

# Bride Valley News

The Magazine of the Bride Valley Churches



## June 2020

CONTENTS	JUNE 2020
From the Rectory	4
From the Registers	5
Valley Notes	6
Burton Bradstock	30
Littlebredy	29
Litton Cheney	21
Long Bredy	28
Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington	20
Shipton Gorge	26
Crossword	24
Sudoku	25

**JULY 2020 ISSUE DEADLINES: THIS WILL BE ANOTHER E-VERSION OF BVN**

**COPY TO EDITOR .....9.00AM MONDAY 22ND JUNE**  
**ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHS ETC FROM WITHIN THE BRIDE VALLEY MUST BE SENT TO VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS, (contact details shown at the head of each Village Section) BY FRIDAY 19TH JUNE FOR THE JULY ISSUE.**

Handwritten or typed copy is to be delivered well before the deadline date. Copy sent from outside the Bride Valley may be sent direct to the Editor. [bridevalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:bridevalleynews@gmail.com)

*Articles, notices and advertisements in this magazine may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the Editor or the people and organisations which fund and support it.*  
**Editor: [bridevalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:bridevalleynews@gmail.com)**

**VILLAGE WEBSITES - THE JUNE COPY OF BVN CAN BE FOUND ON ANY OF**  
**The Village websites detailed below**



- [www.burtonbradstock.org.uk](http://www.burtonbradstock.org.uk)
- [www.littoncheney.org.uk](http://www.littoncheney.org.uk)
- [www.shiptongorge.org.uk](http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk)
- [www.puncknowle.net](http://www.puncknowle.net)
- [www.swyre.org.uk](http://www.swyre.org.uk)
- [www.westbexington.org.uk](http://www.westbexington.org.uk)
- [www.littlebredy.com](http://www.littlebredy.com)
- [www.longbredy.org.uk](http://www.longbredy.org.uk)

# THE BRIDE VALLEY CHURCHES

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

Rector      The Reverend Jane Williams      (01308) 898799

Email:      [bvrector@outlook.com](mailto:bvrector@outlook.com)

Associate Priest: The Revd Sue Linford Tel: (01308) 897363

Readers:              Mike Read              Tel: (01308) 897445  
                                James Webster      Tel: (01308) 898657  
                                Yvonne Buckland Tel: (01308) 898492

To enquire about Baptism, Marriage and Funeral arrangements,  
please telephone the Administrator on 01308 897695  
or email: [bridevalley.benefice@hotmail.com](mailto:bridevalley.benefice@hotmail.com)



## 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 £1.00 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.

BVCS simply provides door-to-door transport and cannot be responsible for assisting with clients' medical or mobility needs. Patients with complex transport needs for hospital appointments should contact the NHS Non-Emergency Patient Transport service.



To book a journey please call our voluntary co-ordinator Lesley on 01308 897695 between Monday and Friday.



Calls cannot be taken at weekends.

## FROM THE RECTORY

I have no idea what to put in my letter to you this month. We continue to find ourselves in such uncertain and unsettling times.

As ever, we are following the mandates set out by national Church of England guidelines which are being regularly updated and now include the vicar being allowed back into church to pray. There has been a lot in the national press about the appropriateness – or not – of a single priest being in church when their congregation and community cannot be with them. I share some of those sentiments, and have always strongly held to the view that we are the church, rather than the building. However, I also see all of our church buildings as sacred spaces, very important to us all and to the wider parishes as well.

As such, after much prayer and pondering, it feels right at this time that I return to the churches to offer prayers on your behalf. We will continue with the current system of sending out a service each Sunday to share at home and this will also be available via the telephone on 01308 293062 for our pre-recorded readings, sermons and intercessions.

It is very important to note that a return to church for us all is not going to be quick, nor are there currently any plans in place for when that might happen, it is very unlikely to be before 4<sup>th</sup> July. Our first and top priority is to protect each and every person who comes through our doors. As such, we will act in accordance with church guidelines as and when they come out, but even then, for us as a church, things will not return to normal for a long time.

I completely recognise how sad that is to hear, and indeed, it is very sad to type these words: but know that I am praying for each of you and myself and the ministry team are here for you and will help in any way we can (in compliance with social distancing measures). If there is anything you wish to phone about or you simply just want to hear a human voice, then please call.

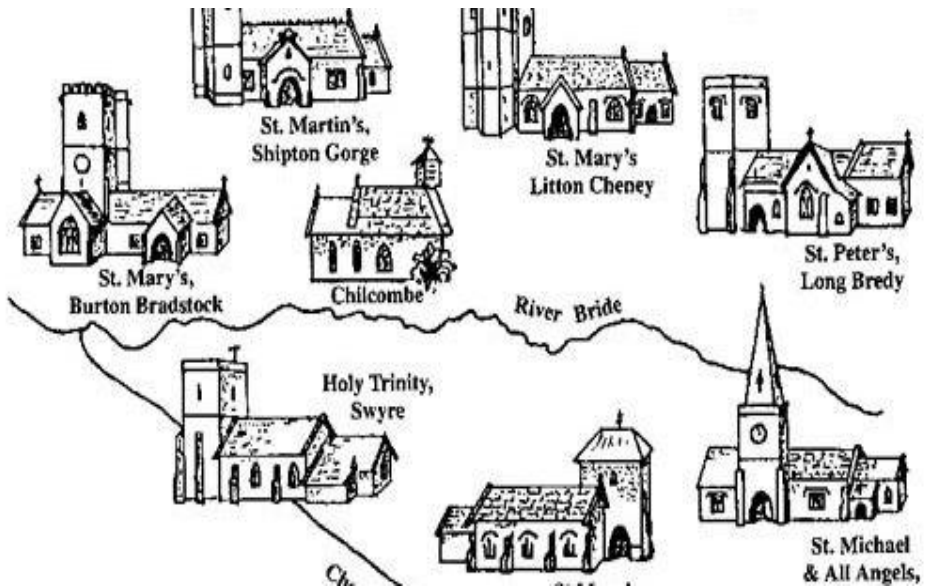
I have also been very moved with how well we have 'held together' as a church: worshipping and meeting virtually is not ideal but for my part, it does feel as if the Holy Spirit continues to be very much at work here in the Bride Valley.

Above all remember that God is with us.

Paul famously wrote in Romans 8 verse 38, (to which we might want to add 'neither coronavirus'): "And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love." New Living Translation.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

With every blessing,  
Jane (Rector of the Bride Valley)



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

7 May 2020	Alexander John Coombs	St Mary's Litton Cheney
27 May 2020	Patricia Doreen Butcher	Weymouth Crematorium
29 May 2020	Bernard Arthur Thorner	Yeovil Crematorium



## Lockdown, you and IT



### ***David Pickup, a solicitor, considers possible saints for IT.***

How are you getting on with technology? The coronavirus pandemic has driven hundreds of millions of us to use it more than ever, as we sit at home in frustrated isolation.

If you are used to digital meetings and Zoom, it is not a problem, but for millions of grandparents wanting to see their families, or non-techie people wanting to see their friends, it has been quite a learning curve. So, is there a patron saint of computers and electronics and all the difficult stuff?

Some people say **the patron saint of the internet should be Saint Isidore of Seville, a Bishop and scholar in the Seventh Century who wrote a book called *Etymologies* or *The Origins*, in which he tried to record everything that was known. That seems to be a good basis for sainthood, or at least for the internet.**

Another candidate is Saint Eligius who lived about the same time. He is quite busy already as the patron saint of goldsmiths, metalworkers, vets, the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), horses and those who work with them. His main qualification seems to have been his ability to make things.

