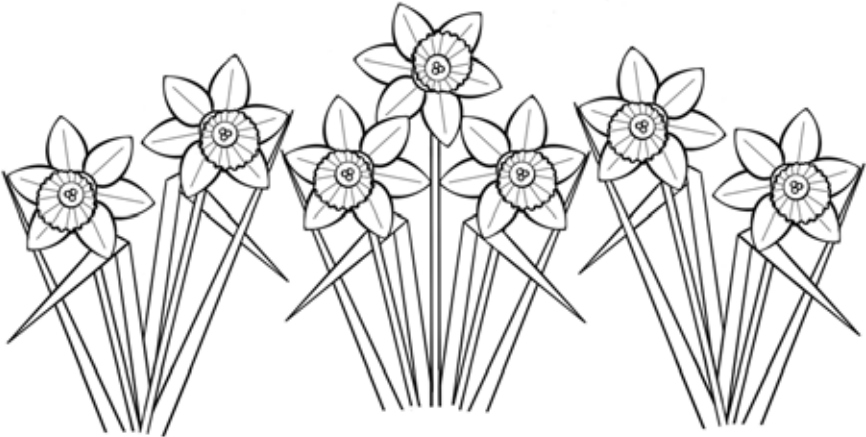


BRIDE VALLEY NEWS



March 2024

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

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April 2024 issue deadlines: Articles, photographs, etc must be sent to the appropriate Village Correspondent (contact details at the head of each village section) by Friday 8th March for the April issue. Contributions from outside the Bride Valley should be emailed to bvnburton@gmail.com. Handwritten or typed copy should be delivered to village correspondents well before the deadline. Correspondents are asked to send copy to the Editor by 9.00am on 11th March please. Please contact bvctc@outlook.com for information on advertising in the BVN. Articles, notices and advertisements in this magazine may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the Editor or the people and organisations funding and supporting the BVN. Copies of the BVN, in colour, can be found at bvnl.org.uk or on the Bride Valley village websites.

Note: Contributors are asked to note that space in the BVN is strictly limited and the Editor reserves the right to edit submissions and cannot guarantee that items will be included.

The Bride Valley News is delivered to every home in the valley and carries news of local church services, local societies, activities, clubs and businesses, making sure we all know what is going on in the Valley. It is entirely produced and distributed by volunteers. Donations to help us continue to provide the magazine would be welcome and if you feel able to contribute - please make a BACS payment to:
Account: 'Bride Valley Churches Team Council', Sort code 30-91-21
Account number 00074071.....and please quote BVN.

The Bride Valley & Chesil Churches

St Mary The Virgin: Burton Bradstock
St Mary: Litton Cheney
St Michael & All Angels: Littlebredy
St Peter: Long Bredy
Chilcombe (dedication unknown)
St Mary The Blessed Virgin: Puncknowle
St Martin: Shipton Gorge
Holy Trinity: Swyre
St Nicholas, Abbotsbury
St Peter's, Portesham
St Peter's, Langton Herring

Rev'd Margaret Preuss-Higham (01305) 873978
Reader: James Webster (01308) 898657

To enquire about Baptism, Marriage and Funeral arrangements in the Bride Valley Churches please contact Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator, on 01308 897260 (email BVchurchesTA@outlook.com) or for the Chesil Churches please contact Rev'd Margaret at the number above, or email revmph@gmail.com

Retirement of James Webster

After many years of Ministry in the Bride Valley, our Licensed Lay Minister, James Webster, will be retiring at the end of this month. James has dedicated much of his time, after retirement from his first career, to supporting worship across our area and his commitment and enthusiasm has been much appreciated by everyone. So, we would just like to say thankyou James for all you have done!

James' final service, where he will lead the prayers, is at Abbotsbury on Easter Day at 11.00am.

From the Rectory

Whether we are gardeners or not there's something special about seeing fresh shoots breaking through the dark soil, and to hear that lovely word echoing in our minds - *SPRING!*

God speaks to us in many ways. But two special ways that he has chosen, and that the Bible shows us, are seen in Creation and in Christ Spring is a God-given reminder to us of the promise of new life, and fresh hope. Don't you feel a sense of excitement and joy when you see the snowdrops in the valley's gardens?

God has chosen to reveal himself and his truths to everyone by means of his amazing creation.

The second sign regarding new life and hope, that also comes at springtime, is seen in Jesus Christ. In fact, Jesus linked the two together when he told his followers in John 12:24 'A grain of wheat is alone until it falls into the ground. There it dies and produces life and the promise of fruit'. Knowing the future, Jesus gave this word to the world about Easter - how he had come to die, be buried in the earth, and then three days later burst into life and bring life for all. When life seems at its darkest, bleakest, and most unproductive, look to Creation, and look to Jesus Christ who brings life out of death, and find hope. Jesus' friend, Peter wrote in 1 Peter 1:3, 'Thanks be to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His super-abundant mercy has birthed us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' WOW.

Have a happy Springtime and a joyful and faith-filled Easter.
God bless you all, *Ryder*

Who Do You Think You Are?

For those at the eastern end of our new joint Benefice, I am Ryder and live with my wife Heather in Burton Bradstock. I was first ordained into the ministry in 1968 as a Baptist minister. After serving in Tiverton and then Brixham, my wife and I were set aside to start a church from zero on a new housing estate in Luton. Eight years later, leaving a fully functioning church of about 80, we were sent for 10 years as missionaries to what for 50 years

had been a hard-line communist atheistic Albania state, that proclaimed in its constitution 'there is no God in Albania'

In 1993 their new found democracy gave us the freedom and joy of introducing people who had never heard anything about Christianity to Jesus and seeing churches start and grow from zero into lively communities of faith.

In 2004 we returned to the UK and in 2006 I was licensed, with my wife, to help Bob in Burton by starting family services, and to share in other church activities.

In 2008 I was ordained into the Church of England as an Anglican priest to serve in the diocese as a Locally Ordained Minister. My greatest joy has always been to teach God's Word, and especially to explain the Gospel, helping young and old to meet, follow, and serve Jesus Christ.

As Charles Wesley wrote in one of his hymns Happy if with my latest breath, I might but gasp his name. Preach him to all, and cry in death: 'Behold, behold the Lamb'

Ryder

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

Within the Bride Valley Churches there is a small team of Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPA's) who are available for anybody throughout our community. responding to any need, great or small, for pastoral care. If you need help please contact the Churchwardens, Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator (01308 897260) or one of the Lay Pastoral Assistants who are:
Cathryn Johnson 01308 897169, Pauline Woodford (Burton Bradstock only) 01308 898327, Jenny Malyon 01308 898768 or Liz Orza 01308 897451.

