

BRIDE VALLEY NEWS



July 2025

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

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August 2025 issue deadlines: Articles, photographs, etc must be sent to the appropriate Village Correspondent (contact details at the head of each village section) by 11th July for the August issue. Contributions from outside the Bride Valley should be emailed to bvnburton@gmail.com. Handwritten or typed copy should be delivered to village correspondents well before the deadline. Please contact bvctc@outlook.com for information on advertising in the BVN. Articles, notices and advertisements in this magazine may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the Editor or the people and organisations funding and supporting the BVN. Copies of the BVN, in colour, can be found at bvbn.org.uk or via links on the Bride Valley village websites.

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

The Bride Valley News is delivered to every home in the valley and is entirely produced and distributed by volunteers. Donations to help us continue to provide the magazine would be welcome and if you feel able to contribute - please make a BACS payment to:

Account: 'Bride Valley Churches Team Council', Sort code 30-91-21

Account number 00074071.....and please quote BVN.

The Bride Valley & Chesil Churches

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

Rector: Rev'd Andrew Rawding (01308) 898799 Associate

Priest: Rev'd Margaret Preuss Higham (01305) 873978

To enquire about Baptisms, Marriages or Funeral arrangements in the Bride Valley Churches of Burton Bradstock, Chilcombe, Litton Cheney, Littlebredy, Long Bredy, Shipton Gorge, Puncknowle or Swyre please contact

Rev'd Rawding by phone (see above) or
email rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com

You can also use www.acny.com for Baptism and Marriage enquiries. Contact Rev'd Margaret Preuss Higham by phone (see above) or

email revmph@gmail.com for enquiries in the Chesil Churches of Abbotsbury, Portesham or Langton Herring.

Lay Pastoral Assistants

We have 3 Lay Pastoral Assistants in our team and they are available for anyone throughout our community and can respond to any need, great or small, for pastoral care. Contact Jenny: 01308 898768, Liz: 01308 897451 or Cathryn: 0130 8897169 - or you can get in touch with your churchwarden or Helen Fry, Benefice Administrator on 01308 897260. Home communion is available by arrangement. If you would like to become an LPA, please have a look at the Diocese of Salisbury webpage:

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

From the Rectory

Dear friends,

How was your Pentecost? Maybe you are still waiting for Pentecost? Or maybe you haven't got a clue about Pentecost and what I am going on about?

I'm writing in the week of Pentecost (also known as Whit Sunday), which is when we celebrated in the churches that moment when the followers of Jesus moved from living in the past, to living today, to change the future. They had suffered loss, a rollercoaster ride of loss. Jesus had died, then some of them had seen him again, and then he had disappeared for good. What did the future hold for them? What were they to do now? Led by Peter, they spent time praying and reflecting on this, and then experienced a powerful awakening, described as 'the coming of the Holy Spirit'.

Bystanders thought they had gone mad or were drunk. But under Peter's leadership they were able to turn their loss into an opportunity to stand up on their own two feet, no longer reliant on Jesus, but inspired by his life, in faith that the spirit within them would give them power. The rest is history as the early church shared the good news of God's love and grew. In many countries around the world, wherever the good news of God's love is shared, the church continues to grow.

We reflected on this story at Bridehead, the source of the River Bride, on Ascension Day, gathered by the waterfall. The metaphorical choice here was to remain in the familiarity and safety of the lake, or to go with the spirit and enter the waterfall. We sang these words:

'There's a waterfall in this holy place, hear it gushing forth like amazing grace, sending stones a rolling, giving darkness chase, there's a waterfall in this holy place.'

Sometimes we can be so deep in the lake or stuck on the other side surrounded by pond weed, that we have no idea there is a waterfall or that a Pentecost experience could even be possible. Sometimes we need time in the lake just to find healing and calm before we can even consider new beginnings. Jesus had promised his followers the 'Holy Spirit', which would

be their guide, their comforter and bring them peace. Another verse we sang at Bridehead was:

‘There’s fountain springing from forgiving love, lifts us up on wings of the holy dove, showers us with peace from the clouds above, there’s a fountain springing from forgiving love.’

The chorus was a prayer:

‘Spring up O well within my soul, spring up O well and make me whole, spring up O well and give to me, that life abundantly.’

We are praying for the people of Littlebredy in the uncertainty that has come with the departure of the Williams family and change of ownership. If there is a sense of loss, may there be ‘Pentecost’ moments, and reassurance, and confidence, and Holy Spirit empowered faith.

We are also praying for the Reverend Liz Howlett who is leaving the Othona Community and our ministry team as an Associate Priest. Liz is moving closer to her family in the Midlands. We are very grateful to Liz for her faithfulness to the churches and people here, since she was licensed by the Bishop of Sherborne in April 2020, at start of the first COVID lockdown. Liz was part of the ministry team that provided services that could be accessed by a phone call when the churches were closed, and then notably conducted wedding services for the many couples wanting to get married once lockdown was over. Liz will be missed by many people she became good friends with. Liz demonstrated the value of silence in worship. We send our love and prayers to Liz and her family, for health and well-being in the future.

So, how was your Pentecost? Maybe you are still waiting for Pentecost? Whatever your situation, I pray that the Holy Spirit of Pentecost will be with you, that you will know the good news of God’s love, helping you move from the past to amazing new life for yourselves and others.

Andrew

Church Floodlighting

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

Safeguarding

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

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

From the Registers

Funerals:

21st May: Trevor Jones at Burton Bradstock

28th May: Adrian Wood at Burton Bradstock

BRIDE VALLEY CAR SERVICE

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

Clients are charged a mileage fee (currently 50p per mile) plus a standard charge (currently £2.00 per journey).

Because the service depends on the availability of volunteer drivers, clients are asked to give as much notice as possible – we are unlikely to be able to respond to requests within 48 hours of an appointment.

To book a journey please call our
voluntary co-ordinator on

07393 607025

We always welcome new drivers.