**My suggestion is Zebedee. No, not the character from *The Magic Roundabout* but the father of James and John. After all, consider this: “*James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John...were in a boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. (Matt. 4:21)***

Ok, it is not *the* internet, but Zebedee knew about mending a net which would have had both good and bad stuff all over it.

**Certainly, whenever I get in an IT muddle during this lockdown, I would welcome any patron saint that was willing to help me!**

May's meeting of the Bride Valley WI took on a somewhat different format. As a trial the President took to the internet and zoomed the members who were interested in 'having a go', after all some of the WI aims state that members should be encouraged to gain new skills and take part in wide-ranging activities. What better than a quiz on Zoom!!! Covers everything!!

After getting everyone connected, there we were on the screen beginning our meeting as usual by catching-up with our friends. We agreed that as it was Thursday we would have a break at 8pm to 'clap for carers' and so we began our quiz. Our President had not set easy questions but we successfully finished 6 rounds of question on very diverse subjects.

There was a winner but no prize—sorry Lisa!!! But well done.

We all agreed that it had been a good trial run and the June meeting would go ahead in the same way although we are going to try Bingo instead of a quiz. Our Vice-president has agreed that she will be responsible for organising the Bingo cards and other people offered to provide the rest of the equipment. Should be good fun!!!

We hope that more members will be tempted to join us via Zoom as it would seem we may have a few more months of being unable to meet in our normal way. With restrictions being lifted slightly our Walking group can hopefully start again subject to obeying the distancing and number rules.

The WI locally and nationally use FaceBook to keep WI's in touch with what is happening in other areas, well worth a look!!!

**If you live in the Valley and would like to join our WI, even virtually, do please get in contact with one of the committee or on our email**

[Bridevalleywi@gmail.com](mailto:Bridevalleywi@gmail.com)



## BRIDE VALLEY BOOK GROUP REVIEW - May 2020

### Review of “Landskipping” by Anna Pavord

This was the last book from our monthly allocation by Dorset libraries which we were able to receive. Although we did manage to distribute copies to everyone in our group - we were not able to meet. However some of us managed to meet via Zoom and several of us exchanged reviews by email. We are hoping to continue with the Zoom experiment and encourage each other to share reading recommendations - especially for entertaining and upbeat reads which will lift our spirits.

Anna Pavord is a well known national figure for her writing on gardening and landscape issues. She is especially well known within West Dorset having lived in Puncknowle for many years - and more recently near Powerstock.

Landskipping is indeed a book which skips around the very concept of landscape as we know it in the UK. The phrase “Landskip” comes from Gainsborough, the painter, but it derives from an earlier Dutch word. Not all of us enjoyed this book - some of the group found it rather dry and a bit unsettling in the way the focus moves from well known landscapes in the UK - to her family history - to painters and their celebration of our scenery - to writers and their response to the landscapes around them - to the Agrarian Revolution - right up to the impact of today’s current environment legislation and the modern world of farming quotas and subsidies.

Some of us absolutely loved this diverse approach - and a few of us dipped in and out of the chapters depending on how interested we were.

Several of us appreciated the chapters devoted to Dorset best of all especially when we recognised names and places which have changed little for centuries. She reminds that there once existed a set of “rules” which judged whether certain vistas were correctly proportioned!

I thought Pavord was very good on how the concept of “landscape“ is a relatively recent one - you only have to recall those idealised background landscapes of Renaissance paintings to realise this is true. She spends quite some time on the influence of the Romantic movement and how its ideas about the importance of nature made such an impact on painting, writing, philosophy, gardening, estate management and even architecture.

Pavord “rambles “ around the Lakes, the Norfolk coast, parts of Wales including Snowdonia, Constable country and the Highlands of Scotland. Woven into this approach is an appreciation of our landscape artists, where they travelled, our poets, especially the Romantics (but also including Hardy) and the early

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agrarian reformers who created managed estates according to new rules and principles (such as Hafod, near Aberystwyth).

She reminds us how we have changed the look and function of our landscapes over the centuries and how history and the improvements in farming have made their impact. The book includes some beautiful images, many of them engravings from artists such as Samuel Palmer, Constable, William Blake, Turner and more locally, Reynolds Stone and Howard Phipps.

We have a plan to read “Under the Greenwood Tree” by Hardy next - we shall see whether we manage this.....

Liz Pinfield

## Artsreach Update

Artsreach is Dorset’s charity bringing high quality performances of live theatre, music, dance and family shows to the heart of rural communities.



Although there are no live performances at present the local promoters, the Artsreach staff team and the Board of Trustees continue to monitor the situation relating to the Coronavirus pandemic, listening to Government and Public Health advice and planning accordingly. The impact of this pandemic on our Country is still unfolding but in the meantime, until we are able to present a live performance programme once more, the Artsreach team continue to work remotely and are exploring how best to support our artists and communities in the future.

Artsreach is very grateful for the excellent support being given by our principal funders, Arts Council England and Dorset Council. We are working hard to explore how our next programme might look, be it via a digital medium or smaller scale live performances, if government guidance allows. As always, we will do this in communication and partnership with our fantastic team of volunteers across the County.

In the meantime, we hope that, once our live programme is up and running, you will be able to join us once more but for now, check out our Digital Diary at <https://artsreach.co.uk/news/digital-diary>

....where you will find up-to-date information on a wide range of both local and national arts events which you can access from your home computer.

# Know your Bride Valley Wordsearch

**May Solution**  
(Bride Valley words).

N	R	V	V	C	A	D	H	U	T	U	Z
S	R	E	N	R	O	H	T	L	Z	C	B
W	S	J	V	L	P	P	D	S	T	R	J
V	U	Y	Y	A	X	P	E	S	E	Z	B
L	I	T	T	O	N	W	W	D	X	O	C
E	R	Y	W	S	I	Y	Y	V	I	R	J
Q	C	H	E	S	I	L	F	C	S	R	X
I	Y	E	O	X	O	C	C	T	E	I	B
J	V	S	X	C	O	A	S	T	J	S	Z
B	Y	R	U	B	D	O	M	Z	W	M	G
S	H	I	P	T	O	N	J	H	R	I	B
J	B	U	R	T	O	N	T	Q	S	G	B

## June Wordsearch

There are 10 Dorset towns and villages for you to find!  
Solution in July Bride Valley News

S	T	E	E	P	L	E	Z	I	J	O	W
Y	V	X	P	T	R	O	P	D	I	R	B
B	B	X	E	N	R	O	B	M	I	W	K
K	U	H	T	U	O	M	R	A	H	C	O
V	L	H	K	K	Q	T	W	M	R	G	W
L	O	H	S	I	L	W	E	D	X	B	Z
Q	W	L	V	N	Y	Z	H	C	Z	W	I
U	P	R	R	K	P	M	A	R	T	I	N
M	E	L	P	L	A	S	H	P	D	C	T
B	L	A	N	D	F	O	R	D	C	D	T
P	M	L	Y	A	U	M	P	R	D	B	G
I	M	L	O	O	W	A	R	E	H	A	M



## BRIDE VALLEY GARDENING CLUB



As lockdown continues, a glimmer of hope has been extended to gardeners with the reopening of Groves and Poundbury Garden Centre. Saying that, many of us have accessed their delivery systems to good effect, as well as other nurseries and seed companies. Some have been meeting the challenges by propagating their own plants, growing from seed in whatever containers they can find, taking cuttings and dividing perennials to fill in the gaps where the bedding usually goes. Others have found self-sown seedlings and potted them on to multiply their stock.