Church Floodlighting

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

From the Registers

Funerals:

Lesley Keatley 24th January at Burton Bradstock

Barbara Moxom (of Litton Cheney) 6th February at Weymouth Crematorium

Mike Conway 9th February at Burton Bradstock

Memorial Service

David Jones 9th February at Swyre

Burial of Ashes

Frances Zoe Elder 8th February at Litton Cheney

Mr and Mrs Blackmore 22nd February at Burton Bradstock

Mary Gilham 23rd February at Burton Bradstock

Baptisms

Savanah and Elijah Carrington 25th February at Litton Cheney

Is Mothering Sunday difficult for you?

All Bride Valley and Chesil Churches are open in daylight hours for anyone who needs a quiet space, but on

Saturday 10th March, between 2 and 4pm,

there will be Pastoral Assistants in the

Lady Chapel at Burton Bradstock

for those who would welcome a listening ear.

Whatever your story, whether you're grieving the loss of a mother, the loss of a child, or a baby through miscarriage, whether you're struggling with infertility or childlessness, singleness or a difficult relationship, whether you never even knew your mother or any other reason why you might find Mothering Sunday painful, this quiet, reflective space has been designed with you in mind. It will be an informal gathering, either to sit quietly, to light a candle, say a prayer or to chat over a cuppa.

For further information please contact Liz 07799333205 or bvchurchesta@outlook.com



Watch and Pray invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent; in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.

**Easter Reflections Through Music - Weds 27th March
6.30pm**

St Mary's, Litton Cheney

Join Paul Cheater, organist, as he leads us on a spiritual journey to the Cross, through organ music that is not always comfortable to hear, and silent prayer.

**Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion - Thurs 28th March
7pm**

St Peter's, Long Bredy

**Good Friday - Litany 10am
St Martin's, Shipton Gorge**

Holy Week Special Services

BRIDE VALLEY CAR SERVICE

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

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

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

Calls cannot be taken at weekends.



Burton Bradstock CE Primary School

We have had a very busy half term, filled with lots of trips,

visits and learning!

On Thursday 1st February, the whole school were treated to a trip to the Electric Palace to see the Bridport Pantomime Players' rendition of Cinderella. The children (and adults) had a great time; thank you to the Friends of School and Bridport Round Table for funding the trip!



Despite the dreary, wet weather, 14 children from Burton took part in a cross-country event at Beaminster School at the end of January. All children ran to the best of their ability on a long, awkward course. Poppy in Year 6 did particularly well coming 1st in the Year 5/6 event. Erin and Sophie also deserve a special mention as they came 4th and 5th in the Year 3/4 race. As a school we performed brilliantly with the year 3/4 and 5/6 girls receiving a bronze medal each.



Children in The Nest have had a very busy half term! As part of their night and day topic, they have learnt about nocturnal animals, have had a visit from Xtreme falconry when they met some owls, made a 'dark den' in their classroom and also learnt about the moon and stars amongst many other things!



Adam Gough Headteacher



Thorners CE VA School

The children are about to enjoy a well-earned break after another busy half term.



Although a short term - the children have had dance lessons, drama assemblies, art clubs, netball practices, plastic free school workshops, a trip to the pantomime, drum lessons, choir, a trip to Hooke Court for an Anglo Saxon day, an NSPCC assembly, creative writing workshops, a Church service, celebrated Chinese New Year and created 3D

animations on their IPADS!

Please see below for a selection of photos that give a flavour of all that the children have been up to!

Mike Sitch
Headmaster



Our Night Sky in February 2024

Jupiter will be setting about 22.00 hrs in the middle of the month, followed by Orion an hour later. Mars and Saturn will be rising in the East but will be lost in the morning sunshine.



The Hubble Space Telescope captured an image of a stellar explosion throwing out sheets of debris in the nearby Large Magellanic Cloud galaxy on July 7, 2003. Since its 1990 launch, Hubble has changed our fundamental understanding of the universe; with over 1.5 million observations and 20,000+ papers published on its discoveries, Hubble is the most productive science mission in the history of NASA. Another image, this time of Saturn taken in 2020 by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Two of Saturn's icy moons are clearly visible and Hubble found a number of small atmospheric storms. These are transient features that appear to come and go with each yearly Hubble observation.

The banding in the northern hemisphere remains pronounced as seen in Hubble's 2019 observations, with several bands slightly changing colour from year to year. The ringed planet's atmosphere is mostly hydrogen and helium with traces of ammonia, methane, water vapour, and hydrocarbons that give it a yellowish-brown colour. Hubble photographed a slight reddish haze over the northern hemisphere. This may be due to heating from increased sunlight, which could either change the atmospheric circulation or perhaps remove ices from aerosols in the atmosphere. Another theory is that the increased sunlight in the summer months is changing the amounts of photochemical haze produced. Hubble's sharp view resolved the finely etched concentric ring structure. The rings are mostly made of pieces of ice, with sizes ranging from tiny grains to giant boulders. Just how and when the rings formed remains one of our solar system's biggest mysteries.

I do recommend visiting NASA's web site where you can find not only brilliant Hubble images, but also those from the James Webb telescope – a veritable feast for the eyes!

Bill Turnill

Book Review: Bride Valley Book Group

The Shut Eye by Belinda Bauer

Several of us were familiar with Belinda Bauer - especially her compelling novel "Exit". This novel met with a more muted response. "The Shut Eye" is about a search for the missing and how grief can change people but also drive them towards truth. Some of us found the characters difficult to engage with especially the main character, Detective Marvel. The term "shut eye" refers to a skilled magician/illusionist who becomes convinced of their own psychic powers. Some of us felt that elements of the story struggled to cohere and we were sceptical about the psychic dimension of the plot. The subject matter - two separate child abductions - was harrowing but this sat uncomfortably next to the comedic narrative about the missing poodle. The novel's ending does resolve the mysteries of the abductions and there is real tension as the wet concrete is poured into the garage disused inspection pit where the children had been secreted. The blurred lines between reality and paranormal phenomena continue right up until end and the safe recovery of the youngest victim. Initially treating the psychic church leader as a fraud - Bauer does attribute convincing "second sight" perceptions to him and also to Anna, mother of the missing boy. Anna descends into a febrile nightmare of madness in which she "sees" symbols which she fails to comprehend. Most intriguing was the character of Ang Nu, an ethnic Chinese Hmong teenager, illegally trafficked and now employed exploitively by a local garage owner. He is treated as an almost incidental character until Bauer reveals him as central to the novel's complex puzzle. There was a profound message here about illegally trafficked victims - possibly underplayed by the author.

Liz Pinfield

The Bride Valley WI

The Bride Valley WI started the year with a Belly Dancing session. Shona came to teach us the basics and donning our scarves and bells we made a valiant effort to learn the moves. Maybe not the best belly dancers in Dorset but a fun evening was enjoyed by all. The WI will be hosting a Cafe at The Latch on Saturday 23rd March. 10-12. Come and sample the WI's Baps. Buy a cake and enter the raffle. See you all there. The skittles team played valiantly in their semi-final against Wool B team on 30th January, but unfortunately, they lost by 1 point. A huge well done to the team for making

it so far this year.

