family whose fortunes begin to change when they start brewing their own beer and enter the Great British Beer Awards to save their pub. What begins as an act of survival becomes a journey of renewal – bringing together

neighbours, mending old wounds and restoring pride where it's been lost. Starring Martin Clunes, James Buckley and Luke Treadaway.
Cert. 12+ 1hr 30"

**Doors Open: 7.00pm, films start at 7.30pm. Tickets: £6.00 (to include a glass of wine)** available on the door.
**More films on Thursday 5th November and Thursday 3rd December.**
Look out for details in the **BVN** or on the website
**http://www.littoncheney.org.uk/bridevalleyfilms.htm**

## The White Horse

Well, what a scorcher August was! As we move into the autumn, September will see the return of our fortnightly fun quiz by Liz on the 15th and the weekly meat draw on the 18th. We continue our Sunday music at 4.00pm with a fantastic line up of musicians through to mid-November. A big thank you to all our customers, locals and visitors, that have supported the pub over the summer and we look forward to welcoming you in the autumn.

*Andy and Liz*

## Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington



Village Correspondents:
Elizabeth Slater (Puncknowle)
Puncknowle. mail: liz@ruddle.org.uk 01308 897751



Jill Neill (Swyre & West Bexington)
email: Jill.neill@live.co.uk 01308 897479

Village websites: www.https://puncknowle-swyre-pc.gov.uk
www.swyre.org.uk www.westbexington.org.uk

## Puncknowle Church

### 27th September Harvest Festival

On Sunday 27th September you are welcome to join us for HARVEST FESTIVAL in St Mary's Church. The service starts at 11.00am and will be followed by a 'bring and share' lunch afterwards in the Hall. We will be decorating the Church on Saturday 5th. All are most welcome to the service, lunch, or both. Proceeds from the service will go to the Bridport Food Bank.

| What's on at Puncknowle Village Hall in September | | |
|---|---|---|
| REGULAR EVENTS | | |
| Every Monday | 2.00pm – 3.00pm | **Pilates** Contact Sarah on 07885 037340 or by email sarah@modified-pilates.co.uk |
| 2nd Monday each month | 7:00pm to 9.00pm | **History** Contact: Paul on paul.bullen@me.com |
| 1st Tuesday each month | 7.30pm – 10.00pm | **Parish Council Meeting** Open to the Public More information: https://puncknowle-swyre-pc.gov.uk/ |
| 3rd Tuesday each month | 1.00pm – 2.30pm | **Luncheon Club** Contact David on 01308 898492 |
| Every Wednesday | 10.00am – 12.00pm | **Table Tennis** Contact Brian on 01308 897987 |
| Every Wednesday | 7.00pm – 9.00pm | **Table Tennis** Contact John on 07557 963618 |
| 1st Thursday each month | 2.00pm – 4.00pm | **Craft Club** Contact Brenda on b.oliver@btinternet.com |
| 3rd Thursday each month | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | **Bride Valley WI** Contact Bridevalleywi@gmail.com |
| Last Friday each month | 10.00pm – 12.30pm | **Art Club** Contact Sally on 01308 897987 |

## HELP – Urgently Needed

Someone to act as treasurer for St Mary's Church in Puncknowle. Not an onerous charge if you are able to count from one to ten – you don't need to be on the PCC or even go to Church, just someone with a little time to spare who is willing to help keep the community spirit alive in Puncknowle. For further information please contact Liz Slater on 07977413625.

## Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington Fete 2026

What a fabulous day! The sun shone and magic happened.
Thank you to everyone who supported this year's fete on the 25th July.
So many people generously worked and supported this event.
We raised an amazing £4,121. This will be split equally between the Village Hall and the two churches of Puncknowle and Swyre.
We are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped make the day a success – setting up, baking, growing, collecting, packing up and not least coming and supporting the event.

It was wonderful to see so many people from across the community coming together and enjoying the afternoon in the beautiful surroundings of The Manor gardens.

The money raised was fantastic but just as important was the community spirit that made the day so special.

Finally, particular thanks to Claire and Andrea who coordinated and lead this year's team.

## Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington Village Hall 100 club

*July winners: 1st, Jenny Parr 2nd, Meryl Edwards*

## Hello People of Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington!

By popular request and to support the ongoing upkeep of the village hall as a community venue, the 100 club is continuing! Over the years your engagement has helped support various necessary improvements with the hall still looking splendid and for hire for those family, fun or group events! To continue supporting, for £20.00 a year, you could be in with a chance of winning £9 or £15 in our monthly draw. Our first draw after a short break will be in September for the August and September draws. To renew your membership or for further details and registration please message me or email carolkennelly@btinternet.com or tel: 07713 508779. Thank you for your continued or new support!