Thorners CE VA School

Apologies for the absence of a report – **Gone to the Fete.** Back in full flow next month. See the news about the Fete in the Litton Cheney section later in the magazine.

Mike Sitch
Headmaster



Burton Bradstock CE Primary School

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

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

At the beginning of May all the children at Burton took part in the Mini London Marathon, raising money for the MS Society. Knowing that Multiple Sclerosis affects someone special on our staff made it even more important to see everyone join in. A huge well done to Rev'd Andrew for his



fantastic London Marathon time and for joining us to talk about the experience. All the money raised will go towards the MS Society, which is now past £3,000! Thank you to all the villagers who also supported us in raising money for this important cause.

A huge well done to our Year 6s who worked so hard on their SATs which also took place in May. We are incredibly proud of the effort that they have put into these assessments, both during the week and in the build-up. Thank you to the Friends who funded breakfast for the Years 6s to enjoy each morning before their tests. Year 6s celebrated their hard work with lollies

and a trip to the field after their last test on Thursday as well as receiving their Leavers' hoodies!



A report from Pat Lewis Badgett, chair of the Local School Committee:
'On the 14th May I spent a wonderful afternoon at Buckingham Palace. I had been invited to a Garden Party to acknowledge my contributions to education throughout my working career and as a governor of the school and trustee of the Minerva Learning Trust. It was a glorious day; the sun shone and there was afternoon tea whilst two military bands played selections of music during the afternoon. The Yeomen of the Guard and his Majesty's Gentlemen at Arms were on duty, providing such a colourful spectacle when they paraded throughout the gardens.'

King Charles and Queen Camilla moved throughout the guests and a small number were presented to their majesties. I feel very honoured to represent the schools and children I have worked with and the memories of such an amazing occasion will never leave me.'



At the end of last half term, we held interviews for a new class teacher. We had a very strong field and, after a rigorous interview process, I am pleased to announce that we appointed Mrs Serena Brown, who will be teaching Owl class next year. Mrs Rorstad, who leaves us in the summer, will be missed by the whole school community and we wish her well as she looks forward to spending more time with her family.

Before we break up for the summer holidays, we have lots of events and trips planned. I look forward to sharing these experiences with you in next month's edition.

We have spaces available in our Pre-School from September for children who will turn four that academic year. If you would like to visit our happy and friendly village school, please contact the school office to arrange a tour:

01308 897369 or office@burtonbradstockprimary.org

To stay up-to-date with all our news and events please follow our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BurtonBradstockPrimarySchool> or the hashtags #LoveWhereWeLearn #TeamBurton!

Adam Gough
Headteacher

Pilgrimages Of Peace

Three further pilgrimages are planned as we celebrate our area of 'Saints and Sailors'.

25th July: A walk around Long Bredy and Kingston Russell at 3.00pm marking St James' Day, the link with the famous sailor, Admiral Hardy, and the dedication of the former chapel of St James at Kingston Russell House - starting at the Village Hall.

24th August: Exploring the life of St Bartholomew starting from the chapel dedicated to him at Corton at 3.00pm

31st August: Walking from West Bexington Beach at 3.00pm to explore the life of St Giles, to whom the former church at West Bexington was dedicated, and its link to Puncknowle Church.

Our Night Sky in July 2025

Mars will be setting about 2230, while Saturn will be rising in the East about 00.20, followed by Venus at 0400.

As I have already mentioned, if we want to find a planet possibly containing life as we know it, it has to have water. Researchers confirmed the presence of crystalline water ice in a dusty debris disk that orbits a Sun-like star 155 light-years away using detailed data from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope.



Water ice is a vital ingredient in disks around young stars — it heavily influences the formation of giant planets and may also be delivered by small bodies like comets and asteroids to fully formed rocky planets like Earth. Now that researchers have detected water ice with Webb, they have opened the door for all researchers to study how these processes react in new ways in many other planetary systems.

With thanks to Christine Chen, a co-author and an astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore.

Bill Turnill

Reporting Collisions, a note from Cllr Sally Holland Dorset Council Chesil Bank Ward Member

Did you know you can report all collisions or near-misses online to Dorset Council, even if there is no injury or little damage and no police involvement?

Having information about damage-only, non-injury incidents and near-misses helps Dorset Council identify where road improvements are needed.

Please report to the following link:

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

A Message from Sarah Pilcher

Police Community Support Officer
Dorchester Rural West NPT



Dear Parishioners,

Over my time as a PCSO I regularly have comments made to me about inconsiderate parking in the villages. If there are no road restrictions and a vehicle has Tax, MOT, and Insurance then it can park (within reason) on the road. Common concerns mentioned to me are:-

Blocking the driveway – If your driveway is blocked by a vehicle this can be reported to the Council - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/parking-problems>. If you are prevented from getting your own vehicle out, then this can be reported to Police who may be able to assist - <https://www.dorset.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

Parking on pavement – Contact the Police by dialling 101 if a parked vehicle is obstructing traffic flow or pedestrians on the road or pavement. They will assess the severity of the obstruction and act if it is a priority.

Parking on/near a corner – The Highway Code advises against parking on a corner or junction, specifically stating 'you should not park with 32 feet (10 metres) of a junction. Whilst not a law, parking on a corner can, in some circumstances, be considered dangerous or causing an unnecessary obstruction: - this can be reported to Police via 101 or on-line - Report online - [Home | Dorset Police](#)

Blocking a dropped kerb – It is an offence to block a dropped kerb specifically parking in such a way that obstructs access for either road users and people with mobility issues or using mobility aids. This can result in a **Penalty Charge Notice being issued** - this is dealt with by reporting it to the Council.

If someone parks their vehicle on your driveway without your permission, this is trespassing - this is a civil dispute and not something the Police or Council can assist with.

If the vehicle is parked on single or double yellow lines, this can be reported to the Council - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/parking-problems>.