The Bride Valley WI meet at the Village Hall, Puncknowle every third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Come along and see if it's for you. Email Bridevalleywi@gmail.com.

Bride Valley Gardening Club

Welcome to Spring

On Monday 18th March, the Gardening Club will start a new calendar of meetings at LATCH with, as usual, excellent talks. To whet your appetite, these have been arranged on a broad range of subjects: bulbs, shrubs, compost making, shade plants, carnivorous plants and wild flower photography – all given by engaging speakers who are enthusiastic experts. We are also hosting a Celebrity Lecture on 'Grasses' given by Neil Lucas of Knoll Gardens in June and another super Flower and Produce Show is planned for July.



Everyone, gardeners and non-gardeners alike, will be enjoying the sight of spring unfolding before their very eyes; snowdrops will mostly be over but scillas, muscari, daffodils and tulips are following, brightening our lives wherever we go. So it is with great pleasure that we will be welcoming Chris Ireland-Jones, owner of Avon Bulbs to give a talk on 'Bulbs Through the Seasons' at our first meeting this year, no doubt introducing us to some less familiar bulbs alongside traditional favourites. Chelsea Gold winners for 31 years, after which they decided a break from exhibiting was called for, Avon Bulbs as we know it today will close at the end of April. Chris has agreed to share their accumulated expertise at this landmark time for him, no doubt sharing reflections and anecdotes spanning the years spent building the business. A selection of their plants will be on sale and we hope you will come and enjoy this evening with him. Members, why not bring a friend, who might be encouraged to join the club? Visitors are always welcome. The village hall doors will open at 7.00pm to allow members to pay their £8 annual subscription, for socialising over a glass of wine and the purchase of plants prior to the talk at 7.30pm.

The AGM, when we will be seeking to elect new officers, will be held at the same times on Monday 15th April. Following the AGM there will be a talk by Julian Sutton of Desirable Plants, Totnes, on 'A History of Garden Plants in

Twelve Shrubs' – not an exhausting talk about plant hunters, but a new talk much more diverse than that!
See you there I hope,

Ali Halliday

email: balletboots@live.com

Fund Raising Events in the Bride Valley

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BRIDPORT

PRESENTS A SOUP AND PUD LUNCH
PLUS TOMBOLA IN BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL
ON 9th MARCH 2024

Doors Open from 12 Noon

Tickets £8 AVAILABLE FROM MO WILLIAMS (897512) AND MAVIS GURD (423491)
AND THE VILLAGE SHOP
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE



WHO CAN RESIST A BACON BUTTY (the best in West Dorset) SERVED TO YOU BY THE WATCHKEEPERS OF NCI LYME BAY?

WHEN: Saturday 9th March, 10:00am -12:00 noon.

WHERE: LATCH (Litton Cheney)

ON OFFER: Coffee, tea, cakes, bacon butties (to buy to eat on the spot and also to take away) as well as a raffle and other exciting things

The National Coastwatch Institution is a national charity. Each local Station must do its own fundraising.

NCI Lyme Bay (Hive Beach and Charmouth) needs your support to help us in keeping you and others safe at the coast.

Charity No. 1159975

Bride Valley Bingo Fundraising Group will be holding an Easter Bingo at LATCH, School Lane, Litton Cheney on Friday 22nd March to raise funds for Riding For The Disabled (Dorset)

Doors open 6.30pm and eyes down at 7.30pm

Great prizes: Raffle: Refreshments: Bucket Draw

All welcome, but no dogs please

Long Bredy

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



Long Bredy 100 Club January Results

£30.00	No. 5	R. Maltby
£15.00	No. 3	D & R. Cullingford
£5.00	No. 34	K. Horsley

Churchyard maintenance

Approaching the grass cutting season once more, we are seeking volunteers to help maintain the Churchyard's appearance, ensuring it remains cared for and beautiful, especially for the past generations resting there.

We currently have a dedicated group of volunteers, though they are not getting any younger, and we would sincerely appreciate additional assistance.

Operating on a rota basis, we hope to have at least two or more people working together each month. The monthly rota typically involves cutting the grass, which is usually required only once or for a special service, and this can be adjusted to accommodate everyone's schedules.

During the summer, we organise a working party to cut after the daisies have flowered. This commitment only necessitates participation once in the season, for a couple of hours. All necessary equipment and fuel are provided. If you are unable to offer practical assistance but would like to contribute financially to cover the costs of fuel and mower servicing, we would be extremely grateful. The expenses are high, and we rely on donations and fundraising efforts, which can be challenging.

For those interested in joining our team or supporting us in any way, please feel free to contact either Jackie Cain or Ruth Cullingford.

Candlelit Supper postponed

Unfortunately, the Monks have had to cancel their candlelit supper this month, but rest assured an autumn date will be arranged and there will be more details nearer the time.

Coming up in March...

Annual Village Spring Clean

The annual Village Spring Clean will be held on **Saturday, 9th March 2024**. Please meet outside the village hall at 10.00am for a route and litter picking equipment. Afterwards the village Coffee Break will be in full swing so you can enjoy a well-earned drink and slice of cake! Not only does this help to keep our village looking lovely, but it is also a great fun event and a good chance to meet up with neighbours and make new friends.

Coffee Break

The Coffee Break will take place on **Saturday, 9th March 2024** from 10.30am-12:00noon in the village hall. Join neighbours and friends to catch up and enjoy some refreshments. All are welcome!

Come Along Inn

The Come Along Inn opens its door again on **Friday, 15th March 2024** from 5.30pm to 9.00pm in the village hall. A bookable supper awaits if required and a warm welcome to all. For further information please ring 01308 482270 or email: aking44634@aol.com.

Easter at the Church

There will be no Easter services at our Church this year, but we will be having a Maundy Thursday service at 7.00pm with Holy Communion.

James Webster, who has been our Reader in the valley for over 20 years, will be retiring at Easter. His last service will be at Abbotsbury on Easter Day. We will miss him as he worked so hard during his time with us in many capacities. We wish him all the best for the future.

Recipe Corner

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



This month's recipe is LEFTOVER LETTUCE, shared by Jackie Cain

A brilliant recipe heard on the radio in the pandemic (and a household favourite). Use up that limp lettuce in the fridge that you don't know what to do with.

Ingredients: Lettuce (shredded); 2/3 spring onions (chopped); handful of frozen peas; fresh mint (chopped); drop of oil for the sauté.

Instructions

Put onions and peas in a pan with the oil and sauté for a few minutes till onions are translucent and peas defrosted. Add shredded lettuce and mint and stir fry for a couple of minutes till mixed with other ingredients. Serve! Beautiful green colour that brightens up a dull meal and is tasty.

Bon Appetit and thank you for the contribution, Jackie!