**Puncknowle Swyre & West Bexington Lunch Club**
***Incorporates Chilcombe, Long Bredy and Little Bredy***

***Puncknowle Village Hall 12.30pm for 1.00pm, Lunches cost £6***

**16th September: Beef Cottage Pie, dessert to follow.**

**Future dates 2026**

**13th October: Sausages, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy**
**dessert to follow**

Please contact David Buckland 07597038141 for more details

## Long Bredy

Village Correspondent: Helen Horsley
Email: bvn@longbredy.org.uk 01308 482586
Village website: https://longbredy.org.uk/

## Long Bredy 100 Club Results – July 2026

*£25 No.58 B Holmes*
*£15 No.143 H Howell*
*£5 No.87 D Andrews*

Drawn on 24th July 2026 at Long Bredy Village Hall at the end of the July Come Along Inn

## Village News and Updates

Congratulations to anyone who has received their exam results and/or have graduated over the summer, we wish you well for the future. Good luck to those in the village who are about to make a new start in education. You might be starting school or preschool, changing to a new class or moving onto Secondary or Higher education. You might even be going back into education attending a night class or learning a new skill or hobby. We hope you have a good, enjoyable and successful academic year.

Congratulations to Delia and her horse Lola in qualifying for the Draft Horse Dressage championships at Addington 2026. We look forward to hearing how they get on in the autumn.

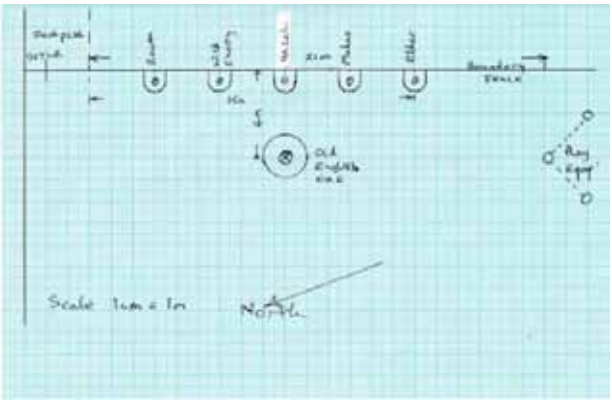
You can also keep up to date with village news by following Long Bredy Community page on Facebook. There are often posts relating to road closures, things for sale or even free locally as well up to date information about what is going on. The Bride Valley News is written a month in advance so often things pop up after this has gone to print!

## Update on the Phoenix Productions donation

Following the community survey on what we should use this donation for, the majority choose "Planting trees around the village". After due consideration of where we might plant trees - taking account of property ownership, responsibilities for managing verges, possible effects on public highways, etc the Parish Council concluded that the most appropriate location for planting would be the playing field. Since this is owned by the Parish Council and a public place there are no potential issues regarding tree planting.

Next step was to decide on location and type of tree. Councillors were most keen to have native English trees and particularly an Old English Oak. We investigated location and types of trees, taking advice from Bridport "Friends of the Earth" tree-planting group and our own playground volunteers.

The conclusion was to locate the trees along the eastern boundary and aside the footpath - at the fence to the sheep field, since this is a particularly barren part of the playground. Apart from the Oak we were determined that the trees should be native English, blossom at least once a year, and provide sustenance for wildlife. We also needed to take account of the footpath and overhead cables in deciding location. This resulted in the
Plan on the right.




The most effective Tree planting season is from October to March. Our plan is to purchase the trees and supporting items (deer protection, root compost, etc) in October and organise a volunteer planting day(s) sometime in late October and November. Before the final purchase and planting of the trees, the Parish Council would welcome any feedback from residents. Please send any comments to our Parish Clerk at clerk@longbredy.org.uk by Monday 21st September.

**Bonfires:** (written in early August during the continued dry spell!)
This lovely weather has inspired many of us to tidy our gardens and outdoor spaces, but the current dry conditions also mean there is an increased risk of fire. Although there is currently no bonfire ban in our area, we ask everyone to think carefully before lighting one. Bonfires in these conditions can put our village, wildlife and habitats at risk, as well as add pressure to our emergency services. If you do have a bonfire, please follow the guidance from Dorset Fire & Rescue. Bonfires and garden safety www.dwfire.org.uk/
Thank you for helping to keep our community safe.

## Coffee Break

A warm August morning found many local people in Long Bredy Village Hall enjoying a coffee and piece of cake, or a slice of shortbread or even a cheese

scone. There were several generations in attendance and it was lovely to see everyone being able to catch-up with each other and find out how they were spending their summer, the things they have done or plan to do. Why don't you come along to the next one, you will receive a warm welcome.

## Come Along Inn

Perfect Weather made for a well-attended and highly successful evening at the July Come Along Inn. Thank you for 'coming along' and your support is very much appreciated. As always thank you to all the hard-working volunteers who made it all happen.