When concerned about any parking we would always suggest in the first instance speaking to the owner/driver if you feel comfortable doing so. If it is a recurring problem, then your local Parish Councils may also be able to help. They can link in with Dorset Council Highways for consideration of parking restriction markings.

When reporting to Police with a concern of parking please be mindful all calls are triaged for risk and harm so officers may be busy elsewhere.

Many Thanks for taking the time to read this and please be mindful and considerate to others when parking

Sarah PCSO 5410

Down on the Farm

Calving 2025: Latest pictures of recent arrivals from Gill & Pete Mayo at Maydown Farm.



Bride Valley WI

In the month of May the Bride Valley WI ventured to West Bay on a beautiful evening to have a guided walk and talk on the history of West Bay led by John and Sara West from the Discovery Centre. Whilst walking around, we were given facts about the buildings and their history. It was a very interesting and enjoyable evening and we even got to see some little ducklings! Our evening walk for May has been and gone as have the wonderful Weldmar Elephants. However, we will be exploring Bridport or Langdon Hill later in June so our adventures will be in print next month.

Two of our members were kindly invited to West Bay WI's 100th birthday party. To celebrate their centenary year a Cream Tea party was held in the West Bay Women's Institute.

Skittles for Fun continues as the team works hard practicing, ensuring they are at their best for the next set of league games.

If you are interested in joining us, we meet every third Thursday of the month in Puncknowle Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Contact us at:

bridevalleywi@gmail.com

The Bride Valley Book Club Review

In Toronto actor Arthur Leander has a heart attack and dies onstage in the middle of a performance of King Lear. On the other side of the Atlantic, a flu pandemic is beginning its rapid spread from Georgia across the entire world. Thus begins the exciting dystopian novel Station Eleven by Canadian writer Emily St. John Mandel. Arthur is the lynchpin of this story - the large cast of characters (many of whom don't make it to the end of the book) all have a connection to him. The book jumps backwards and forwards in time from many years before the flu when Arthur was a young man to some twenty years after when the tiny population that survived the infection are trying to rebuild society.

On a crowded train a fellow passenger whom I sat next to saw me get this book out of my bag and told me how good it was and how much she'd enjoyed it, despite reading it in lockdown. Now that's the definition of a good read! Our members enjoyed it too although it's probably best to read it in one go as some found the number of characters and time shifts confusing. Mandel's two subsequent books feature some of the same characters (so

my train friend told me) and I for one will definitely be ordering those from the library.

Liz Pinfield

Bride Valley Gardening Club

Having been lucky enough to visit the Chelsea Flower Show this year I came away with my head buzzing with a wealth of new plant names. 67 to be precise, jotted in my note book and all needing investigation to see if they would be suitable for our chalky soil - when they would then be added to my wish list. Not for me the Show Gardens displaying unlikely combinations of plants that would never successfully grow together and which regularly have us fooled and mean mistakes are discovered a little too late!

Enjoying a wide range of speakers and garden topics, club members will always be sure to hear an expert on the chosen subject, learn something new and have their questions answered. Our next speaker will be **Sally Morgan**, organic gardener, small holder and writer, talking to us about '**Creating a Kitchen Garden**'. She is a contributor to Amateur Gardening, Bloom and other garden magazines and we are very much looking forward to her visit. An experienced and much in demand speaker Sally has spoken at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Festival and last year travelled much further afield as speaker at the Northwest Pacific Flower Show in Seattle. The meeting, open also to non-members (£2) will be on **Monday July 21st at 7.30pm**. Doors open at 7.00pm for refreshment, chat and plant sales. If any of the new members who joined at our last meeting read this and come along please make yourselves known if we don't instantly spot a new face.

Ali Halliday (balletboots@live.com)

Littlebredy Walled Garden opening

The walled garden in Littlebredy will be open to the public from 2.00pm-5.00pm on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons until September. Everyone is welcome to visit!



Woodland Day

Woodland Day is on Sunday 20th July, from 10.00am to 5.00pm, at North Eggardon Farm, DT6 3ST.

A celebration of woodland culture, Woodland Day is an opportunity for the local community to explore the woodland on our doorstep, and discover ways of living and working with wood. There will be walks, talks, demonstrations and hands-on activities for everyone.

Entry is £5 and under-18s go free. Wear suitable footwear. Dogs on short leads are welcome.



I can't believe we are talking about Autumn vaccinations when summer has only just begun, but it is good to get organised! So please put the following dates into your diary to save the date before you get your booking invitation.

PRINCE OF WALES & PORTESHAM SURGERIES

Did you know?

We have vaccination clinics (2025) (subject to availability, we will also offer evening clinics for patients who cannot attend at work times)		
Wednesday 2 October	Morning only	Southwold
Thursday 3 October	Midday	Southwold
Friday 4 October	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Southwold (10.00am - 12.00pm)
Saturday 5 October		Southwold (10.00am - 12.00pm)
Sunday 6 October		Southwold
Sunday 13 October	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Southwold (10.00am - 12.00pm)
Wednesday 10 October		Southwold (10.00am - 12.00pm)

Invitations for all eligible patients to follow soon

*You can support your GP surgery by booking your Flu and Covid vaccination with us. We always buy, in advance, enough vaccinations for all our eligible patients. By booking with us you help us not to waste costly vaccines.

*Can't make one of the dates listed above? Don't worry, speak to one of our Patient Services Team members, when you get your invite, about our other options.

*October is a great time to have your Flu and Covid vaccination to help protect you for the whole season.

Contact details

One way to ensure you get your invitation promptly is to ensure we have the correct contact details on your medical record and your preferred method of contact. For example, if you have a mobile phone, make sure we have this number and your consent to send you a text message.

Alcohol Awareness week

This year's Alcohol Awareness Week takes place from 7-13 July 2025 on the theme of alcohol and work. As part of the week, it's an opportunity to open a conversation about the relationship between alcohol and work. For more information and to take a quiz to check your drinking please see <https://alcoholchange.org.uk/> and see the information board in the surgery.