While we are unable to meet as a club Sue Brown has been producing newsletters to encourage the membership. These have included attempts to keep us informed of the local garden centre provision (a constantly changing situation); short articles by members on tools and plants that are important to them; topical information, poems, recipes and quizzes. We've also asked people to send photos of any unusual containers recycled as plant pots, starting with broad beans growing in wellie boots.

I have been trawling the archives and found I was wrong in my last BVN article - this was not the first time the club had cancelled evening talks. Originally the club meetings were during the winter which meant inclement weather necessitated the cancellation of some meetings. Maybe this influenced the change to our present arrangements of meeting between March and October? A question I hope to answer in the next newsletter.

*A note to members* – if you have registered with Sue to receive newsletters and they haven't arrived please contact her or me as there seems to be some going to junk mail and being missed.

We have been blessed with good weather to work on our gardens, patio pots or even window boxes so, although a little rain would be welcome, we will hope for a fine June where we can enjoy the fruits of our labours.

*Cilla Jones (Secretary) 898473*

## Our Night Sky in June 2020

We have lost Venus in the evening sky now, but Jupiter makes up for her loss by rising in the South East about 2300, and remaining visible low in the southern night sky as the brightest object apart from the Moon. You can easily follow the “Dance” of the Galilean Moons round the planet using binoculars, and they are fun to watch how they vary in position from night to night. Saturn follows close behind and, although you can distinguish it from a star by the fact that it does not twinkle, it is fainter than Jupiter, shining with a yellowish light. Anyone with a telescope should take the opportunity of seeing Saturn’s rings which are a fabulous sight in even a small telescope. Mars follows these two planets, rising in the East about 0200. Depending on its distance from Earth, its brightness varies greatly, but it will be gaining in brightness throughout the year, and will be easy to identify as an orange “star” shining steadily in the southern sky during the Autumn months, and rising earlier each night.

The Japanese space agency JAXA launched the Hayabusa2 mission in December 2014 to asteroid Ryugu, which orbits the sun between Earth and Mars. Hayabusa2 finally arrived in 2018. It's been busy orbiting the asteroid ever since, dropping two rovers on the rocky surface and a third robot two years ago.

A new study by JAXA scientists and collaborators, used the high-resolution images taken during a close-up encounter with Ryugu back in February 2019 to uncover a few of the asteroid's secrets. One of the spacecraft's goals was to snatch a sample of the rock that lies on the surface of Ryugu, but to do so, it needed to do a thorough survey of possible landing sites. Months of surveying Ryugu's surface with onboard cameras provided the researchers with a wealth of data when the spacecraft finally descended to the surface. The images snapped by Hayabusa2's telescopic optical navigation camera (ONC-T) enabled the research team to analyse the spectral signature of the asteroid's surface. Previous work had shown how, like an onion, Ryugu is made of layers. In particular, two colours stand out in Ryugu's surface materials: red and blue. The asteroid's mostly red around the mid-latitude regions and blue around the equator and at the poles. Impact craters also were quite blue.

When the spacecraft touched down in February 2019, debris was kicked up and sprayed all over the surface. Ryugu's touchdown location was in an area with more blue surface material, but once it had touched down briefly and

taken off again a layer of dark, fine red grains were littered upon Ryugu's face. These clues pointed to a solar detour Ryugu may have taken around 300,000 years ago. At that time, Ryugu passed closer to the sun and the heat could have caused materials on the surface to redden. Over time, forces acting on the surface of the asteroid – like impacts or wasting – have mixed the reddish and bluish material on Ryugu's surface together. When Hayabusa2 stole a surface sample, it kicked up a lot of the dark, red grains that had settled.

The good news for the JAXA team is they probably captured both the reddish and bluish material in their surface sampling and will be able to study the material back on Earth. Hayabusa2 is now on its way home and is scheduled to drop off its space dirt in the Australian outback this December. I hope to give you some results from this outstanding mission when they are released.

**Bill Turnill**

**A poem by Maggie Ingall, submitted by Christine Clarke from Burton Bradstock**

### **The Volunteers**

**Oh, let us rise and give three cheers  
For all the unsung volunteers.**

**For those who don't just stand and stare,  
But offer up their time and care,**

**For those who never count the cost,  
But run to help the ill, the lost,**

**For those who work with quiet grace,  
To make this world a better place,**

**Oh, let us all, as best we may  
Employ our gifts the finest way,**

**And, if we can, to take our part,  
And give our help with willing heart.**



## Burton Bradstock CE School



Over the last two months school life has been very different from the norm. Each day there have been between 6 and 11 pupils in school - children of key workers and vulnerable families. These children have been supported by members of staff who have been working in school on a three weekly rota, including through the Easter holidays.

But the vast majority of pupils have been engaging in their learning virtually at home. On the various online platforms that we have been using (Tapestry for Pre-school and Reception, Seesaw for KS1 and lower KS2 and Teams for upper KS2) staff have been able to upload lessons for their pupils.

The staff have attempted to create a routine as normal as possible for our students by setting daily English, Maths and topic work.

Using our Cornerstones curriculum the children have been set lots of exciting tasks using well-chosen topics - the Early Years have been exploring 'Africa', Key Stage 1 have been thinking about 'Superheroes', Lower Key Stage 2's topic has been 'Road Trip USA' and Upper Key Stage 2 have been working on 'Beast Creator'.

As well as uploading work, signposting to tutorials and posting videos the staff have been on hand to give feedback and 'mark' the work each day. The majority of pupils have responded well to this new way of learning and the work that they have produced has been so creative. Children have been producing their own videos, using woodworking skills to make bug hotels, baking in the kitchen...the list goes on!

However, we are also mindful that others have found it quite a challenge and have missed the routines and structure of school life.

For a school that has an 'open door' policy, we have found the lack of face to face contact with our children and families the most difficult problem to overcome. Staff have supported parents with guidance and advice as well as responding promptly to pupil queries, but this has felt somewhat inadequate at times.

Like everyone at this time, we have looked at ways of adapting familiar activities - such as having virtual Good Work Assemblies each week. Being able to share the fabulous work going on across the school has given everyone a boost.

Along with the weekly Friday newsletters, tweets on Twitter, regular 'keep in touch' telephone calls and our homemade 'missing you' videos we have attempted to maintain our strong links with our school community.

As we see May drawing to a close, we welcome a new month and are anticipating a wider opening of schools from 1<sup>st</sup> June. Following a rigorous risk assessment, and with adaptations and measures put in place using the social distancing guidance, we are ready to welcome back pupils to Pre-school, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 should parents choose to return their children to school.

Staff are looking forward to seeing the children again and are busy trying to work out how to juggle the online teaching with teaching those in the classroom, but we will find a way. The classrooms will look different, playtimes will be staggered, handwashing and cleaning increased, reminders of social distancing will be given and the learning will continue.

Stay safe.

Claire Staple  
Headteacher



**THORNERS CE VA SCHOOL**



Strange times! School has been closed but not really! Staff were in several times each week to look after the children of key workers. And now we will reopen in June for some of our year groups!