## St Peter's Church

On a hot Saturday in July a number of people from the village helped tidy up the Churchyard. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful churchyard with such beautiful views. Without the support of many local people the churchyard would not look as well kept as it does. Thank you to everyone who helped not only on that one day but throughout the year, mowing and providing general maintenance. On a Sunday afternoon in July the annual Pilgrim of Peace around the Long Bredy area, took place. 12 people from throughout the valley walked to St James ruins (not visible) and the birth place of Admiral Hardy. As one walker required a comfort break it led to an impromptu refreshment stop provided by Harriet and Evie at Belamont. Very many thanks to them for helping the walkers on such a hot afternoon, a true Pilgrims walk!

Various walks take place throughout the valley which locals can join and enjoy (religious or not). Perhaps you can explore an area that you were unaware of with the support of a guide. Within the Church you can find small books (passports) and you can then collect a stamp for each of the churches as you complete the walk. Each logo has been designed by Francesca Dewhurst – many thanks to her for her part in this.

## Parish Council

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parish Council meeting in July. It was wonderful to see so many residents there and to have the opportunity to share the work we do to support our community.

## Future Events

### Coffee Break

September's Coffee Break will take place at Long Bredy Village Hall on Saturday 12th September 2026, 10.30am-12.00noon. As we begin to see the start of Autumn why not catch up with locals and find out what sort of summer they have enjoyed. As always there will be a hot drink and delicious refreshments to enjoy.

## Come Along Inn

Why don't you 'come along' to the next Inn night taking place at Long Bredy Village Hall on Friday 18th September 2026, 5.30pm–9.00pm. You will be made very welcome, have a drink stay for a meal. Meals should be pre-ordered by contacting Gwen on 01308 482270 or email aking44634@aol.com

## St Peter's Church

Sunday 20th September at 9.30am will be the Harvest Festival Service, everyone is welcome to come and celebrate an important time for this rural area. Refreshments will be served after the service, giving time to chat with fellow parishioners.

This year to celebrate we are decorating the Church with Watering Cans filled/decorated to represent the harvest. We would like as many people, young and old, in the village to get involved as possible. Any type of watering can be used, just leave it in the Church by Saturday 19th September; please put your name on it so it can be returned. These will be used to decorate the church for the Harvest Festival Service.

## Parish Council

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 5th October at 7.00pm in Long Bredy Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Annual Defibrillator Training

The village annual defibrillator training will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 21st October in Long Bredy Village Hall.
Anyone can use the defibrillator, you do not need training, but if you want to feel more confident using it and/or have any questions then the training sessions is a perfect opportunity for this. No need to book, just come along!

## Harvest Lunch

Following the success of Sean 'Spud' Wadham's, 'Wadhams Walkabout' raising funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK, the Kinghorn Family would like to invite you to a Harvest Lunch in aid of the same charity on Sunday 11th October, 12.30pm at LATCH.

The Bride Valley is still predominately agricultural where life revolves around the seasons and autumn allows us time to celebrate Harvest, the culmination of the farmer's year. We hope you will join us in this celebration enjoying a three-course lunch followed by entertainment. Local produce will be the mainstay of the meal and there will be a bar and raffle to help boost the funds.

Like farming where continuous research helps it to evolve and yet live in harmony with nature, research into various cancers has evolved successfully giving hope

where in the past there was none. Sean lost his father to cancer and in January 2024, sadly lost Jas (Jason Wadham), his uncle, to this terrible condition. Jas being so close in age to Sean, wasn't just an uncle, he was like a brother and also his best friend. This loss has left a huge hole in Sean's life, and in the lives of his wife, daughters, family and friends.

While nothing can change what happened to Jas, Sean hopes that by raising money for Pancreatic Cancer UK, he can help support research into finding a cure for this devastating disease, and also help other families facing the same journey. Sean is a special member of our family and we would like to help him in his endeavours.

Tickets will be £20 per person available from any member of the Kinghorn family, 7 Bedford Terrace, Long Bredy, 01308 482270 or email: aking44634@aol.com and Sean, Bride Valley Exterior Cleaning, tel: 07787 597871 or email: charlottekinghorn@hotmail.com. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate children under 14 years of age.

If you are unable to come and join us at the lunch there is a GoFundMe Wadhams Walkabout page where you can make a donation to this worthy charity. Every donation, big or small, will make a difference.

We thank you in advance for your kind support.

## Burton Bradstock

Village Correspondent: Pat Grafton
Email: patgrafton43@gmail.com 01308 898264
Village website: http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org



### St Mary's Church Summer Fete

Although we are awaiting all of the expenses to be taken into account, we are advised that we have achieved an impressive result, all things considered, and it's thanks to the community of Burton Bradstock who always "come up trumps" for these events - thank you to everyone for your contribution. It's traditional to hold a fete in BB and while we were distributing posters, a lady explained that she always attended our fete as it was always very good, even though she didn't live in our wonderful village.