Foot care at Age UK

Age UK are now offering foot care at their branches in Dorchester and Weymouth Please contact them for a list of services and costs, or visit their website <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/northsouthwestdorset/>
Call: 01305 269 444 Email: footcare@ageuknswd.org.uk

Litton Cheney

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



St. Mary's Church

Looking ahead to **September** we will be hosting a Village Café at LATCH on **Saturday 6th** in aid of St. Mary's. Buildings like our lovely church need constant maintenance as well as loving care so we hope you will join us on the day to help raise plenty of money for the upkeep of the church and churchyard. Also coming up in the autumn, a new initiative of "Community Church" at LATCH in the afternoon. More details to follow.

If you would like the church to be floodlit any day for a special occasion for £5, please contact Freddie Spicer (482617)

Parish Council – Next Meeting – Tuesday 8th July – 7.00pm

Come and join us at the next PC meeting in the Meeting room of LATCH. Democratic Time allows you to bring up various points that concern you, or make you happy (praise and occasional brickbat accepted).

At our July meeting, Andrew Price will be standing down from the Parish Council. Since joining the council, Andrew has used his considerable experience from his many years as Dorset Council's County Planning Officer which eventually led to his well-earned retirement. As a result, we have managed to deal with numerous issues with a fair degree of expediency and know-how which clearly has helped produce the appropriate solutions. We thank Andrew for his tremendous efforts on our behalf and wish him more peace and time not having to worry (too much) about HGV's taking the short cut through the village on their way to and from Parks Farm Cheese Dairy.

IT Matters – Are you ready for Windows 11?

With little to report on Full Fibre provision to Litton Cheney as it is almost complete with the exception of the properties in Chalk Pit Lane which are awaiting the overhead cabling to be completed, my attention is now focussing on Microsoft Windows 10. With the Windows 10 Operating System nearing end of support during October this year, what does that mean to those of us still using it...? Well for starters it doesn't mean that your PC/Laptop is going to stop working, but it does mean that because Microsoft will stop producing updates and fixes that you will become more and more susceptible malware, hackers and the such like. There is the option of a free upgrade to Windows 11 if your current PC configuration is capable of supporting it. The best way to check this is to use Microsoft's own PC Health Check app to check your system requirements through Windows Update. If it fails Microsoft's compatibility test for Windows 11, saying its hardware doesn't meet the requirements, then it may be that you will need to purchase a new PC or laptop that does..... Or do you...?!?! If your test results show that your PC failed the compatibility test for Windows 11 primarily due to the absence of a required " Trusted Platform Module v2.0 " or TPM, be aware that this is often disabled by default on older hardware. If this hardware is included in your hardware, the TPM can be enabled within what is known as the BIOS to make their systems compatible without needing to purchase new computers, thereby avoiding unnecessary expenses. Changes to the BIOS should really only be carried out by someone with in depth computer knowledge.

Rob Matthews rob.matthews@littoncheney.org.uk

Considerate Parking

There are times during the various days and weeks in the life of a village like Litton Cheney, when trying to find a convenient place to park your car, that is close to your house, and unlikely to be blocked in by other vehicles becomes nigh on impossible. Like most villages possessed of narrow lanes and few parking spaces, and totally lacking a regular bus service, the question of where to park often bubbles to the surface. All we can ask of you is to be considerate, and if it is possible to park your car in your garage or on the drive please do so. Also, on Thursdays and alternate Fridays, you need to leave space for the bin lorries. Many thanks in anticipation of your considerate parking.

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

Mondays	3.30pm-4.30pm	Big Q (term time only)
Tuesdays	4.45pm-5.45pm	Short Mat Bowls (Ron Davidson 482661)
Wednesdays	4.45pm- 5.45pm-	Table Tennis (Ron Davidson 482661
	7.00pm	or Paul Kingston 482162)
Thursdays	9.15am-11.15am	Mindful Movement (Jane Hutchins 07882 527697)
		First Steps Toddlers (fortnightly, term time only)

OTHER EVENTS

Tuesday 8th	7.00pm	Parish Council in meeting room [NEW TIME]
Saturday 5th	Time t.b.c.	Garden Club Social for members and guests.
Monday 21st	7.00pm	Garden Club meeting
Tuesday 22nd	7.00pm	CPR Training
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Yoga with Nadiya Wynn
		(nadiyasime@hotmail.com)

Village Cafés: The hall is available for hire free of charge on Saturday mornings for a Café to raise funds for any group. It's a good social event for the community and always popular.

Hall Bookings/viewings: Wendy Firrell 01308 482532, wtlitton@gmail.com

CPR Training – Learn How You Might Save a Life – Tuesday 22nd July at LATCH

Everyone is very welcome to join a training session on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of a defibrillator which is being held on Tuesday 22nd July commencing promptly 7.00pm at LATCH. Following a cardiac arrest, time is of the essence and intervention at the earliest opportunity can help to significantly improve survival chances and recovery outcomes. The sooner CPR is administered and professional care in attendance the better the prognosis.

Learning CPR and the use of a defibrillator may help to save the life of a family member, friend or neighbour. Even if you have undertaken similar training in the past this may well act as a useful refresher. The session is free but donations to the Royal Life Saving Society will be very welcome. For further information please contact Pete Dennis on 01308 482760.

Thorner's Litton Cheney Fete – Sorry about the deluge!

From our valiant reporter on the spot – Claire Moore: -

2025 will be a Fete to remember!...this one is sure to create memories to last a lifetime amongst Litton's history books that's for sure!! Let's just say... the torrential rain and threat of thunder and lightning certainly didn't wash away the smiles of those braving the elements to run the day's events including a dog show, hobby horsing, welly wanging....and BBQ!...but the Chef's at least kept dry under the Ford Farm (thank you FF for donating the amazing cheese hampers for the raffle!) marquee - whilst flippin' burgers that went down a storm (pardon the pun!). Let's hear it for the BBQ chefs – Jay & Andy!