Burton Bradstock

Village Correspondent: Pat Grafton

patgrifton43@gmail.com Tel: 01308 898264

Village web-site: www.burtonbradstockvillage.org.



Notice Of Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Parish of St Mary the Virgin Burton Bradstock with Chilcombe will be held in the Church on Sunday 21st April 2024 after the 9.30am service. The meeting should start at approximately 10.45am.

You might like to consider service to the church and parish as a member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). There are several vacancies and we would be happy to discuss membership with you at any time before the APCM. There is also a vacancy for a Churchwarden. For information about this interesting and important role, or to apply, ring Ian Ibbotson (01308 898484),

Tots' Time

Thanks to convenient Christmas packaging, we were able to have our own little puppet theatre, so that Mary and Joseph could go into the 'temple' with little Jesus and meet Simeon and Anna. When Audrey told the story of the Wise Men/Kings, some Tots were later seen excitedly prancing around outside the school gates wearing glittering crowns they had made, squashed on over their woolly hats, and waving their 'telescopes'. Ro told the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt to escape bad king Herod, so we had to make Rocky Road biscuits, didn't we? The Tots ended up with sticky, brown mouths and fingers. Well, what do you expect??

We are grateful to Mr. Gough and all at the school for letting us use the school hall and kitchen on February 9th, as the church was not available. We made Valentine cards for family members and had fun with glove puppets.

Easter will be upon us by the time you read this, so please look out for this year's Easter garden in the church porch made by the children at Tots' Time (with a little help from their friends). All little people, from bumps to school age are welcome at Tots with their parents/carers. For more details ask Audrey at 897227 or Heather at 897780 or Helen at BVchurchesTA@outlook.com HAPPY EASTER from all of us at Tots' Time!

Burton Coffee Mates

Burton Coffee Mates meet in the church on the second Thursday of the month from 10.30am-12.00noon. Although everyone from the village is welcome, this is particularly suitable for older people and facilities are provided for wheelchair users. Do come and join us and if you would like more information, please call Pauline (898327).

Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Village Hall Bookings

Should you wish to use the Hall at any time, the booking officer can be contacted via email at bbvht.bookings@gmail.com or by phone on 01308 897648.

Coffee Mornings

The popular monthly coffee mornings where you can get a sensibly priced coffee/tea and cake plus a chat with friends will be held on the dates below. They run from 10:00am to 12:00noon and all are welcome.

Wed 13th March

Burton Bradstock School

Wed 10th April

St Mary's Church

Burton Bradstock Films

Burton Bradstock Films will be showing THE MIRACLE CLUB on Friday 29th March in the Village Hall. Doors open at 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. Rooted in traditions of loyalty, faith and togetherness the women of the community of Ballygar, Ireland in 1967 have just one tantalizing dream and that is to escape domestic life and taste freedom. Escape could come, however, if they could win a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Starring Maggie Smith, Kathy Bates, Laura Linney and Dolly Hennessy as the four friends. Tickets are £6 each and include a glass of wine or a soft drink and can be bought prior to the evening from Burton Bradstock Farm Shop and Post Office or, if still available, at the door on the night. We look forward to welcoming you for this Good Friday evening film.

Diary dates: The Village Hall Spring Quiz is planned for Sat 27th April. The format will be amended slightly and hopefully will be a little easier. Tickets will be £11 a head which will include a jacket potato supper with filling of your choice. Details of when tickets go on sale will be in April BVN.

Village Hall AGM:The Village Hall Trust AGM will be held on Thursday 14th March at 19:00 in the Hall. All are welcome to hear a short update on 2023 activities and finances, plans for 2024 and committee elections followed by free wine and nibbles. The Hall is an amenity for all the Village, please come along and contribute your views, or just listen and enjoy a free glass of wine.



Artsreach in Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Behold Ye Ramblers

Sun 24th March at 7:30pm



A new play by Neil Gore in association with The Society for the Study of Labour History.

From the voices of ramblers and campaigners to the songs and poetry inspired by past and current struggles, 'Behold Ye Ramblers' is a new play about The Clarion newspaper and the organisations formed by its readership, including the famous rambling clubs, like Sheffield's Clarion Ramblers, the Clarion Cyclists and Clarion Vans. Featuring music and songs, 'Behold Ye Ramblers' celebrates The Clarion Ramblers and their mission to escape from overcrowded industrial homes, factories and long working hours to the great outdoors.

Recommended 11+. For further details please see www.townsendproductions.org.uk

Book online at Artsreach.co.uk or by phone to Alex on 07821 363316

Standard Ticket £12; Under 18s £5; Family ticket £30

Burton Bradstock Village Hall “200 Club”

February 2024 Draw: Congratulations to the winners:

1 st	£34.20	No 23:	Suzie Dean
2 nd	£17.10	No 15:	Keith Ellis
3 rd	£8.55	No 105:	Clare Rogan

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the March 2024 draw should telephone Keith Britton on 01308 898008 and let him have £10 – one pound for each monthly draw in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw. *WDDC Licence no: SL0080*

The Friends of Burton Bradstock Library



Book Sale

We shall be holding our next fund-raising second hand book sale on Wednesday 13th March in the Library between 10.00am and noon. Donations of clean, saleable books will be much appreciated from Monday 4th March in the Library. We look forward to seeing you at the Sale.

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Burton Bradstock Library will take place on Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Drinks and nibbles will be served following the business meeting.

Christine Lewis would still like a few extra library cleaners to join the rota please. If you would like to know more, call her on 01308 897304.

Normal library opening times are:

Monday 2.00-4.00pm, Wednesday 10.00am-12noon,

Thursday & Saturday 2.00-4.00pm

Please note that the Library will be closed for Easter on Saturday 30th March and Monday 1st April.

burtonbradstocklibrary@gmail.com

www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library 01308 897563

Sue Brown Chair

Burton Bradstock Village Society

March Society Talk

Charlie Wheeler, local resident, wildlife photographer, and manager of the Abbotsbury Swannery in Dorset and as Warden of the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve will be entertaining us on the topic of Photographing Wildlife. He says, "from studying a degree in Animal Behaviour, the idea of having the ability to capture and record a single moment in time, where I can create a unique and artistic representation of an animal's true behaviour, beauty and expression, has a great appeal to me."

His talk will be of interest to anyone who loves art, nature or photography, or wants to find out more about Charlie's world. His talk will be on **Friday 15th March** in the Village Hall. Doors open at 7.00pm and the talk starts at 7.30pm. Tickets on the door are £1.50 for members and £5 for non-members. Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be served, and there will be a raffle and wine available for purchase. You are welcome to bring your friends.

Contacting the Village Society: Have you been missing out on Village Society emails since it changed its email address to bbvillagesociety@gmail.com? Our Secretary, Roger Ashman, thinks some of you might be. If you think this could be you, please email him on bbvillagesociety@gmail.com to say hello and that should ensure you receive all our correspondence. Thank you.