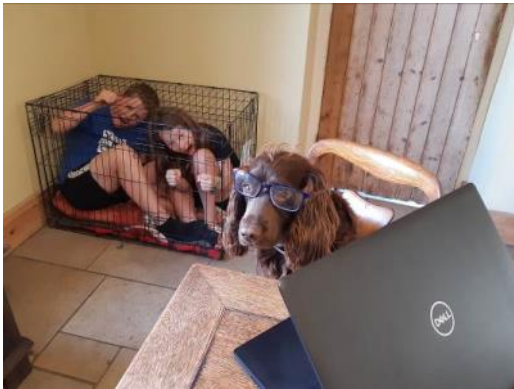
In the meantime, we received lots of lovely pictures of children learning and enjoying different activities at home. There are lots of pictures on our website, and there is a selection of these on the next page.



Taking part in the National Youth Orchestra's mass home performance of 'Ode to Joy' for the NHS



Rainbow on an orphan lamb...



Getting the home schooling / work balance...



Making scrubs for the NHS



## Children have made...



a trailer...



an outdoor shelter...



a tutu...



...and looked after parents!

Jyotsna Chaffey, Headteacher

## **Latest update from Portesham Surgery**

It is a cliché to say that these are unusual times, but still so true for everyone. Those of our staff who live “on the patch” have had wonderful support from our Bride Valley patients and neighbours which is a comfort. Like everyone else there have been days where we have struggled, and the Thursday applause, the rainbows perched in hedges and windows, and the smiles and thankyou's all help.

We are very much still here to help you, and encourage you to contact us (by phone, email to [Portesham.reception@dorsetgp.nhs.uk](mailto:Portesham.reception@dorsetgp.nhs.uk) or by eConsult via our website) as soon as you have a problem. Don't delay if you have worrying symptoms or concerns.

## **Keeping you safe**

Our website gives you information on the changes we've made in the surgery to keep you – and us – safe so please have a look if you can. We have changed all our appointments to telephone consultations, except for some nurse procedures (like dressings or urgent blood tests). Patients who are shielding will be seen at home if necessary, and we have carried out plenty of procedures and assessments in the car park in the last two months! We bring respiratory patients in for assessment in the late morning or afternoon, so if you need to come to the surgery for a planned appointment or to collect your medications—this will be before 1pm so that it is a very safe environment. We have our social distancing routes well-marked, and if you prefer you can telephone us from the carpark and we will bring your medication out to you or the nurse will collect you for an appointment so you can minimise the time spent in the surgery.

## **eConsult**

Because the vast majority of our appointments are done by telephone now, our phones are often very busy but if your query is routine you can do an eConsult (look on the home page of our website [www.porteshamsurgery.co.uk](http://www.porteshamsurgery.co.uk) for more information). This will direct you to trusted NHS sources of advice, or your query will be sent to our GPs who aim to respond by phone or email within 48 hours.

## **Video Consultations**

We have also introduced video consultations which are ideal if you are shielding or unable to get to the surgery, and can save our GPs a home visit which could involve an hour of travelling. During a telephone consultation if the GP decides they need to see you they can send you a text message. You click on the link in the text and then you can see each other on the phone

display – it takes two clicks and less than a minute to set up, provided you have a smart phone handy.

### **Workload**

Because of all these changes, the surgery itself often looks quiet with few cars in the car park. Perhaps because of these we've had the odd impatient comment. "What are you doing down there? You're not busy!" This is quite difficult for our staff to hear when we are, in fact, as busy as ever. All the same work has to be done but in different ways which are time-consuming. Our dispensary are struggling with delayed deliveries and drug shortages; our nurses need to schedule time between appointments to clean down thoroughly and don new PPE for appointments and home visits; our staff have to socially distance so we can't all pitch in to help clear a long queue at the dispensary, and GPs are trying to manage patients at a distance, keep up to date with daily changes in NHS guidelines, and our normal sources of help are far more limited as most outpatient appointments are on hold, and new secondary care referrals are being added to waiting lists. So please bear with us and remember we are working flat out to help you all.

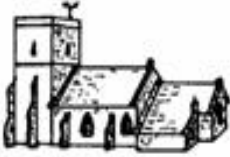
### **Other sources of help**

Pharmacies are a great source of over-the-counter remedies and advice for simple ailments and self-care.

**For COVID-19 enquiries**, please only contact the Surgery if you need medical advice. For any non-medical queries, such as advice on whether to go back to work, and how to protect yourself, look on [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus). The NHS website [www.nhs/coronavirus](http://www.nhs/coronavirus) also has really clear advice on the virus, symptoms, how to get tested, how to self-isolate etc. Please consult these websites if you can, to keep our phone lines free for patients needing urgent medical advice.

If you need help with things like shopping, medication collection or simply a regular phone call, do let us know. We can refer you to the army of NHS volunteers set up at the beginning of the pandemic, which includes many local people from the villages who are raring to help out!

Specialist counselling services are being offered free of charge by the Dorchester Trust for Counselling and Psychotherapy and Colliton Street Psychotherapy. They are offering 6 short-term counselling sessions for key-workers, and a one-off 50 minute listening service to anyone affected by COVID-19. Please go to [www.psychotherapydorset.co.uk](http://www.psychotherapydorset.co.uk) or telephone 07714 330120 for more details.



# PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE & WEST BEXINGTON

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS



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JILL NEILL (Swyre & West Bex)  
Litton Creek, Hooper's Lane,  
Puncknowle  
Jill.neill@live.co.uk tel: 897479



## ST MARY'S CHURCH PUNCKNOWLE

### Puncknowle Church Fete

It is with great regret that the Church Fete 2020 has had to be cancelled due to the Corona virus. Hopefully we look forward to a bumper fete next July 2021.

### Residents of Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington

If you are isolating and need help please call one of the numbers below. There is a large group of helpers from the three villages they can put you in touch with. If you need shopping, prescriptions collecting, advice, post taking or just a friendly phone call please give Sally, Geoff or John a call.

Sally Bowsher	01308 897987
Geoffrey Fry	01308 898068
John Marsh	01308 898114



## LITTON CHENEY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: JOHN FIRRELL  
jfirrell20@gmail.com Tel: 01308 482313  
Village web-site [www.littonchene.org.uk](http://www.littonchene.org.uk)



### St. Mary's Church

Sadly the village church remains closed for public and private worship under directives from the UK Government and the Church of England. Enquiries should be directed to Church Wardens, Richard Jones (482602) and John Vercoe (482110).

During the period of lockdown St Mary's organist and choirmaster, Paul Cheater, has been regaling many of us on a daily basis with music from his own repertoire and played by others via You Tube. During the week it would be a piano piece, with an organ voluntary on Sundays. Paul hopes that once life returns to some sort of normality that a fundraising concert can be arranged at LATCH when he can play these pieces "live" to an even wider audience. Thank you, Paul; you provided a daily musical treat for many of us that made life just that little more pleasant and bearable in these testing times.

Today, as I write this before sending it off to our esteemed editor, being Bank Holiday Monday (25<sup>th</sup>) would normally have been the day of the **Litton Cheney Village Fete**. Bunting would flutter in the cooling breeze, the barbeque queue would stretch forever, and ice cream would be sold out. The bottle tombola would be crowded, the plant stall flourishing, dogs a-barking waiting to put on a show, with afternoon teas in full flow. But sadly not this year; our community hall stands deserted of people and activity and those with withdrawal symptoms will have to wait until next year (?) in order to once again experience the fun, fun, fun of setting up and running or attending our annual village knees-up.