Despite the weather, we, in true village style, ploughed on in waterproofs and wellies and had a splashing time! Headmaster Mr Sitch probably didn't even notice the heavy rain whilst getting totally drenched on the Soak the Sitch stall!!

A huge Well Done to Eggardon pupils for opening the fete with fantastic Maypole dancing....big thanks to all those who did the teas and plants and cakes as well as the wonderful tombola and all the local businesses who supported the raffle! Teachers, TSAs, your contributions to this event are hugely appreciated as is that of the school Governors.

Finally, to the drenched gatekeepers, car park attendants and helpers, plus all those who came in support, and contributed their hard earned cash. Thanks to Treasurer Graham working through the night, it seems at the time of going to press that the fete has produced net takings of £3,700 – an incredible result!

Bravo Zulu to all who came, went, toiled, got ever so slightly damp and with forever smiles. One last word – To those furry friends who didn't manage to win a prize at the dog show, and arrived back home wet and bedraggled. Your very presence made the day – maybe next year it will be your turn, and perhaps even the sun will shine and tails will wag!



EXCITING AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN DURING AUGUST

Creative clay

Dress for mess and make sea-life clay pinch pots and perhaps create your own octopus. Friday 8th August 10.00am-12.30pm, Age 7+, £6.00
Booking is essential as places are limited

The Mushroom Show by Scratchworks Theatre

Physical comedy and interactive games, bringing together the world of fungi with science music and puppetry.

Monday 18th August 2.00pm-3.00pm

Age 5+ Children must be accompanied by an adult

Children £8, Adults £6, Family £24

Both events to be held at LATCH in Litton Cheney and tickets for both are available from Patricia, tel./text 07799612941 / 01308 482514 or book online via Artsreach.co.uk

Could you Write for the BVN?

We would like to extend our coverage of the Bride Valley into both more general and specific topics, and if you could contribute please let the editor know or contact your local village correspondent. Contributions between 250 and 300 words please, and we can include a picture or two as well. Now is the chance to get into print! There follows a contribution recently received following up an issue raised in last month's issue.

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-swyre-pc.gov.uk>



Puncknowle Swyre & West Bexington Lunch Club

Incorporates Chilcombe, Long Bredy and Little Bredy

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

July 15th Ham or Beef with salad & new potatoes, dessert to follow.

Future dates 2025:

August: No Meal

16th September: Cottage Pie & Gravy, dessert to follow

All meals include fruit juice to start and cheese and biscuits with tea or coffee. Vegetarian option can be provided.

Enquiries – please contact **David Buckland**

01308 898492 for more details



PUNCKNOWLE AND SWYRE COMMUNITY FÊTE

**Held in Puncknowle Manor Gardens
By kind permission of Sarah Wild**

**SATURDAY 26 JULY
2:00-4:00 pm**

**To volunteer, or to contribute bottles,
cakes, chocolate, plants or scones and
cakes – both large and small, please
contact**

**Andrea on 07990 596 382
or
Claire on 07875 762 760**

Long Bredy

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



Long Bredy 100 Club May Results

£30.00	No. 116	S. Dyer
£15.00	No. 146	C. Trethewey
£5.00	No. 32	D. Peretz

Church news

Summer at the church

In July, August and September there will be refreshments provided at the Church - help yourself to a hot or cold drink / biscuit and sit and enjoy a drink in the beautiful surroundings.

There will be craft for the children - make a boat / decorate a fish or have a go at the St Peter's Quiz. All to celebrate our St Peter. Bring a picnic! Easy summers day out for everyone. A donation to the Church funds would be welcome.

Visiting Bell Ringers

There will be groups of Bell Ringers visiting our tower throughout the Summer, so do go and listen to them if you wish.

Sit in the Churchyard and enjoy some refreshments from the Church. One group will have already rung in June.

The next dates will be Thursday 31st July from 11.00am – 12noon and Saturday 16th August from 12.00noon – 1.00pm.

Coming up in July...

Coffee Break

July Coffee Break will take place **Saturday 12th July** from 10.30am to 12.00noon in the Village Hall.

Come Along Inn

The 'Come Along Inn' will be open again on Friday, 18th July, 5.30pm – 9.00pm in the Village Hall. We will be having a BBQ and whatever the weather a warm welcome awaits you. (Booking is not necessary for the BBQ but if you are a largish group a heads up would be appreciated. Please email aking44634@aol.com or ring 01308 482270).

Langbride NGS

On 20th July the garden will be open with refreshments being served from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Parking behind the Church.

Annual Defibrillator Training

Our annual defibrillator training will be on Thursday 24th July at 7.00pm in Long Bredy Village Hall. Anyone can use the defibrillator, you do not need training, but if you want to feel more confident using it and/or have any questions then the training sessions is a perfect opportunity for this. No need to book, just come along!

Sailors and Saints Walk – Long Bredy with Rev'd Andrew

Join us on Friday 25th July for a walk around Long Bredy with Rev'd Andrew, including a visit to the St James Chapel site and a tribute to Admiral Hardy, born at Kingston Russell House.

We will meet at 3.00pm at Long Bredy Village Hall. All welcome including dogs.

Burton Bradstock

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



St Mary's Church Fete - Thursday 7 August



We are looking forward to all the usual activities, stalls, games and live entertainment at our annual fete on



Thursday 7th August in the Rectory Garden from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. We will have live music and a great magic show from Jonga Magic!

As ever, any contributions for the stalls, cakes or sponsorships would be most welcome. Liz Orza would be pleased to hear from you if you have something to donate which could be included in the Grand Draw as a prize or perhaps to put into a hamper of assorted items. Grand Draw tickets will be available from the Post Office during normal opening hours and Fete Committee members from Sunday 6th July.

The Village Hall will be open from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Wednesday 6th August where you can drop off donations for any of the stalls, especially books and items for the White Elephant stall. We also need donations of **full** bottles of soft drinks, beer, wine and spirits for the Bottle Tombola and children's toys, games and books for the Children's stall. The Plants and Garden Produce Stall would welcome donations that would be suitable for sale and should be delivered to the Rectory Garden on the morning of the Fete.