Looking for volunteers

Please volunteer to help organise and put on events by contacting either Richard or Roger using these contact details: Richard Ferre, Chair, tel: 897648, email: rwferre99@gmail.com or Roger Ashman, Secretary, tel: 898442, email: bbvillagesociety@gmail.com

Hold the dates: We're inviting growers, gardeners and bakers to start preparing for two upcoming annual events. The Plant and Cake sale is on **Saturday 11th May** and we welcome donations on the day of any surplus plants you have. The Flower and Produce Show will be held in the Village Hall on **Saturday 13th July** and the details are in the Village Society section of the village website. There are categories for non-growers including best limerick where the subject is "General elections" and the photography subjects are "Water in all its forms" and "A favourite place".

2023-24 subs: The Committee will be asking for 2023-34 subs in April. Details of how to do this will be in April's edition, via email, and hand delivered to members who don't have email.

Burton Bradstock WI

February was a busy month for the Burton Bradstock WI with two outings, a Kurling competition and a fun evening of games and a quiz. First up was a visit by the Lunch Club to The Stableyard restaurant at Redlands Yard in Broadwindsor, where everyone enjoyed a delicious meal followed by some browsing around the shops. Three days later 11 members went to Compton Valence to marvel at the beautiful drifts of snowdrops and then settled down for a warming lunch of soup and a roll, coffee and cake in the cosy Village Hall where we were made very welcome by the organisers. It was nice to sit and have a long chat before another viewing of the snowdrops along the roadside on our way home.



We entered a team into the Dorset Federation Kurling Competition and once we had got used to the extremely smooth floor of Portesham Village Hall we started to aim sufficiently well to get some stones to remain on the target! However, the skill of our opponents meant that unfortunately the stones didn't always stay there for very long! We didn't get through to the final but it

was, nevertheless, a very enjoyable afternoon with seven teams taking part (we came 5th) - and the tea and cake in particular made it all worthwhile. We shall keep practising at our fortnightly Kurling sessions ready for next year.

The planned speaker for our February meeting was unable to come at the last minute and so instead we enjoyed a social evening with games, a quiz – and pancakes as it was Shrove Tuesday. We also held our “Green Hearts” day, which coincides with Valentine’s Day and on which we consider environmental issues. This year we centred our thoughts on our own village and what we can do to help look after it.

The speaker for our meeting on 12th March at 7.30pm will be Julia Gardener on “The work of the charity, Medical Detection Dogs”. We shall also be looking forward to our Spring Lunch at Haddon House Hotel at the end of March - we do love our meals out!

Janet Pearson 01308 898346

Burton Bradstock Parish Council

Road Safety

The Parish Council at its meeting on 7th February accepted the findings of the Burton Bradstock Road Safety Working Group and agreed that two major issues that should be urgently tackled by Dorset Council. The Working Group concluded that it is unacceptably unsafe for many pedestrians, particularly schoolchildren, to cross the B3157 at Common Lane, and that the speed limit should be lower than 40 mph and a pedestrian crossing created. It also concluded that there is convincing evidence that many vehicles are not complying with the 30-mph limit along the B3157 at Barr Lane at the entrance to the village and that there needs to be more effective enforcement of it. The Parish Council is writing to Dorset Council to seek a discussion about these issues and is seeking the support of Councillor Mark Roberts and local MP Chris Loder. The Working Group will continue to make the case for action and anyone interested in joining should contact Bob Ward on b.ward@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk or 07811-320346. We have a village survey to capture the opinions of residents, and it is focused on road safety. 36% of households have completed it, but more is better. If you haven’t completed it, and have 5 minutes, please use the QR code on the right to access the survey. If you have no



idea what the last sentence means, please email n.lockwood@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk and you'll receive a link by return.

Blocked drains

The recent heavy rainfall has reminded us all of the problems the village has with flooding. One small thing we can all do to help is to report blocked drains and gullies to Dorset Council; they will try to address any issues, but they need to be told about them. Reporting a problem is done online, and should only take two minutes - each specific issue needs an individual report - you can't report multiple issues at once - the link is <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/report-a-gully-drain-or-flooding-issue>

Defibrillator Training

Due to the popularity of the first session, we will host further training in the use of the Parish's defibrillators (we have three now). The training will take place in Saturday 20th April, in the Village Hall, at 10.00am and 11.30am. To book your space in one of those sessions, please contact clerk@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Vacancies

Derek Rigby and Lesley Waite have stood down as Parish Councillors. We are very grateful for their contributions, and they will be missed. Being a Parish councillor is a great way to support our community and help Burton continue to be a great place to live. If you are interested in taking on the role, please contact Lianne Mealing, the Chair, by email to arrange a chat at l.mealing@burtonbradstock-pc.gov.uk

Supper Club

This month's supper club will be held on Monday 25th March. Any enquiries please phone me 01308 897543.

Mags Chue

Mary Turnill

My family and I have been overwhelmed with the sympathy cards and emails about our loss of Mary, my beloved wife, by so many members of this lovely village.

We are all greatly touched by the love and kindness shown by so many of you. We have been here only five years, but they have been the happiest five years we could both remember.

Please accept these thanks as if we were writing to you individually much as we would like to, but I am still in bed with Covid, and would find it impossible. I am recovering and hoping to be my usual irritating self in two weeks' time.

With very much love from us all,

Bill, Claire, Richard, Kate, and Sophie at Norburton Hall

Littlebredy

Village Correspondent: Philip Williams
pw@bridehead.com Tel: 01305 482232
Village website: <http://www.littlebredy.com>



Although it mainly happens out of sight, if not always earshot, of many of the houses here, the Shoot forms part of the local community and involves quite a few people in the village, and it is good to report that at the end of an enjoyable winter, after the Beaters' Day at the end of January, the "Shot of the Season" award was voted on and then presented to our own Natasha Roots. Many of the birds fly high here, so it must have been something exceptional – many congratulations to her.

Looking forward to the end of March, **Easter Day** this year falls on March 31st, which is the fifth Sunday in the month. The main Festival service locally will therefore, as is customary on a fifth Sunday, be a United Benefice one – **Holy Communion at 11.00am at Abbotsbury**, in our newly enlarged Bride Valley and Chesil Benefice. There will however be two earlier services, one at

dawn at Hive Beach and one at 9.30am at Litton Cheney, for those who want to worship in the Bride Valley itself.

This means that, for the first time in many, many years, if not ever, there is no service planned for here on Easter Day. However, we trust that there will be the traditional short and simple said Litany Service at 10.00am on Good Friday, followed by Church decorating for Easter on a smaller scale than usual. As we shall be enhancing the Church for visitors over the weekend rather than congregations this year, the PCC has decided to dispense with writing the Easter messages in primroses on moss in the windowsills, which will save quite a few people a lot of time, creativity and effort. Those willing to help with conventional floral decorations, though, should please contact Charlie McCormick in advance (07967 606869 or Charlie@charliemccormick.com).