### Litton Cheney Parish Council

The Parish Council held its first virtual meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May. Draft minutes are available on the village website and main noticeboard. This would normally have been an Annual Meeting and Village Assembly but that will now happen later in the year all being well. The next virtual PC meeting is planned for Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. More details closer to the time. All councillors and clerk are available to be contacted by local residents. Contact details can be found on noticeboards and village website.



## Litton and Thorner's Community Hall



Sadly the hall remains closed until further notice due to the lockdown. It may partially re-open when and if Thorner's school return in June but it is highly likely that local and general use of the hall will have to wait for another day.



### BRIDE VALLEY FILMS



**Bride Valley Films** at Litton Cheney Community Hall have been postponed due to the Coronavirus situation. The hope is that "**Judy**" will be postponed until Thursday 1st October and "**Knives Out**" postponed until Thursday 5th November. This will however be confirmed nearer the time on the village website and in later issues of the Bride Valley News.

### The White Horse

Andy & Liz Venning would like to thank everyone for supporting their little market on a Saturday morning. They are hoping to keep it going after lockdown and then expand it.

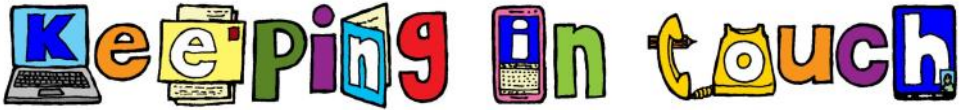


Andy & Liz would also like to thank Steve and Joy Chapman for donating the fruit and veg that's left over on a Saturday which they leave on their front wall so people can come and help themselves and leave a donation in the honesty box, the contents of which are shared between Weldmar HospiceCare and Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance.

**As of 24<sup>th</sup> May we've raised just over £565! That's fantastic!**

Thank you to everyone who has purchased and donated!

Please Stay Safe and Well.



## Stay Updated on the Coronavirus and All Things Local

There is a wealth of information available online regarding Coronavirus, local community support, current local information and much of this can be found on the village website or the Litton Cheney Observer Facebook Page.

Thank you to all those stalwarts who very quickly came to the fore when lockdown loomed to offer their assistance to the vulnerable, those self-isolating and others less able. Please remain at your post a little longer until we honestly believe the worst is over.

Whilst we are aware that community support for others is very strong in the Bride Valley generally and most know who to call if they have a problem, not everyone however has access to online communication. Please remember those who live on their own and/or are isolated.

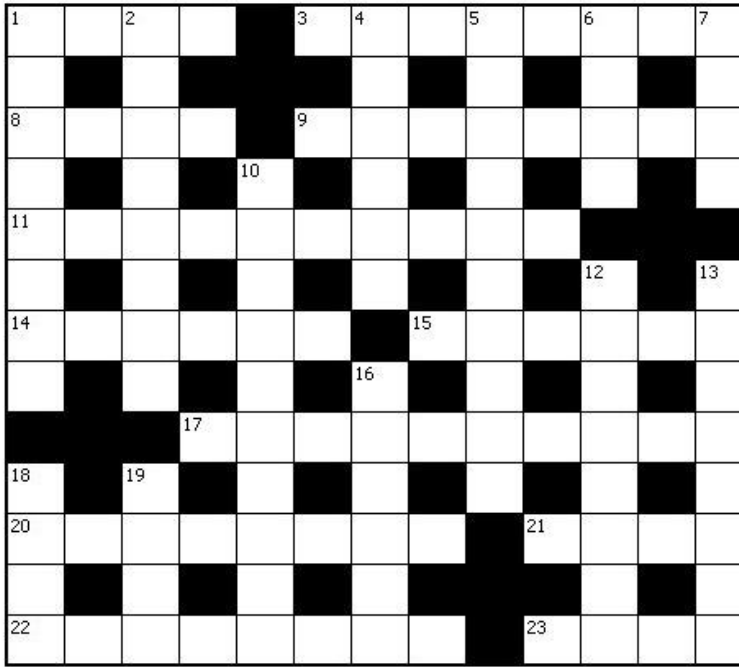
In these trying times we ask you to **CYN** – yes, really! **CHECK YOUR NEIGHBOUR please.**

### And Finally.....

Many will already be sadly aware that Nick Horsley passed away recently after a very short illness. Nick is well remembered by many, near and far.

With current restrictions in place normal funeral arrangements do not exist but it is hoped to hold a wake at The White Horse later in the year.

Our thoughts are with Nick's wife, Jackie, and family during this time of great sadness.



**CROSSWORD CLUES**

**Across**

- 1 See 23 Across
- 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8 Invalid (4)
- 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who – up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
- 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of – to work it and take – of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

**Down**

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
- 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4 'The one I kiss is the man; – him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in – , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7 Swirling current of water (4)
- 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was – , to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16 'There is still – – – Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)



# SUDOKO

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# SHIPTON GORGE

Village Correspondent: Barbara Chambers  
WEST COURT, BROOK STREET, SHIPTON GORGE  
bc74@btinternet.com TEL: 01308 897482



## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

### June Floodlight Sponsors

I was being rather optimistic last month when I suggested that the current situation would be almost over. However, life in Shipton Gorge carries on regardless in many ways and we can but hope for happier, sunny days ahead. The church, whilst remaining closed at this time, is still lit up and shining over our beautiful countryside, thanks to our sponsors.

The lights shine for:

Our farming community,

Doreen , for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this month.

Jo Warren :Memories of a happy day

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

Jo Warren for those special people in the NHS.

Ed & Linda Buck

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to light up St Martin's for any reason, be it a special occasion, or a memory and we do need sponsors for the next few months.

Please contact Phyl on 01308 898657 or if you prefer, push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post box.

Many thanks.

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Whilst **Parish Council Meetings** are unable to take place as normal, the council's work continues and is being dealt with by the clerk and individual councillors. If any member of the public or press wishes to comment, or bring an issue to the notice of the Parish Council during this time, please contact the clerk at [clerk@shiptongorge.org.uk](mailto:clerk@shiptongorge.org.uk) or phone 01308-898189.

The next scheduled meeting is due on 8<sup>th</sup> July depending on circumstances. Please check the website [www.shiptongorge.org.uk](http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk) later for information on whether this will be going ahead.

Thank you.

While the Covid-19 Restrictions have changed allowing greater flexibility for some, there are many in our village who are shielded or still self-isolating for the next month or more. **The Self-Isolation Network and Buddy Scheme** set up during March is still operating to provide support to these people and to any others in the parish who need assistance of any sort. So please do get in touch with any of the contacts if you, or someone you know, needs help over these difficult weeks.

Many of us have enjoyed our daily exercise walks and the footpaths and bridleways in the parish have been noticeably busier than usual as we all re-discover routes we haven't walked for a long time. We have had a number of footpath issues raised over the past couple of months, but if you notice any paths that are not easy to negotiate or stiles that need attention please do contact our Footpath Liaison Office, Wally Axford, who lives at High Rigg in Icen Lane, by phoning **01308-425781**

## **SHIPTON GORGE HERITAGE**

Regrettably we had to cancel our popular **Breakfast Café Event** in May due to restrictions on social distancing, but we are planning to add some extra events to our calendar for later in the year. We will let you know further details during the next few months.

This is the time of year when bees often swarm, and so you may have noticed that we have a bait beehive in the Orchard, where a local bee-keeper is hoping that any swarms looking for a new home make take up residence! The box is well out of reach of children and there are warning notices of bees possibly being present, and we are excited to think that we may have a swarm in the coming weeks.