We wish to thank everyone, too numerous to mention by name, who helped with the set up and breakdown; the Burton Bradstock Male Voice Choir opening with some well-known ditties; all those managing the games and stalls; the BBQ; the cream tea girls; the tower team; the magician, counting coins of the realm to

produce the result; towards the success of this event. We were very fortunate with the weather. The "naysayers" kept annoying us by forecasting rain for the day but our approach to check the weather by looking out the window first thing in the morning still proved more reliable.

Our small, yet very competent and convincing team (Alan Rawlinson, Liz Ortha, Andrew Rawding and Peter Tompkins) produced, in our opinion, a fun and most enjoyable event coupled also by delivering a brilliant result. They should all be very satisfied with their efforts. Each team member worked so diligently to produce this result. We should have awarded them one of our special plastic “gold" medals for recognition of their efforts. The monies resulting from the fete will help towards the installation of a soft play area for the "under-fives".

Finally, we thank Andrew, Loveday, and their family for letting us use their garden for the event and for giving us the opportunity to admire their enormous pumpkins. The rectory gardens are a wonderfully characteristic venue, and we are fortunate to continue holding the event in such a beautiful setting.

Our thanks to everyone who helped make our summer fete so successful Well done everyone, you all deserve "a pat on the back".

*The Summer Fete Team*

## Friends of Burton Bradstock School – End of Year Thank You

As another wonderful school year comes to an end, we’d like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Friends of Burton Bradstock School.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our volunteers, families, staff and local community, we’ve raised an amazing £14,383 this year. Our biggest fundraising events included Party in the Park (£5,403), Curry & Quiz Night (£3,335) and the Duck Race (£3,185). Every event, donation and helping hand has made a real difference to our school and our children.

We’d also like to thank everyone who gave their time throughout the year, whether helping at events, baking, donating prizes or supporting us behind the scenes. We simply couldn’t do it without you. If you’d like to get involved next year, we’d love to welcome new volunteers. Whether you can spare an hour or take on a larger role, every bit of help is greatly appreciated.

We wish all our families a happy, relaxing summer and look forward to another fantastic year supporting Burton Bradstock School.

*Laura Ellward-Smith & Gurmeet Stanford*
*Co-Chairs, Friends of Burton Bradstock School*

## Burton Bradstock Village Hall

### Village Hall Bookings

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

### Coffee Mornings

The popular monthly coffee mornings where you can get a sensibly priced coffee/tea and cake plus a chat with friends will be held on the dates below. They run from 10.00am to 12.00noon and all are welcome.

*Wed 9th September The Inner Wheel*
*Wed 7th October Bride Valley Drivers*.

### General Information

The Hall Trust is currently looking at replacing the kitchen floor covering, which is damaged in places and making repairs to the roof of the Chair storage shed. Some of this work may be completed before this edition of the BVN comes out.

## Burton Bradstock Village Hall "200 Club" August 2026 Draw

Congratulations to the winners:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *1st* | *£32.00* | *No 90:* | *Mr Alan Rawlinson* |
| *2nd* | *£16.00* | *No 98:* | *Mr Simon Wheatley* |
| *3rd* | *£8.00* | *No 88:* | *Mrs Patricia Brooks* |

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the September 2026 draw should telephone Keith Britton on 01308 898008 and let him have £4 – one pound for each monthly draw in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw.
*WDDC Licence no: SL0080*

## Burton Bradstock Village Society

### Village Society Secretary

If you need to contact the Village Society for any reason such as wanting to join, finding out more about our activities or what the Village Society does please email the secretary Hutch Curry at bbvillagesociety@gmail.com

### Next Event

The first presentation evening of the new season will be on Friday 11th September. The Speaker will be Mike Richards, a former Detective Chief Constable of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary with a talk entitled "Humour in the Police Force- a personal perspective". Expect some laughs.

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Village Society members £1.50 entry, non-members £5 or join the Society on the Night for £5 for the year.

## 2026 Flower & Produce Show

On what must have been one of the hottest days of the year, Burton Bradstock Village Society's Annual Flower and Produce Show took place. In spite of the difficult growing conditions this year, 40 villagers entered 166 items from a schedule of 68 classes. The hall was ablaze with colour and the organisers were so happy to see people coming into the hall to display their beautiful roses, artful flower arrangements, exquisite miniature arrangements in tea cups and even the most giant white hydrangea, which nearly stole the show! Our judge taking on the vegetable open classes expressed his delight at seeing such a super array of vegetables, given the aforementioned difficult growing conditions. We also had some really beautiful artwork; the photographs and craft classes demonstrated the wealth of talent in the village. All of this could not take place if it were not for the enthusiastic help of our volunteers who put up the tables, trestles and display boards (and then later take it all down again!), from Mike and Chris Green on the door who issue the tickets to exhibitors to our patient stewards who assist the judges in sorting out the winners and, of course, members of the committee who all play a part.