Shipton Gorge

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



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

SHIPTON GORGE
VILLAGE DIARY

You'll be able to find out all that's going on in the village from the Village Society, the New Inn/ New Inn Support, the Village Hall, Shipton Gorge Heritage, the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council

St Martin's Church

Floodlight Sponsors for March

Ann & Tony Jones for granddaughter Ellie's, 19th birthday
Stephen Symes in memory of Nesta on her birthday
Jo Warren for Virginia McShane's birthday,
with love from her children

*Janet, Caroline & Faith thinking of John Epp on his birthday on
4th March and Bee Epp on her birthday on 9th
Jo Warren in ever loving memory of Gary.*

Murphy James

Thank you to all our sponsors and to those who responded to my appeal on Facebook. There are very few sponsors for April or May so if you wish to sponsor, a suggested donation of £5 would be gratefully accepted. Please contact Phyl Webster on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post-box. If you would like your name to be published in the BVN, please let me have your sponsorship request before the cut-off date which is in the front of the BVN but should you miss the date, your name will still appear on the posters around the village.

Mothering Sunday, 10th March, Breakfast Church in the Village Hall.

Palm Sunday Holy Communion 24th March at 11.00am.

Good Friday Litany at 10.00am.

Easter Sunday 31st March United **Service at Abbotsbury** at 11.00am.
(Please try to come along to this special service)

Village Hall

The Village Hall Trust will be holding its AGM on 28th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We look forward to welcoming you to this important annual meeting.

If you are interested in becoming a trustee (either elected or co-opted) and would like to understand what's involved, please contact Richard Hewlett (897278) or talk to one of the trustees. Positions are available and we would welcome your assistance.

February 2024 100 Club Draw results

1 st	33	£25	Sheena Hall
2 nd	20	£10	David Smith
3 rd	132	£5	Andrea Larcombe

Congratulations to all winners.

Village Society

Hanging Baskets 2024

With the cold weather we have been experiencing I'm sure no one is thinking about hanging baskets. But due to the success of the competition we ran last year and the visual effect they had on the pub, we would like to go again. This year it will only be 14-inch baskets to be displayed. Should you wish to secure one of these you could approach Sally Parker anytime from now until the Spring, but do look out for further detailed information to come. Good Luck.



Shipton Gorge Heritage

Heritage Gin Club – The winner in the February draw was Maggie Baker. Her prize has been delivered. Congratulations Maggie.



Saunders Richardson Wood



It has been another relatively quiet time in the wood. Shaun popped in for a morning tidy up of some of the many wood piles – and the glade looks much more inviting. A few more of the halos have been built up and reinforced. Although it is lovely to have deer in the wood, it is important to try to deter them from nibbling the young trees. Additional

nest boxes for birds, bats and dormice should have been put up and we intend to monitor and record what is making use of them.

Further sessions have taken place and there is now quite a stretch of newly layed hedge along Smacombe Lane for you to admire. Thank you to all involved – was hard work but looks like you all enjoyed yourselves. The delicious lunch provided by Jo might have helped things along! No more can be done this year as we will now be into nesting season. Please note that the open wood sessions this month will be Monday 11th & 25th March 11.00am-12.00noon. Members only, but we can sign you up on the day.

Shipton Gorge Orchard

Unfortunately work on the gateposts is still pending. On closer inspection, more than one of the posts needs replacing – therefore, a bigger job than we had hoped. The fruit tree pruning session took place, however, there was not the opportunity to take the scions for grafting. As this is very time sensitive, it will have to wait now until next year. A small team helped us in the Orchard to cut back the Buddleia in the top border, trim back some of the hedge and wayward brambles and plant up the Old-Fashioned Greengage tree.

Working dates this month will be Monday 4th & 18th March, 11.00am-12.00noon. If you would like to help, you are very welcome to come along!

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>

Drop-in Café at the Village Hall, 1st March, 10.00am to 12.30pm

Free refreshments

A new Drop-in Café will be open to all on the first Friday of each month for at least the next four months.

There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits in a welcoming, warm space.

Why not pop in for a chat.

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

See you there!

Litton Cheney

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



St Mary's

Following recent advertising for a new Rector for the Benefice, unfortunately there were no applications, so we wait to see what will happen next. There's a busy month ahead leading up to Easter Day on March 31st. Our service pattern has changed, so this month Holy Communion will be on the first Sunday (3rd at 9.30am) and the last (31st at 9.00am). Then there will be a special service for Mothering Sunday (10th at 9.30am) led by Paul Cheater, who is also presenting "Reflections through Music" for Holy Week on Wednesday 27th at 6.30pm. As well as the service here on Easter Day, there will also be a United Benefice service at Abbotsbury at 11.00am which will include a farewell to James Webster as Licensed Lay Minister in the Benefice.

Our Annual Meeting is coming up on 7th April after the morning service. If you think you might like to join the PCC at what will be an interesting time in the life of our church and the Benefice, please do contact us for a chat. Church Warden John Vercoe 01308 480768 or Secretary Wendy Firrell 01308 482532. We should be very glad of some younger members! The Annual Church Meeting, at which the Churchwardens and the PCC members are elected, takes place this year on Sunday 7th April. To vote at this meeting and to be eligible to join the PCC you need to be included on the Church Electoral Roll by 20th March. You are entitled to go on the Electoral Roll if you are baptised, over 16, a member of the Church of England or some other churches and either resident in the parish, or have attended worship here regularly in the last six months. If you are not already on the Electoral Roll, but would like to be included, please contact Kathryn Brooks who can help you with the necessary form, at 3 Litton Hill (01308 482548)

Litton Cheney Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 12th March, 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of LATCH. This will be the last meeting

attended by our outgoing Clerk, Maggie Walsh, and the first by our new Clerk, Lucy Beasley, who also clerks for Shipton Gorge Parish Council. We will be saying a final goodbye to Maggie at the Village Assembly in May giving us the opportunity to recognise her superb service to the Parish Council and the village since 2017.

Council Elections

On Thursday 2nd May local elections will be held for Dorset Council, Town and Parish Councils and the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner. If you would like a greater say in what happens in your county, town and/or parish then seriously consider standing for election. Details regarding how you go about standing for election in any capacity can be found on the *Dorset For You* website and village notice boards. An informative video can be found on the village website littoncheney.org.uk and Facebook.

Lambing – Aide Memoire: Responsible dog owners will be fully aware of the need to keep their dogs under control when near livestock, and as we enter the lambing season that need intensifies. Please report stray or loose dogs, and reiterate to others the need to maintain absolute control over their dogs at this time.

Bins & Potholes: Please do not put out your bins too early. If you come across a pothole, whilst hopefully avoiding it, please make a mental note to report it on the Dorset Council website rather than leave it for someone else to do so. Thank you.