*Mary Boughton –Chairman*

## SHIPTON GORGE 100 CLUB. May draw

£25 No 101 Jackie and Jerry Pyke

£10 No 106 Roger Sorrell

£5 No 6 Lyn Spiller

Congratulations to all the winners. I will distribute winnings when it is safe to do so.

A nice surprise then when you do receive it.

*Graham Garner*

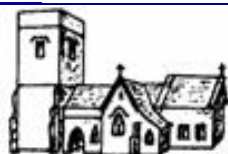
## LONG BREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: SUSAN DYER

TEL: 482882

EMAIL: [bvn@longbredy.org.uk](mailto:bvn@longbredy.org.uk)

Website - [www.longbredy.org.uk](http://www.longbredy.org.uk)



## St Peter's Church

[LONG BREDY 100 CLUB](#)

### April 2020 Draw

£30 no. 74 D Dowling

£15 no. 71 R Maltby

£5 no. 104 H Howell

Drawn on 26/04/2020 At 11 The Gardens By Charlotte Dave and Ruth  
Keeping social distancing

### VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Despite the current situation, Long Bredy did not forget and VE DAY was celebrated with enthusiasm and gusto whilst still observing social distancing rules. Loud speakers were strategically placed in the village to ensure as many people as possible could take part and specially prepared songbooks were made available for everyone. Early evening the air raid siren sounded and this was followed by the Dambusters March and the theme tune of 633 Squadron. Then followed about an hour of singing all the good old wartime songs and the evening finished with the air raid siren sounding the all clear. It was heart-warming to see such a mix of ages and for all who took part it was a real boost to morale. Many thanks to all those behind the scenes and particularly to Andrew and Eve who organised the music, the song books and the loud speakers.

## THE LONG BREDY SUMMER EVENT

Sadly, due to the present circumstances we have had to postpone this year's summer event due to be held over the weekend of the 19th, 20th and 21st June.

Never fear we will be holding our Open Gardens, Boat Racing, Dog Show and much more in 2021 over the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June. Do make a date in your diaries now as it will be an event not to be missed!

### LITTLEBREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: PHILIP WILLIAMS

Email: [pw@bridehead.com](mailto:pw@bridehead.com) Tel: 482232



### St Michael and All Angels

If there were any doubts about the strains of living under lockdown which were bearing down elsewhere much more than in our rural Bride valley surroundings, they would have been dispelled by the explosion of visitors into the Bridehead Grounds once the partial loosening of the restrictions was announced during May. With other tourist attractions in the area still closed, it was clear that word about the lake and the waterfall had gone round, and dozens of cars brought families galore to enjoy the sunshine, freedom, peace and surroundings, especially over the Bank Holiday weekend. Whether they all kept social distancing from each other cannot be known, but there should have been no risk to residents assuming we kept our distance, and we trust that the good for people enjoying their taste of relaxation will turn out to exceed any potential risk.

They will have been entertained by the village's latest residents: the seven cygnets which hatched on May 8th to the first pair of swans to come and live on the lake for several years. Let their presence among us be a physical reminder of the new life and liberty which awaits us all once this time of trouble is over.

Just as a matter of interest, I see this is my 300th contribution to the magazine – according to my computer I first wrote the Littlebredy text in June 1995 for the July edition. Astonishing that in this tiny community there has never once been nothing to write about – or if there has I've covered up for it somehow..

**Thankyou to all correspondents from the Editor. You keep the BVN going!!!**

# BURTON BRADSTOCK

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT Bryan Brown 10

Howarth Close Burton Bradstock DT6 4SD

Telephone 01308-897421 [bvnburton@gmail.com](mailto:bvnburton@gmail.com).



## Burton Bradstock Coronavirus Support Joint Notice

The Village Society, Burton Online and the Parish Council will continue their efforts to keep you in the know about what's available until we return to or reach a possibly new normal!

- The BB Helpline number is 07425 412105 or email [burtonbradstock-villagehelp@gmail.com](mailto:burtonbradstock-villagehelp@gmail.com) If you need help please call/mail, and similarly if you want to volunteer to give help.
- Information and advice has been “centralised” on the BB Village Website <https://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/> The home page shows services available in Burton Bradstock, while the “Coronavirus Help” drop down menu shows a range of information. In particular, the “Village Info and Support” page has links to a wide range of services, facilities and advice available in the Bridport area and more widely, together with on-line entertainment and well-being services.
- A regular email Update is being sent out. To join (or opt out) of the circulation contact [roger.ashman30@gmail.com](mailto:roger.ashman30@gmail.com)
- The notice board outside the Reading Room shows the BB services available and a shortlist of those from Bridport. Please bring this to the attention of anyone you know who is without internet access.

We will endeavour to keep the information up to date. If you know of any changes or want something added, please contact Fiona Lomax on [fionalomax55@hotmail.com](mailto:fionalomax55@hotmail.com) , Roger Ashman on [roger.ashman30@gmail.com](mailto:roger.ashman30@gmail.com) or Graham Moody on [moodys@btinternet.com](mailto:moodys@btinternet.com)

Keep Safe – Stay Healthy

*BB Village Society, BB Online and BB Parish Council*

*May 2020*

## Great News about the Plant Sale

I am delighted to report that a total of £678, mostly in IOU's, was taken at the Sale on Saturday 9th May. Many thanks go to Pat & Peter, Jan & Colin, Cilla & Trevor, Helen & John, Christine & John and Linda & Tom for hosting their individual 'stalls' so pleasantly and efficiently. Thank you very much to everyone who donated plants and all who came to buy. Many villagers enjoyed just having a gentle walk and the opportunity to see friends, albeit at a distance, on such a lovely sunny day, and two of the sites are shown in the pictures below.



The next Plant Sale will be on Saturday 6th June on similar lines but, as well as plants, we would welcome donations of jam, marmalade, chutney and cakes. These can be left between 4pm and 6pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at one of the following stall venues:

Casterbridge or Wayside, Annings Lane  
3 Bindbarrow  
10 Howarth Close

The Sale will take place between 10am and 12.30pm, and once again is for Burton villagers only. Payment will be by IOU and after the event we will contact 'debtors' (currently totalling 105 on the spreadsheet!) to call in their dues from both May and June sales. Please remember all the usual distancing rules apply to keep everyone safe and happy.

*Sue Brown*  
897421

## **Burton Bradstock Church Fete Cancelled**

It has been decided that the Burton Bradstock Church Fete, due to be held on Thursday 6 August 2020 will be cancelled.

Prior to taking this decision, the rector, churchwardens and fete team's thoughts centred around the likelihood that it would attract many people from outside the village and wider afield, that it would be impractical to maintain social distancing, that there could be risks in handling items on sale, and that the residents of our village might well be very concerned that we would be taking unnecessary risks.

Just like the village fayre, both events rely solely on the support and involvement of a substantial number of residents from our community, and other contributors. We have always been so very grateful for their commitment, and considered it inappropriate to cause unnecessary anguish to the very same residents that have been so helpful in past years.

We appreciate that this may be very disappointing for many of our residents, but consider it an appropriate course of action in the circumstances.

***Peter Tompkins***

**Friends of Burton Bradstock Library (FBBL)**

Writing this report in the middle of May our Library remains closed. Dorset Council are working on ways to safely re-open the Libraries when government guidance permits, in the meantime, they have put together a number of articles on their Libraries web page which you may find of interest. They range from help with children's activities and schooling, to providing help over the phone with your computer queries. You will find the information at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries-history-culture/libraries/libraries.aspx>.