Our wonderful president, Peter Broomhead, once again, awarded the trophies to our winners, who are listed below:

*Louis/May Brown Cup (Fruit & Veg) Arthur Rawding*
*Bugler Cup (Roses) Roger Ashman*
*Cracroft Challenge Cup (Flowers, not roses) Johnnie Lloyd*
*Gordon Knight Cup (Pot plants) Jean Ayers*
*Flower Arranger Trophy (Arrangement) Pat Neale*
*Cookery & Home Produce Trophy Sue Brown*
*Knightsmith Trophy (Preserves) Jean Ayres*
*Mallinson Cup (Handicrafts) Valerie Grice*
*The David Barnikel Cup (Photography) Valerie Grice*
*Millennium Trophy 2000 (Art) Irene Halsey*

## Committee members

The Village Society is currently 2 Committee members down. We are looking for people interested in getting involved in Village activities to join us and help with the running of the various Village Society activities. We only meet as a committee about 4 times a year, not an onerous workload, so it is more about helping with our various activities. If you are interested and willing to help, please contact Richard Ferre on rwferre99@gmail.com or 01308 897648 to find out more.

## Burton Coffee Mates

Coffee! Cakes! Chat!

Come and join us in the Church from 10.30am -12.00noon on the second Thursday of the month for Coffee Mates. Catch up with old friends and make some new ones. Transport is available. For more information contact Pauline 898327.

### The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Burton Bradstock - Cleaner required

The PCC of St. Mary's are keen to appoint a cleaner for 3 hours per week @£16 per hour. The post holder will follow a clear plan of areas to clean, which he/she can do, flexibly to fit their other commitments.

If you would like to know more about this opportunity – please contact Chrissie Bailey on 07766 912403

## Knitting for Ukraine - update

When I popped in to the Post Office recently, I was delighted when Gill handed me packages containing some lovely coloured strips and no less than 11 baby hats, 5 pairs of mittens and 8 pairs of baby bootees for new-borns, including some for premature babies. Thank you so much, Pauline and Kathleen.

Then came a telephone call from Daphne, informing me that she had made another 14 complete hand-knitted baby blankets this summer. What? In this heat? What a labour of love!

As Autumn and Winter approach, these gifts will really be appreciated, as are all the beautiful knitted and crocheted items you continue to make.

Thank you on behalf of the Ukrainian babies and their families. God bless your busy fingers.

*Heather Rogers (01308 897780)*

## The Friends of Burton Bradstock Library

This month my piece for the newsletter includes a lot of 'thank-yous' for a variety of reasons. Regular library customers will have realised that the use of our self-service kiosk has come to an end contractually weeks before our new machine is installed. This has put great pressure on all our volunteers who have had to issue and take back **all** books and the Trustees would like to say many thanks for all our volunteers' patience. None of us had any choice in the matter but hopefully we will have survived by 19th August!

Alison Leahy's photographs and biographies of long-term residents in Burton has proved very popular so thank you to Alison and all her subjects for agreeing to stage the display. Many thanks have already gone to Charles Fuge for coming in to show the children the process involved in creating the illustrations in one of his books, including a beautifully painted double spread from one of them. The adults and the children were amazed at the detail in his watercolours and felt very privileged to witness one marvellous painting. And he lives just along the road from the Library!




Roger Ashman has kindly made a new donation box in the shape of our Library (chained) and by the time you read this it should be fully painted. Thank you so much Roger and everyone is invited to try it out and find out about chained libraries!

Many thanks to one of our Trustees, Brenda Oliver, for serving refreshments to Saturday library users during August. What a star! This has been an experiment and will continue through September. Please let us know what you think.

Finally make a date in your diary for our next Lego morning which will be on Tuesday 27th October, from 10.00am to 12.00noon. We have a keen group of modellers but hope to see more children there with their adults – please spread the word. It is FREE!

Opening hours for all our library services are:

*Monday 2.00-4.00pm*
*Wednesday 10.00am-12noon*
*Thursday & Saturday 2.00-4.00pm*

burtonbradstocklibrary@gmail.com www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library
01308 897563

*Sue Brown, Chairman*

## Burton Bradstock WI

July was a smashing month and not just for the weather. At our 14th July meeting we had a super social which was very well attended. 10 tables (of 4) enjoyed playing a variety of board games including scrabble, snakes & ladders, Boggle, Banagrams etc. Joan Allan hosted Mah Jong for new players, with great success. Also, there was an opportunity to have a go at curling.

Our Art & Craft show had 18 entries including photography, paintings in water colours, acrylics, and mixed media, felting, knitting, embroidery, and clay work. Congratulations go to our winners but it was a marvellous display of talent and the voting was VERY close.