Events at Litton and Thorner’s Community Hall – for March

Weekly:

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

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

6.15pm - Pilates (johanna@larkpilates.com 07920 421783)

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

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

Thursdays: 9.15am - 11.15am First Steps Toddlers (fortnightly) 7th and 21st

Fridays: 10.00am - Art Group in meeting room (fortnightly) 8th and 22nd

Special:

Saturday 2nd: morning - Singing with Sammy Hurden

(sammyhurden1@gmail.com)

Saturday 9th: morning - Village Café run by NCI

Tuesday 12th: 7.30pm Parish Council meeting
Saturday 16th: 9.30am Tai Chi (Andrew Howard 07912 107950)
Monday 18th: Evening – BV Gardening Club meeting
Friday 22nd: Bingo Evening (see separate announcement in Valley Notes and below)
Saturday 23rd: morning - Village Café run by BV W.I.

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

Hall Bookings/viewings: Wendy Firrell 01308 482532 wtlitton@gmail.com
Bride Valley Bingo Fundraising Group will be holding an Easter Bingo at LATCH, School Lane, Litton Cheney on Friday March 22nd to raise funds for Riding For The Disabled (Dorset). Doors open 6.30pm and eyes down at 7.30pm. Great prizes: Raffle: Refreshments: Bucket Draw. All welcome, but no dogs please.

The Great Annual Easter Sunday Duck Race

Hi Everyone, just to let you all know that the Annual Easter Sunday Duck Race will take place on Sunday 31st March. We will be selling ducks from 10.30am at the start line ready for the off at 12.00noon. If you want to be super organised, Andy and Liz at The White Horse will be selling ducks during the week before the big day from 19th - 28th March. There will also be a BBO at the pub for post-race refreshments, weather depending.

Really hope to see you all there! *Ralph and Sam Daubeney*

The White Horse

Writing this almost halfway through February it's hard to know where the time has gone since Christmas and here we are heading rapidly towards an early Easter! That brings the duck race on Easter Sunday, hopefully with a barbecue, but who knows? Could be snowing! Before that we've got Mother's Day, St Patrick's, and Andy's busy working on the Sunday music schedule, which this year is going right through from Easter to the end of September. Just a few dates to fill in now and he'll put it 'out there. Can't wait! After the horrible wet winter, what we all need now is a bit of sunshine, so without wishing our time away 'roll on Spring'!

Andy & Liz

Bride Valley Films

Next films at Litton Cheney Village Hall!

Reminder - THURSDAY 29 FEBRUARY: THE GREAT ESCAPER 'a masterclass from two legends'. Cert. 12 1.5 hrs.

THURSDAY 4 APRIL: A HAUNTING IN VENICE 'the 'little grey cells' are at it again!' In post-World War II Venice, Poirot, now retired and living in his own exile, reluctantly attends a séance, but when one of the guests is murdered, it is up to the former detective to once again uncover the killer. Starring Kenneth Branagh and Michelle Yeoh. Cert.12. 1 hr. 40"

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

A HAUNTING IN VENICE will only be shown at Litton Cheney

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

Barbara Moxom

It is not always possible to know when someone of long standing in the village dies as it tends to be very much a family matter and it is for them to decide if the news is given wider circulation. A visit to the Litton Cheney village website littoncheney.org.uk acknowledges the death of Barbara Moxom. Locally born, Barbara, together with her late husband, Gordon, were prominent in and around the village for many years, Gordon heading up his precision engineering company at what continues to be known as Moxom's Yard in Chalk Pit Lane, even though the company closed several years ago. Barbara's son, Alan, remains in the village and our thoughts are very much with him and the family at this saddest of times.

Why not write for the BVN?

The Bride Valley News welcomes contributions, and in addition to the monthly items from regular correspondents in each village there is a desire to widen our scope so that we provide news and information which is of interest to the residents of the valley. Please submit articles to your village correspondent. If possible, please limit your writing to about 250 words, pictures are welcome as well! We look forward to receiving your articles!

Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington

Village Correspondents:

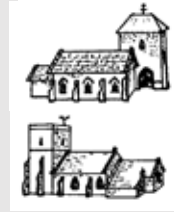
Elizabeth Slater (Puncknowle)

liz@ruddle.org.uk Tel: 01308 897751

Jill Neill (Swyre & West Bexington)

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

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



Holy Trinity, Swyre

David and Winnie Jones first came to Holy Trinity on Easter day 2016. After the initial introductions; I said rather sadly that I hoped they were in good voice, as we had no organist for our service. Without hesitation David took off his jacket, rolled up his sleeves, and took on the challenge of playing an unknown organ in a dubious state of repair.



From that day until his death, just before Christmas, David delighted us with his wonderful playing. Under his care our diminutive organ was lovingly maintained, our worship enriched and our church family blessed by his unflinching support and encouragement. He was always full of good ideas and advice; especially for our repair and redecoration project.

By his death we have lost both a dear friend and an outstanding musician. Winnie died last February.

May they both Rest in Peace, and Rise in Glory. *Sue Taylor*

St Mary's Church, Puncknowle

On Friday 2nd February we held our Candlemas candle-lit service. A quiet service interspersed with gentle music was well attended by people from across the Bride Valley churches, celebrating Christ the Light of the World. The buffet at the Crown Inn afterwards was also well attended.



On Sunday 10th March we will be combining Mothering Sunday with Lady Day (normally 25th March) to celebrate all women and mothers. You are welcome to join us at 9.30am at our Holy Communion service.

Calling all Crafters and Stitchers!!

Come and see if there is anything you can make use of.

I have a collection of pieces of fabric – large and small – and other sewing sundries, and bits and pieces for card making, etc. to give away.

Come and see if there is anything you can make use of.

Saturday 6th April 10.00am-12noon and 2.00pm-4.00pm at Hollybush, Clay Lane, Puncknowle (next to the Village Hall).

Yvonne Buckland

Puncknowle 100 Club

Here are the draw results for December

1 st Prize	Sue Bunce
2 nd Prize	Geoff Truscott

Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council

Applications are invited for the part-time post of Clerk to Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council. The Parish consists of three villages, Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington with a combined population of approximately 600 residents. The work is primarily home based. Expenses can be claimed for mileage. A laptop and printer will be provided. Part-Time position: 30 hours per month. Salary range: SP 7-10 (£11.42 - £12.28ph)

The Key aspects of the role are

- to ensure that statutory and other provisions governing or affecting the running of the Council are observed.
- to monitor and balance the Council's accounts and prepare records for audit purposes and VAT.
- to prepare agendas for meetings of the Council; to attend such meetings, prepare minutes for approval and complete actions.
- to receive correspondence and documents on behalf of the Council and to deal with the correspondence or documents or bring such items to the attention of the Council.
- to attend training courses or seminars on the work and role of the Clerk as required by the Council.
- to keep the Council's website up to date with latest Minutes of Meetings, Agendas for Meetings and any other information as required

Applicants should have excellent interpersonal, communication, numeracy and organisational skills, experience with MS Word and Excel and preferably a qualification/experience in finance. Some knowledge of local government would be an advantage although not essential. Additional training including New Clerk Training can be arranged. Clerks who already work part-time for another parish are welcome to apply. Job description can be obtained by contacting ilm1@hotmail.co.uk. Please apply by letter and CV with contact details of two referees via email to Parish Chairman Geoff Fry at pgcfry@gmail.com. The closing date for application 31st March 2024. Interviews are expected to be held shortly afterwards.