We need a lot of help to make the Fete successful. Volunteers are needed to help before and during the Fete and if you are available on Wednesday 6th August from 5.00pm and then on Thursday 7th from 8.30am, we would be very grateful for your assistance in setting up marquees and gazebos for the stalls and games and taking down and clearing up at around 4.00pm.

Here are contact details:

Co-ordinator: Peter Tompkins 897043 peterjtompkins@hotmail.com

Games: Alan Rawlinson: 897554 arrawlinson@hotmail.com

Stalls: (incl. Plants): Carol Brown 897273 carolb0530@gmail.com

Grand Draw: Liz Orza 897451 lizorza@hotmail.co.uk

Please put Thursday 7th August in your calendar and volunteer if you can or just come along and have a fun afternoon at what will be a quintessential Village Fete with the proceeds going to St Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock.

Thank You, the Church Fete Team

Tots' Time

This year has really galloped and, by the time you read this, we shall have but two weeks left of Tots' Time for this academic year. The last session is planned for July 11th.

Meanwhile, Tots have been planting fragrant flower seeds to make a summer garden to take home, so they can enjoy the sight and smell all through the holidays, and maybe transplant into their gardens?? The seeds looked a lot like muesli, so we are grateful that, with the help of their mothers, no seeds were eaten!

We have concluded the stories on the life of Joseph. Who would have thought that a few hassocks and an old green curtain on a go-pack table would provide such an effective landscape for a 'whistle-stop' tour of the whole, dramatic life of Joseph, complete with a well, some sheep, some pyramids and a prison. But the Lord was with Joseph in all his troubles and adventures and the Lord is with us.

This year has really galloped and, by the time you read this, we shall have but two weeks left of Tots' Time for this academic year. As noted above the last session is planned for 11th July.

One of the lovely things about Tots' Time outside in the garden is watching the children as they watch the 'creepy-crawlies'. We spent a while in wonder as they saw a worm making its way into a little hole in the ground. They were so patient and so focused. Quite a lesson for us!

We shall probably make some more Fantastic Fiery Flapjack for Fathers (and others) this June, as it was very popular a few years ago. That should be messy enough for Tots to do!!

All bumps, babies, toddlers and pre-school children with their parents/carers are welcome at Tots' Time each Friday in term time. We start at 2.00pm and end about 3.00/3.15pm. There is no charge, For more information contact Audrey on 01308 897227 or Liz on 01308 897451 or Helen on BVchurchesTA@outlook.co.uk

Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Village Hall Bookings

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

Coffee Mornings

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

Wed 9th July, W.I.

There will be no Coffee Morning in August.

Burton Bradstock Films

We are taking a summer break and will resume in September.

Look for details of the films in the BVN nearer the time.

During the break a comprehensive review of the projection system will take place to eradicate the recent glitches.

Thank You

A big thank you to the large team of Helpers who turned out to set up, run then clear away the Village Fayre on 26th May. This is far away the biggest fund raiser for the Village Hall and when successful, as this was, it funds any major investments we need to make and keep rental prices sensible for our local users. The Hall is extremely well used, largely due to low prices, good quality décor and equipment and enthusiasm in the Village for all sorts of interesting activities.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall “200 Club”

June 2025 Draw

Congratulations to the winners:

1st	£33.00	No 70:	Mrs Sue Sharp
2nd	£16.50	No 04:	Mr John Grantham
3rd	£8.25	No 51:	Mr Terry Moreau

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the July 2025 draw should telephone Keith Britton on 01308 898008 and let him have £6 – one pound for each monthly draw in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw.

WDDC Licence no: SL0080

Burton Bradstock Village Society

We were delighted that 58 Members were able to come to the AGM where the following were elected to the Committee:

Chair: Richard Ferre, **Treasurer:** Derek Thomas, **Secretary:** Roger Ashman, **Committee Members:** Val Ferre, Pauline Tompkins, Val McRobert, Carol Higo, Derek Rigby.

We also had tremendous support the next day for the Plant & Cake Sale which raised £650 for the Society’s funds.

The Flower and Produce Show on the 12th of July.

This is next big event that we run for everyone in the village and children at the school. There are 68 classes, children’s, Cookery & Home produce, homemade wine and beer, flower arranging, open classes, handicrafts, photography and limerick, so something for everyone. We also have a new class of “A craft item made from naturally gathered material”.

The photography subjects are “**The beauty of trees**” and “**Reflections**” and the limerick subject “**Electric cars**”.

The Flower arranging classes are some that particularly enhance the show with their colour and scent and we would hope to have lots of entries this year. The mini arrangement this year is titled “Little Gems” is always fun and great to do with the children.

All the information you need is in the brochure, click on **www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/villagesociety** and look for the **2025 Flower and Produce Show** to find the link to the **Schedule**.

Hard copies are also available in the Library and Post Office. This is a great village event where we all have an equal chance to win but it is just fun taking part.

Subscriptions:

Thank you to all members who have paid your subscriptions. Membership cards will be delivered to members through July and August and outstanding subscriptions will be collected then. The 2025-26 Programme is also on the website in the Village Society section.

Burton Bradstock Festival of Music and Art 10th-17th August

With the programme available during June, and tickets on sale from 30th June at the Tourist Information Centre by email, post, phone or in person, this is just a brief reminder to save the dates. Jennifer Malyon says that all musical tastes will be catered for, including folk, jazz, an evening of romance, plus music from films and television.

Meanwhile the selection of artists for the Art Exhibition is being finalised which should result in another year's wonderful showcase of work from the south-west.

Please see the website for full information
www.burtonbradstockfestival.com

Laura Nottingham

Burton Bradstock Parish Council

New Councillor: We would like to give a warm welcome to Jessie Nicholls-Stevens. Jessie has strong family connections to Burton and is looking forward to serving the people of Burton Bradstock. Please come along and meet Jessie at our next meeting. All meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month (no August meeting).