Our Coffee Stop was held the following day (Wednesday 15th July). All the jars of marmalade sold out within the first 10 minutes, but it is jolly good marmalade! Thank you to all who dropped by for a cuppa or a piece of home-made cake.

Our July lunch outing was to the Sculpture on the Lakes. What a magical place. So much to see & a lovely restaurant, too. Our next outing will be to Sherborne in September just after our next meeting.

For August there will not be a WI meeting, so we can all look forward to Tuesday 8th September, when our speaker is Tanya Alcock on the 'Trails & Tribulations of Running a Vineyard'; and YES, there will be wine. September will also see our 4Bs crafting group return as well as the curling and Mah Jong, plus who know what else… watch this space.

## Burton Bradstock Bridge Club

We are a very friendly group who meet 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.

For more information, please contact Kathy on 01308 485626

## Supper Club

This month's supper club will be on Monday 14th September. Anybody wishing to know more about this please phone Mags Chue 07790 811905

## More Knitting

The WI ladies dusted off their knitting needles after hearing about the Ukraine baby blanket project and completed 180 stripes. We have now moved on to more challenging projects which we sold, raising funds for the Church Fete. We will be knitting more items to sell at the WI Christmas Fayre in November and we are also hoping to make blankets to raise funds for the Weldmar Trust.



*Ali Page*

**BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS**

★THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US★

A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported our comedy Murder Mystery Evening on Saturday 25th July in Burton Bradstock Village Hall, which was a complete sell out.

Lots of fun was had by the audience who were very much included throughout the evening, and everyone enjoyed the ploughman's supper, which was all locally sourced.

Here is some of the incredible feedback from the audience:-
"Laughed so much"
"Kept us guessing and great fun"
"What a great script"
"Kept us on our toes and well performed"

Well done table 6 who won the hamper for guessing who the actual murderer was.

It was a fab night with a great audience, and we can't thank you enough for your continued support by coming to see our shows, we love entertaining you.

Well done to all the cast, you should all be so proud of yourselves and of course a big thank you to all our volunteers and Burton Bradstock post office and Bridport Tourist information for selling the tickets.

Our next production will be PANTO in February 2027….ohhh yes, it is! We are always on the lookout for new members, so if you are interested, please contact Carole Houghton on 07764523182

## Littlebredy

Village Correspondent: Tim Laycock
Email: t.laycock70@gmail.com 01308 482443
Village website: http://www.littlebredy.com



### Adieu to the Armstrongs

Early in August we said goodbye to Nic and Jim Armstrong, who have lived at West Lodge for more than thirty years, and raised their lovely family in the village. They have both been central to the life of the community and church in Littlebredy, serving as churchwardens and as treasurer. We will miss them very much, but wish them 'Joy, Health, Love and Peace' in their new home in the Orkney Islands.

### Garden Church

Our first garden service took place in the Walled Garden, courtesy of Liz Eaton, and we were delighted to welcome a goodly number of folk from the valley and beyond. Many villagers and ex-villagers came to say goodbye to Nic and Jim, and we all enjoyed delicious refreshments afterwards- special thanks to Sandra, Mandy and Lyn for their catering and assistance.
Andrew led us around various beautiful corners of the garden where we sang, prayed and enjoyed poetry and reflections on the spirituality and wonder of the natural world. Some of the poems were original, and very much appreciated. Here's a taste of one that arrived just too late for the service [ the authors were busy riding their bikes!]

### 'The Stream Through Littlebredy' by The Orchard Cottage Poets.

Still and quiet, the water lies in the lake
Slowly it makes its way to the edge,
Then drops crashing like cymbals
Picking up speed,
it ripples and jumps over the bed of the stream,
Dips under the bridge
Gurgling and bubbling
Like children's laughter
A Kingfisher flies quickly,
Its iridescent feathers catching the early morning sun
Bees hum in the warm air,
Dipping into the heart of the flowers,
Carrying their nectar away…

*The full text can be found pinned on the noticeboard in the church porch.*

## Shipton Gorge

Village Correspondent: Richard Hewlett
Email: richardhewlett419@gmail.com 01308 897278
Village web-site: www.shiptongorge.org.uk

Welcome to our village diary
Just search for Shipton Gorge Diary or go directly to
https://shiptongorgediary.co.uk/
You will 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, the Parochial Church Council and other event organisers.

## St Martin's Church

### Floodlight sponsors for September

*Peter T – for his good and longstanding friend of 70 years Armin who passed way recently*
*Ann & Terry Hunt for their wedding anniversary*
*Antonia & Mark for their wedding anniversary on 2nd September*
*Kim & Ian for Ian's mother, Janet Bloomfield, whose birthday is on 26th but she is very poorly*
*Patsy Jacob in memory of their daughter's friend Hazel, who died this year leaving two little girls*
*Kate & John Kent for Roo Hobby's birthday on 6th and Nikki Kent's birthday on 25th*
*Chris Griffiths Hardman for the International Day of Peace on 21st*

Special thank you to all who responded to my request for sponsors this month on the Shipton Gorge community Facebook page. It was so good of you at such short notice. The month of October is also without sponsorship at the moment so please let me know if you have a special memory or an occasion and would like to light up St Martin's Church, Contact Phyl on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage, (Chapel Street), letter box. A suggested donation of £5 is very much appreciated.