Some people have already asked me about returning books and jigsaws, I am sorry they are cluttering up your house, but if you can hang on to them a bit longer we will come up with a way to have them all returned when the time comes.

Stay Safe

*Rosemary Daniels*



A selection of pictures taken during walks for permitted exercise in our quiet and peaceful Bride Valley. Thanks Jill.



We were very disappointed not to be meeting in May and hearing our speaker, Cheryl Ludgate, who is an absolute Second World War fanatic and was going to start off our celebrations to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. Cheryl was equally disappointed not to be able to come but hopefully we shall look forward to hearing her talk about “Wartime Weddings” in the not too distant future.

Some WI members, however, were able to have their own celebrations still and sat out in their front gardens with next door neighbours in theirs – at the recommended safe distance – and celebrated with an afternoon tea and/ or drinks and snacks. Flags, bunting and streamers were in abundance and appropriate war time music was played, although it is difficult to know exactly when “We’ll meet again”. Even so, it was quite interesting to learn how loudly you had to shout across the road in order to be heard, but where there’s a will there’s a way!

The general opinion of WI members during lockdown is that they have been enjoying the slower pace of life, particularly with less traffic around in the village and have treasured the time to be able to “stand and stare”, admire the abundance of flowers and bees around, listen to the increased clarity of birdsong. The weather has been a great advantage in enabling us to keep up with our daily exercise but here we must spare a thought for our “at risk” members who have had to stay in for twelve weeks and we congratulate them on their patience. We are so glad that everyone has kept safe and well.

Some members have noticed how people we meet when we are out and about are generally more pleasant and happy to pass the time of day with a quick chat and thus they have been getting to know more people in the village than before. There is certainly even more of a community spirit in the village during these troubled times, if that is possible, for which we are all so grateful. Particular thanks must go to the Village Post Office and Shop for continuing to serve us in a safe and well-thought out way.

During the lockdown members have also been spending their time catching up on knitting and sewing projects, reading books that they’ve never got round to before and catching up with studying or hobbies. One member has been practising her French and can recommend Duolingo.com, which is free and covers several languages. A ten minute practice session a day will surely

be of benefit for when we are able to go abroad again!

And then, finally, there is the stalwart sewing team – as well as many other individuals - who are continuing to make scrubs, scrubs bags and headbands for the local NHS workers and carers.

Billy Bragg was obviously impressed as he dedicated a YouTube video of himself playing “Jerusalem” for the “members of Burton Bradstock WI who have been making protective wear for Harbour House” – find it on Facebook! Thank you Billy – we were very touched by that and it meant a lot!

As before the WI wishes everyone well and hopes you are bearing up and keeping safe during this difficult time.

*Janet Pearson*  
01308 898346



**Oh to be in England  
When we can walk out free  
To visit friends and family  
We long to go and see**

**Although the zoom and facetime  
Has really been a boon  
To return to nearly normal  
Cannot come too soon**

**To have my dinner cooked for me  
Will really make me jolly  
To mooch around the shops again  
And spend my saved up lolly**

**To go to Groves will be so great  
When I'm allowed outside our gate  
My Bamboos standing tall and stout  
Waiting for some beans to sprout.**

**So come on Boris, set us free  
I need to go on a spending spree!**

*Nova*



## Report from 'Friends of the Post Office' – June 2020

The way in which many rural farm shops around the country have responded to the lock-down caused by the Coronavirus, by primarily providing delivery services, has been truly remarkable.

Burton Bradstock's Maydown Farm Shop was well to the fore with this new way of retailing for them. After a boost to their sales in January and February from more customer activity and consequently a more optimistic outlook for them, they turned to this different business model; by now taking each of our individual phoned orders, doing the shopping for us, and then delivering the order in a Weekly Food Box to our front doors!

Of course some villagers prefer to call into the shop as needed, and all business is much appreciated – especially as the Post Office side has for the moment gone somewhat quiet. But for many of us who used to perhaps get a limited quantity of our groceries from this village Farm Shop, that usage is now much larger, thanks to the delivery and the quality of local lamb, local pork, local beef, local 'Dorchester Farm' chicken, local eggs, bread, fresh fruit and vegetables, etc., supplied to our door. (If anyone would like to comment on their new Food Box supplies please let me know at [john.grantham4@btinternet.com](mailto:john.grantham4@btinternet.com) and I'll summarise comments here next month.)

We understand that Pete and Gill and family intend to continue this personal order/home delivery service into the future. This will help ensure the viability, for the long-term, of a thriving, vital village shop, able to provide its many services to us all, locals and visitors. It's a really good team effort – Villagers and Shop. Please call the Post Office/Farm Shop on 897243 if you'd like to join the weekly Food Box service – your individual order delivered free to your door – minimum order £10.

*Cupboard Love Food Bank* is very grateful for the box of food contributions received each week from the Shop. Nationally, the need for food bank supplies has increased around 80% since the pandemic, and in Bridport too there is a much stronger demand. (Food products can be taken in to, or bought at, the Shop, or an item as a contribution can be added when customers phone in their Food Box order. Cash contributions for £10 or more can be taken separately by credit/debit card which Gill converts into packs.)

This is not the best of times. But thanks to the Mayos... 'Responding to market needs' doesn't do justice to what they have achieved! They have made things so much easier for us, especially those who have to self-isolate and should not go out.

*John Grantham, Coordinator of Friends Group*

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## BURTON BRADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council held a planning meeting in April and its first full Parish Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May, all the Councillors were able to attend via computer, laptop, mobile or tablet. There is also the facility to attend via the landline. Members of the public are welcome.

The Parish Council approved the Annual Accounts and other day to day business during the meeting.



**Play Area Project** - PLEASE NOTE THAT WHILST THE LOCKDOWN IS IN FORCE THE PLAY AREA IS STILL CLOSED THIS INCLUDES THE ZIP WIRE.

**BT Phone Box** - The Parish Council has adopted the BT Phone box and we are looking for ideas on its future use, please let us know your ideas.....

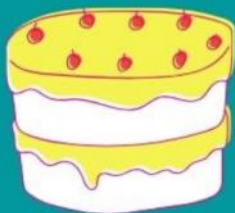
All the information and supporting documents for meetings is available on the Parish Council website prior to meetings [burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org/](http://burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org/) we will aim to continue meeting on the dates publicised being the first Weds of each month except August and include any meetings to consider planning items.

Clerk: Mrs Michele Harding- email:

[theclerk@burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org](mailto:theclerk@burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org)

Tel: 07814 016971. Website: [www.burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org](http://www.burtonbradstockparishcouncil.org)

Bridport  
Museum



# #Bake Bridport

June 2020

## History in the Baking!

June is #BakeBridport month!

Because we are missing the Food Festival this year, we would love everyone to bake a cake inspired by your love of our town's history.

The rules are simple:

1. Bake and decorate a cake or biscuit inspired by either a Bridport building or landmark, or your favourite Bridport Museum object
2. Take a photograph or a short video to share your creation and post it on the Museum's Facebook, Twitter or Instagram feeds, with the hashtag #BakeBridport to be included in the competition!

It's also a great opportunity to support our wonderful local business by buying local at one of the great shops listed on our website.