The Friends of Burton Bradstock Library

Summer Reading Challenge:



The theme of this year's challenge is 'Story Garden – Adventure in Nature and the Great Outdoors'. This is open to all children aged 4 to 11 and encourages reading for pleasure during the summer holidays. It runs from 5th July.

Children register at the library and receive a collector poster. They are asked to read 6 books over the summer (or more of course!) and are given a sticker for each book read which they can pop onto their poster. A medal is awarded in the library after all 6 books have been returned, plus a certificate will be presented at school or in the library. There will be books on display which relate to the theme so please encourage youngsters to sign up and take part.

Adults don't need to feel left out. There are lots of books about gardening, travel, wildlife and more for them to enjoy. Perhaps you could team up with a young person and share the experience? We can all benefit from spending time in the great outdoors and even if it is a rest on a sun lounger with a good novel, then pay us a visit to stock up.

We also provide photocopying, laminating, jigsaws to borrow, public computers, help with digital issues, and of course, a friendly atmosphere! Have a good summer!

Normal opening hours are:

Monday 2.00-4.00pm

Wednesday 10.00am-12noon

Thursday & Saturday 2.00-4.00pm

burtonbradstocklibrary@gmail.com

www.burtonbradstockvillage.org/library

01308 897563

Sue Brown, Chairman

Burton Bradstock WI

At our May meeting Chris Stevens from Bridport Museum came and gave a talk about the Home Front war effort in the Bridport area, which tied in nicely with our commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day. It was quite surprising to see how many groups of local people were involved with helping out in the necessary services at home during the war. We were also interested in the old photographs of our village and the Bridport area at the time of the war, noticing how things had changed – and also trying to recognise where some of the photographs had actually been taken!

As I write we are looking forward to a visit at our June meeting by Susan Outhwaite from Snooks hat shop – more about that next time hopefully with lots of photos of members in the various hats that I know she will bring.

We are not having a speaker at our July meeting as it's Competition Time!! Hopefully members are busy working on their entries for the following categories:

Watercolour painting
Painting in any other medium
Knitting/crochet
Any other craft
Photography – title "Buildings"

There will also be a quiz and the usual tempting refreshments to look forward to. New members are always welcome.

Janet Pearson
01308 898346

Greenfingers Club

Greenfingers Club is taking a break for the summer. Keep an eye on the BVN for the date & time of our next meeting.



Cilla's July Checklist - Feed, water & deadhead flowers in containers regularly. If the soil is dry, water camellias & rhododendrons to ensure a good flower display next year. Plant autumn-flowering bulbs e.g., nerines, colchicums & crocuses. Feed roses after dead-heading them. Sow wallflower seeds.

Harvest vegetables as soon as they are ready. Prevent blossom end rot on tomatoes, cucumbers & courgettes by regular watering & a weekly feed. Sow vegetables for autumn harvesting e.g., beetroot, carrots & turnips. Harvest & store garlic once the foliage has turned yellow. Propagate more strawberries by pinning runners in pots. Harvest annual herbs regularly. Keep bird baths topped up with clean water.

& finally... Q: Why did the scarecrow win an award?

A: Because he was outstanding in his field!

Enjoy all the colour of the garden this month

Cilla's August Checklist - Prioritise watering, looking for those plants that dry out & wilt quickly in the sun. Keep deadheading spent blooms to prolong the flowering season of your border & pot grown plants. Deadhead lavender. Sow cornflowers. Pot up any self-sown seedlings to grow on & plant out next spring. Collect seed ready to sow in the autumn or keep until the spring. Feed salad crops in containers with a high-nitrogen liquid fertiliser; use a high potash feed for tomatoes to encourage ripening. Continue to sow spring cabbages. Plant sprouting broccoli & protect them from the butterflies & pigeons. Prune summer raspberries as soon as all the fruit has been harvested. Harvest or pinch out basil frequently for bushier growth. & finally... One of my herbs told me I was doing a good job in the garden ...It was an encourage mint.

See you in September, with hopefully new jokes!

Burton Bradstock Bridge Club

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

Burton Coffee Mates

Burton Coffee Mates meet in the church on the second Thursday of the month from 10.30am -12noon. Although everyone from the village is welcome, this is particularly suitable for older people and facilities are provided for wheelchair users. Do come and join us.

Littlebredy

Village Correspondent: Tim Laycock

Email: t.laycock70@gmail.com

Tel: 01308 482443

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



On looking back, I see that the first of these monthly notes I compiled for the BVN was for the July 1995 edition, which by my reckoning makes this one the 361st and last. Every single one has hit the deadline for publication (but sometimes, like this one, only just), though an inbox error at an editor's end meant that one was not published in the appropriate month. I hope that the current editor will allow me a chance for reflection rather than news in this final submission.

Ecclesiastes, chapter 3, begins "For everything there is a season", and of course that applies as much to the life of the Littlebredy community as it does to anyone or anywhere else. That "season" may encompass lifespans in the natural world, from the few hours of a mayfly to the centuries of the noblest trees (of which more anon), with all the ups and downs of our human lives, concerns, occupations, and habitations filling their space in the mix. My family's 228 years here - nine generations of us if you count our grandchildren - in the life of Littlebredy, St. Michael & All Angels and Bridehead is now at an end, but the change of seasons is a gradual process, and a new chapter in the village should not mark an abrupt break with the past, but an evolution with the prospect of new growth. Household changeovers in the village have been a regular feature of these notes, and the last recorded five have all been departures with no arrivals to set against them, but that will no doubt change in future and it is time to look to that future with confidence and good will. May it be a beneficial one for all concerned. At a personal level, Catherine and I of course extend our gratitude for all the friendship and support we have received from the village and the valley these past 40 years and our every best wish to all who remain here as we move to live not far away, but perhaps symbolically on the other side of the watershed between the Bride, which flows westwards, and the Winterbourne, which also rises on the estate but is a tributary of the Frome and flows east.