### September Services

13th at 9.30am. Breakfast Church with Vicky
27th at 11.00am. Holy Communion with the Rev'd Ed Tildesley
We are very much looking forward to the Harvest Festival to take place on Sunday, 11th October at 5.30pm. Please do come along. It's guaranteed to be a joyous occasion.

St. Martin's, Shipton Gorge

**Harvest Festival**

with the

Shipton Gorge Community Choir

**Sunday 11th October**

5.30pm



At the service, we will be collecting non-perishables for the Food Bank.

**All villagers are also invited for a 'Bring and Share Supper' in the Village Hall afterwards (from around 6.15).**
**Food/drink can be dropped off from 4pm.**

## Christmas Tree Festival

St Martin's are planning a Christmas Tree festival in December! Dates provisionally are 5th to 12th December, and trees will be available to buy at the end of the festival for a donation. We are calling for all the village, groups and individuals, and surrounding areas to "book a tree", and make a donation towards the cost. They will be 2'- 3' tall. You decorate your own tree in any way you like, using battery lights.

Please let Sue Melvin know if you'd like a tree… 01308 341787 or sujm@btinternet.com

## Village Hall

August 100 Club Draw results

*1st 119 £25 Sue Raybould* *2nd 121 £10 Nigel Fisher*
*3rd 117 £5 Andrew Haydon*

Congratulations to all winners

## Shipton Gorge Heritage



**Heritage Gin Club** – Thank you to everyone who has supported us by buying tickets for the year ahead. The winners in the August draw will be announced next month as the draw needed to be done after the Show.

### Saunders Richardson Wood

We had a final bottling session of the nettle fertiliser – ready for sale at the Village Show. There could still be some available - please contact me if you are interested – it is ideal for all leafy plants and vegetables – and also as a natural compost activator.



We have been liaising with Dorset Council to make improvements to the footpath steps by the Saunders Richardson Wood. Using some of the award from the Waitrose Community Matters scheme - we agreed to upgrade the design and materials used - to make the steps even more user friendly - and to help with water run-off from the field (if we ever get any more rain). The work was completed in mid-July and we are sure you will agree, this is a huge improvement. We are planning to open the Wood on **Saturday 26th September at 11.00am.** If you would like to come along and either help or have a walk round, that would be great. This is a members' only event but we can sign you up on the day and there is no charge to join.

### Shipton Gorge Orchard

We are not quite sure what sort of harvest we will have due to the lack of rain, but remember that you are welcome to pick the apples in the Orchard. There are different types and varieties, including, Dessert, Cookers and Cider. Look out for the named plan on the gate – or labels on the trees to avoid any surprises! Two varieties which are normally ready in September are James Grieve (Dessert/Cooker) and Tom Putt (Cooker/Cider). We will be in the Orchard on **Monday 14th September at 11.00am** for a tidy up session – all Shipton Gorge residents are welcome.

We have normally had a few reports by now, therefore, wondering if anyone has seen Glow worms (Lampyris noctiluca) around the village this year. If so, could you let us know roughly where and when?

Thinking ahead, if you are a keen jam maker, pickler or preserver – why not make a few extra jars with the abundance of summer fruit and vegetables. We would be very happy to accept donations to sell at our Apple Day event on Saturday 24th October.

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: http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton_Gorge_Heritage__16417.aspx and in the Shipton Gorge Diary https://www.shiptongorgediary.co.uk

## Parish Council

It was good to see many familiar and new faces on our stand at the Village Fete on 8th August. The event itself was a great success; congratulations to all those whose hard work made it such an enjoyable afternoon. Thank you to all those who helped fill our suggestions box with ideas of things you would like to see done around the village. We will be reviewing these and seeing which ones we will be able to follow up on; more on this at our next meeting. And we will of course be contacting the winner of the bottle of champagne!

For those who volunteered to help with the final stage of the playground refurbishment, which is painting the equipment, we will let you know a date in September for the work to be done.

Since our last meeting Lizzie Forte has stepped down from her role as parish councillor. We would like to thank her for all she has done over the last few years; it really is appreciated.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 10th September at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, when we will be introducing our new parish councillors. We look forward to seeing you then.

## 4th September: St Birinus's day

Did you ever feel that God was calling you to do something big for Him, even though you were not quite sure of the details? If so, Birinus is the saint for you.