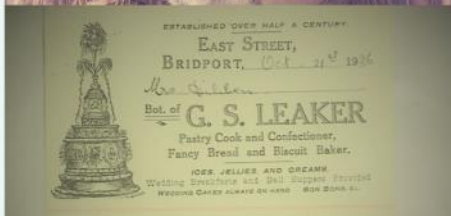
Entries can be posted any time until 30 June.

Our panel of independent judges will each pick their favourite entry based on the creativity and originality of entries, with winners announced early July!

*Find out more on our website... and get baking!*



*What will you make, ammonite, tiger or Town Hall?*



*Don't forget to #shoplocal!*

[bridportmuseum.co.uk](http://bridportmuseum.co.uk)



@bridportmuseum

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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## SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

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8	4	1	2	5	3	7	6	9
7	6	9	8	4	1	2	5	3
3	2	5	9	1	7	6	8	4
6	7	8	3	2	4	9	1	5
9	1	4	5	8	6	3	2	7
4	3	2	6	9	5	1	7	8
5	8	7	1	3	2	4	9	6
1	9	6	4	7	8	5	3	2

1	5	8	4	3	7	6	9	2
7	2	9	1	8	6	4	5	3
4	3	6	5	2	9	1	7	8
3	7	4	8	1	2	5	6	9
8	9	2	6	7	5	3	4	1
5	6	1	3	9	4	8	2	7
6	1	7	9	4	8	2	3	5
2	8	5	7	6	3	9	1	4
9	4	3	2	5	1	7	8	6

## **A Cry to Save the County Town    April 2020**

As Town Crier of Dorchester I am often asked to give my 'Home Cry', particularly in competitions. As the title suggests, this is a cry extolling some of the virtues and telling some of the stories of the town I represent. My Home Cry, which has to be limited to a maximum of 125 words, goes like this:

**OYEZ ! OYEZ ! OYEZ !**

**Dorchester, an ancient place, with stone-age wooden henge ,Stands  
beside the river Frome – a hundred miles from Penge!**

**We've Celtic Maiden Castle, sacked when the Romans came,  
Who built fine 'Durnovaria', much of which remains.**

**Through pestilence, fires, war and crises To dreaded Judge Jeffreys  
and his Bloody Assizes.**

**The Tolpuddle Martyrs, long owed their pardons, Still haunt the  
Court, the Walks, the Gardens.**

**The 'Casterbridge' of Hardy continues still to thrive ,While the poet-  
ry of Barnes keeps the dialect alive.**

**Today the Prince's Poundbury is reaching to the west ,I trust that  
you will relish Dorchester, one of the best.**

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN**

As you can see there's plenty to celebrate, commemorate and enjoy in Dorset's county town, and many of the lines have a resonance far beyond the county boundary. And there's plenty more - Maumbury Rings, the Dorset County Museum, currently undergoing a £13 million National Lottery-funded extension, the displays in the Keep Museum showing the centuries of action by the Dorset Regiment - the County Hospital, the Dorset History Centre and the architectural splendour of High West and High East Streets. Therefore I truly believe all of Dorset's residents can and should be proud of their county town.

However, Dorchester is facing a truly fundamental and irreversible threat; a change that would destroy forever one of its most singular and precious aspects, its rural setting. Current plans by landowners, farmers and



developers, including Persimmon, to build 4000 homes on the downland immediately beyond the water meadows to the north of the town would obliterate the uniqueness of Dorchester's setting. It would mean loss of farmland and the destruction of wildlife habitats, while compromising sites of archaeological interest – including a putative Bronze Age cemetery and a deserted village. It will, inevitably, place an enormously increased strain on the education, health and other public services in the town.

It would be both foolish and completely unrealistic to expect Dorchester to be the same today as it was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; but surely we should, if at all possible, both respect and preserve the most vital characteristics of its long and fascinating past? To lose this quintessential aspect of its setting by the water meadows of the river Frome and the rolling downs to the north, so vividly described by Thomas Hardy, amounts to cultural vandalism.

Dorset Council is currently putting together a new Local Plan for the whole of the rural county (excluding the former Purbeck District Council area). Although there has so far been NO public engagement with the new Plan, it's likely this 4000 home development to the north of Dorchester will be included as a "preferred option". The questions we should all be given the chance to answer are:

**'What do we want the county of Dorset to be like in the future?' and 'What should or should not be incorporated into any vision of the future for Dorset?'**

Finally, but most importantly and particularly pertinent to this threat, Dorset Council declared a Climate and Ecological Crisis at its first meeting in May 2019 and since then we've had the Covid 19 Emergency which may well have profound long-term effects. Surely any Local Plan for the much-enlarged Dorset Council area over the next 15 to 20 years must take account of these critical issues and be very different from former, more traditional versions of any Local Plan?

If we act now and act together, while the Local Plan is still being processed and final decisions have yet to be made, we might yet stop this despoiling of our county town.

**Write/email your Member of Parliament and copy your letter to your County Councillor and Cllr. David Walsh, the Dorset Council Cabinet Member for Planning.**

I've expressed my concerns on this matter in the following cry:

**OYEZ ! OYEZ ! OYEZ !**

**We are facing our finale, if we lose our northern edge, If we lose this open country with each tree and ancient hedge.**

**We are a very special town, our Roman bounds unchanged; Should we despoil two thousand years?**

**Do you believe we'll gain? A few will make a fortune, but what's in it for us?**

**Promises are plentiful, but often turn to dust! Twill be sad enough to lose the view, The loss of farmland we shall rue.**

**They'll not be building the homes we need, For their only concern is to feed their greed.**

**We've saved this town in times long past, Let's do it once more and ensure it lasts.**

## **GOD SAVE THE QUEEN**

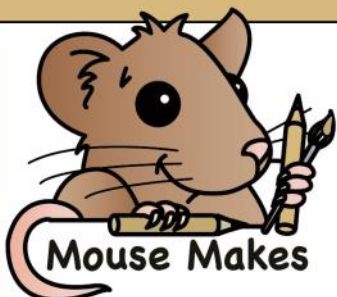
The views expressed in this article are my own. However some 3000 people have signed the 38 degrees petition opposing this development which can be accessed from the STAND website. Dorchester Town Council have grave reservations about this development proposal as do the neighbouring parishes of Stinsford and Charminster. The Thomas Hardy Society is fiercely opposed to development in this important literary landscape which features in a number of the author's novels, poems and short stories. The Dorchester Civic Society is against this development and the STAND campaign is supported by the Dorset branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)

For further information and pictures about this threat to the county town I refer you to the website of the campaign group "STAND" (Save The Area North of Dorchester):

[www.stand-dorchester.net](http://www.stand-dorchester.net)

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When Nehemiah heard that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins he sat down and wept. For days he fasted and prayed before God.

Finally the opportunity came for him to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, but it was not going to be easy...

**READ** Nehemiah's story in the *Old Testament* book of **Nehemiah**, chapters 1-7

Here is Nehemiah's list of all the things that needed to be done to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Fill in the missing gaps on the tower to help rebuild the wall.

- PRAY
- RUBBLE
- REPAIR
- RESTORE
- BUILD
- WORK
- STONE
- TIMBER
- WALLS
- FLOOR
- ROOF
- CELEBRATE
- GATE
- BEAM
- BOLT
- BAR
- STEP
- TOWER
- HOUSE
- POOL
- FINISH
- DEDICATE
- DOOR

How many gates were repaired?  
Who re-built them?

How long did it take to finish the walls?