3 Villages Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Group met on 21st February. A consultant has now been appointed to do some preliminary work up to April and finance from Locality secured for this. Draft Vision and Objectives are being prepared and the 40 plus businesses in the Parish invited to give their input via face-to-face meetings or a questionnaire. The next Steering Group meeting is at 7.00pm on Wednesday 20 March at The Manor Hotel, West Bexington. Other meetings in March are: Evidence Working Group 5.00-7.00pm on 5th. All meetings are open and you are welcome to attend. If you are interested in becoming involved please contact Brian Bowsher on 01308 897987 or email brian@bowshers.plus.com. You can also be kept updated on the Plan by subscribing to our email list (email wbexnp@yahoo.com) and there are regular updates on Facebook.

**Puncknowle, Swyre, West Bexington, Chilcombe, Long Bredy and Little Bredy
LUNCH CLUB 2024**

PUNCKNOWLE VILLAGE HALL - 1.00pm
Enquiries - please contact **David Buckland**,

01308 898492 for more details.

LUNCHES COST £6.00

March 19 Gammon and Pineapple with boulangère potatoes and vegetables

Bread and Butter pudding, custard/cream

April 16 Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding and vegetables

Future dates:

May 21, June 18, July 16

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

What's on at Puncknowle Village Hall in March

REGULAR EVENTS		
Mondays	10.00am - 11:00am	Tripudio Contact Ali on 07968 370485 or by email ali.russell@hotmail.com
Mondays	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Pilates Contact Sarah on 07885 037340 or by email sarah@modified-pilates.co.uk
Wednesdays	10:00am - 12:00noon	Table Tennis Contact Brian on 01308 897987
Wednesdays	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Table Tennis Contact Eonne on 0789 1210739
OTHER EVENTS		
Monday 4th	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting Open to the Public See: https://puncknowle.net/neighbourhood-plan/
Tuesday 5th	7:30pm - 10:00pm	Parish Council Meeting Open to the Public
Thursday 7th	2:00pm - 5:00pm	Craft Club Contact Brenda on b.oliver@btinternet.com
Tuesday 12th	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Nurture Night - Wellness/Yoga Contact Francesca on 07990 514948
Thursday 14th	7:00 - 10:30 pm	Whist Drive Contact Jenny on 01308 897863
Monday 18th	7:00pm- 9:00 pm	History Group: contact Debbie on deborahlegge2@gmail.com
Tuesday 19th	1:00pm - 2:30pm	Luncheon Club Contact David on 01308 898492
Tuesday 19th	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Nurture Night - Wellness/Yoga Contact Francesca on 07990 514948

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,

Those parishioners of yours who won millions on the Lottery and moved into this parish have created quite a stir. It was perhaps a little unwise of them to tell everyone the reason why they had become so wealthy. While most of our parishioners also do the Lottery, few would ever admit it in public. (Since your friends arrived, the entire PCC is buying ever more lottery tickets, but from the shop in the NEXT village, to try and keep it secret.)

However, your family still has much to learn about our country ways. Buying the old Dower House was impressive; and spending a small fortune re-stocking the gardens was certainly commendable. But someone should have told them about installing cattle grids. It must have been quite a shock for them to wake up one morning and find the thirty sheep from the neighbouring field had wandered in for breakfast.

Their brand-new purple Ferrari has certainly brightened up the country lanes around here. The noise it makes as it roars up behind you quite quickens the pulse. Mrs Beamish had been suffering with low blood pressure for months; she says she is quite cured now. The Colonel, who is all for the community supporting the church, then asked if the newcomers would drive the bishop around on the day he came to do his tour of the parish. The Colonel thought that an open-topped purple Ferrari would make a great bishop-mobile; and the newcomers were so kind to agree. What a shame that they decided to accomplish the several miles of parish lanes in record time: the bishop barely even saw the several farmers that they nearly ran down. His new nickname in this parish is: The Purple Peril. The newcomers have installed security lighting, which is understandable. But now I wonder how much sleep they are getting, as the rabbits, foxes, and badgers who live in their grounds keep it flood-lit for much of the night. Meanwhile, the Colonel is grumbling about the effect of light pollution on his young pheasants in the woods nearby. But these little inconveniences apart, I am sure they will soon feel at home. I feel confident that by the third generation, they will be properly settled in.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Bridport Youth Dance
and the BYD Street Dance Crew present

PARADIGM

BYD's 20th Annual Production

A showcase of live dancing including
The Dance Weavers films - *Joy In Motion*
and Choreography Geography - *Dancing with Darkness*.

Tickets:
£11.50 ADULT*
£7.50 CHILD*
* plus £1
booking fee

Bridport TIC
ticket line:
01308 424901

Friday 1st March
at 7.30pm
Saturday 2nd March
at 2.30pm
and 7.30pm

Bridport Electric Palace
electricpalace.org.uk/theatre
35 South Street,
Bridport DT6 3NY
bridportyouthdance.org.uk

Photo by Louis Donovan



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Litton Cheney	9:30am Holy Communion	9.30am Mothering Sunday service	9:30am BCP Matins	9:30am Morning Worship
Swyre	3.00pm Evening Prayer	11.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Holy Communion	
Puncknowle	11.00am Morning Praise	9:30 am Holy Communion		11.00am Café Church
Shipton Gorge		9:30am Mothering Sunday Breakfast Church		11.00am Holy Communion
Long Bredy	11.00am Holy Communion		9:30am Morning Worship	
Littlebredy		11.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Morning Worship
Abbotsbury	11.00am Parish Communion	9.00am BCP Communion		10.00am Morning Prayer
Portesham		10.00am Family Praise	11.00am Parish Communion	9.00am BCP communion 10.30am Palm Sunday procession
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	Wednesday 27th March	Maundy Thurs 28th March	Good Friday 29th March	5th Sunday Easter Day 31st March
BB				6.30am Sunrise service at Hive Beach
Litton Cheney	6.30pm Easter Reflections through Music			9.00am Easter Communion
Swyre				
Puncknowle				
Shipton Gorge			10.00am Litany	
Long Bredy		7.00pm Holy Communion with foot washing		
Littlebredy			10.00am Litany	
Abbotsbury			3.00pm Good Friday Reflection	11.00am United Benefice Service
Portesham			1.00pm Good Friday Reflection	
Langton Herring		7.00pm Holy Communion	11.00am Good Friday Reflection	

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