He was a French Benedictine monk who in 634 was made a bishop at Genoa, and sent by Pope Honorius 1 to extend the evangelisation of England. (Augustine had arrived in Canterbury about 35 years before.)

Birinus landed at Hamwic, near Southampton. His original plan was to evangelise Wessex and then penetrate up into the Midlands, where no preacher had ever yet reached. But Birinus soon found the West Saxons so pagan that he decided to concentrate just on them.

Birinus had little to help him become the apostle to Wessex. So, he simply used what he did have: his own two feet and his voice. He wandered around preaching at every opportunity, trusting in God to help him. And He did: Birinus became known and respected, and soon a big breakthrough occurred: for political reasons the King of Wessex, Cynegils, wanted to convert to Christianity, and he asked Birinus to help him.

So Birinus instructed and baptised King Cynegils, who was then able to marry the Christian king of Northumbria's daughter, Cyneburg, and in due course Birinus baptised their family as well.

In return, Cynegils gave Birinus the town of Dorchester (upon Thames, not our Dorset town!) to be his diocesan see. It was a perfect location: a Romano-British town right on a road and a river, in the midst of a populated area.

During his 15 years as Bishop of Dorchester, Birinus baptised many people and built churches all over the area, with the king's blessing.

Before he died in 650, Birinus dedicated a church at Winchester. It was a glimpse of the future: for Winchester's growing importance made it inevitable that in time it would also become the ecclesiastical centre of the kingdom.
wool

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



The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren,

Thank you for sending me the photograph of you having your face painted at your parish's 'Fun Day' – although I can't help feeling that to label an event 'fun' is the most effective way of draining it of all amusement whatsoever. Why on earth can't parishes continue with the traditional title of 'Crowning of the Rose Queen and Fete', equally traditionally grimly enjoyed to the accompaniment of thunder and torrential rain.
However, the one thing that caused me the greatest concern in your photo was the fact that you were wearing sandals. Sandals are only to be worn by Franciscan monks (without socks) and holidaymakers on Blackpool

promenade (regrettably, generally with socks). I know that you will argue that Jesus wore sandals. This was mainly because reliable pairs of brogues had yet to be invented, but also because He lived in a hot, dry country. We live in a cold, wet one.

The only appropriate colour for footwear for a parish priest is black, and the only appropriate material is leather – although I will concede that can create difficulties. Wet leather shoes and polished marble sanctuary floors are a potentially lethal combination.

I well remember as a curate when old Canon Griffith entered the Sanctuary, having just got drenched coming from the Rectory. His feet moved across the marble floor some miles per hour faster than the rest of his body. Had he landed face down, the congregation may have assumed he was reverently prostrating himself before the altar. But lying in a supine position, staring in a dazed state at the rafters, only conveyed inappropriate indolence, when he should be at work.

However, do not take the alternative of wearing crepe soles. I suspect your present church will be fully carpeted – it seems to go with your sort of theology – and there will be no problem. But crepe soles and any sort of polished stone floor are a truly disastrous mixture. The slightest movement will make it sound as if you are being followed by a swarm of demented frogs.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

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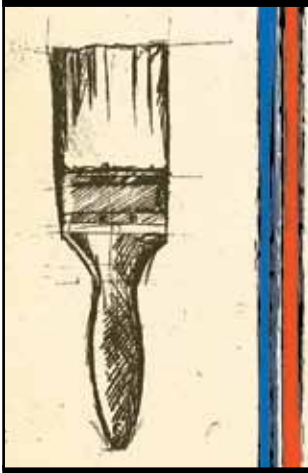
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|---|---|---|---|---|
| Burton Bradstock | 11.00am Morning Worship | 11.00am Holy Communion | 9.30am Café Church | 8.00am Holy Communion<br>9.30am Breakfast Church |
| Chilcombe | | 5.30pm Evensong | | |
| Litton Cheney | 6.00pm Evensong | 9.30am Holy Communion | 9.30am Morning Worship | |
| Puncknowle | | 9.30am Holy Communion | | 11.00am Harvest Festival |
| Swyre | 11.00am Holy Communion | | 6.00pm Harvest Thanksgiving | |
| Shipton Gorge | | 9.30am Breakfast Church | | 11.00am Holy Communion |
| Long Bredy | 11.00am Holy Communion | | 9.30am Harvest Festival | |
| Littlebredy | | | | 11.00am Holy Communion |
| Portesham | | 11.00am Morning Worship | 11.00am Holy Communion | |
| Abbotsbury | 11am Holy Communion | 3.00pm Harvest Festival | 10.00am Morning Worship | |
| Langton Herring | 9.00am BCP | 11.00am Thankful service | 9.30am Holy Communion | 6.0pm Outdoor Service |
| Mid week Holy Communion | Burton Bradstock 11.30am 2nd Sept<br>Portesham 11.30am 3rd Sept | | | |