I mentioned trees as an example of longevity above, and it may also be symbolic that the great yew tree beside the walled garden entrance, which may well be the oldest living organism in the parish, has been visibly slowly perishing for quite a while. When a fine wellingtonia beside the lake was also evidently dying (its roots were drowning) a few years ago, it was reluctantly felled and uprooted, which may yet be the eventual fate of the yew, but a replacement wellingtonia provided and planted by Chris and Judy Yates further back from the water has been thriving ever since. Let that be the message - parable, even – for these final ruminations to leave behind.

Philip Williams

Thank You to Philip

On behalf of the village, we wish Philip and Catherine all the very best for the future as they leave Bridehead for their new home just over the hill. We thank them wholeheartedly for their unfailing kindness and compassion- their departure will leave a very big void in our community life. The comments and memories of the many people who either lived in the village or have family connections with the area over the last few weeks attest to the esteem with which the Williams family are held in the Bride valley and beyond. Readers will know that this is indeed a historic change for Littlebredy - Bridehead has been the home of seven generations of Williams, all of whom have contributed hugely to the life and unique atmosphere of the village.

Of course, there are many public footpaths and quiet lanes around our lovely parish, and visitors and locals will still be very welcome at the Church (services on the second and fourth Sundays at 11.00am) and at the Walled Garden and cafe, which is open on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons from 2.00pm - 5.00pm. Delicious homemade cakes and scones!

Tim Laycock

Will contributors to the BVN please note that Tim has kindly taken over the role of Village Correspondent from Philip, and all future contributions should be sent to him at the contact details given in the Village Heading above. The editor thanks Tim for taking over, and also wishes to say a huge Thank You to Philip for his amazing 361 contributions, a record which is unlikely to be overtaken!

Shipton Gorge

Village Correspondent: Richard Hewlett

Greenways, Shipton Gorge

01308 787278 richardhewlett419@gmail.com

Village web-site: www.shiptongorge.org.uk



Welcome to our village diary

Just search for Shipton Gorge Diary or go directly to

<https://shiptongorgediary.co.uk/>

You'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, the Parochial Church Council, and other event organisers.

St Martin's Church

July Floodlight Sponsors:

Chris and Ruth Nunn,

Diane for Ivan, Jimmy and Winsome,

Doreen Rogers for all those with anniversaries.

P & J, in memory of our Chris, 9 years on 9th July.

Thank you to our generous sponsors for lighting up St Martin's.

Your support is most important to the Church and is very much appreciated.

For a suggested donation of £5, you too can light up the Valley and have your occasion mentioned in the Bride Valley News, and on posters on the notice boards.

Please contact Phyl Webster on 01308 898657 or push a note through Cuckoo Cottage post-box.

Our Church Services

Breakfast Church (in the Village Hall) on 13th at 9.30am

Annual Pet Service at 3.00pm on 20th

Holy Communion at 11.00am on 27th

Do ask your pet to accompany you St Martin's, very informal, Pet Service.

You can of course, borrow one, any make, shape or size or just come along anyway!

Thank you Milo!

You may have spotted that the Rector's name has at last, been amended on the Church notice board. Our thanks go to Milo for making such a good job.

Village Hall

June 2025 100 Club Super Draw results

1 st	157	£100 Julie Bartram Lang
2 nd	126	£25 Anne Jones
3 rd	27	£20 Christine Green
4 th	48	£15 Emma Wellman
5 th	141	£10 Patsy/Rob Jacobs

Congratulations to all winners

Village Society

SGVS Summer Show and Fete Saturday 9th August

To all you prize winners of 2024, it is now time to return your trophies back to Sally Parker. Can these please come back polished ready to be awarded to this year's winners.

Our program for 2025 is almost ready to be displayed, so please look out in the notice boards for an itinerary of events and entries that can be made.

As in previous years there is no entry fee, but pride is at stake for the best flower display, best produced vegetables, cake entries for both men and women, many children's categories, so we look forward to this year being better than ever.

Don't forget there is also a Sunflower Competition. This is open to everyone in the village. A prize will be awarded to the tallest grown.

We look forward to seeing you all there to join in what makes this such a special day.

Shipton Gorge Heritage

Heritage Gin Club – The winner in the June draw was Alex Drew – well done Alex. For info, tickets for the year starting in August will be on sale very soon – if interested, please let us know and we can set aside a ticket for you.



Saunders Richardson Wood

Considering the very dry spring, the wildflowers and other ground cover vegetation in the wood has grown amazingly well. The tree cover obviously moderates the temperature and helps to retain moisture. At the end of May a small team visited the wood and collected stinging nettles to start brewing the first batch of nettle fertiliser. The tricky bit was to collect enough water from the stream to cover the nettles. Should be ready in mid-July – so look out for notices when it will be on sale. We intend to open the wood on Wednesday 16 July 11.00am to midday. If you would like to come along and either help or have a walk round, that would be great. This is a members' only event but we can sign you up on the day and there is no charge to join.

Shipton Gorge Orchard

The pollinators were obviously busy in the spring as there are lots of little fruits on the trees. If dry conditions continue we might have to thin these out a little so that we have a better chance of getting some reasonable size fruits in the autumn. The grass has grown like mad and we will need to get it scythed very soon – which should allow enough time for a second cut in the autumn. We will be doing some work in the Orchard on Monday 7th July. All residents are welcome to come along – either to help or even just for a chat if you prefer.



The Big Butterfly Count this year is between 18th July and 10th August. Why not set aside some time to look out for butterflies in your garden or even in the Village Orchard. The Butterfly Conservation Trust website will give you

more details of how to record and submit your count. After declining numbers of butterflies resulted in the charity declaring a nationwide Butterfly Emergency last year, it's more important than ever that people take part in 2025.

For those who like to plan ahead – particularly if you intend to do any jam making or preserving - the **Apple Day Produce Sale** will be held this year on Saturday 25 October in the village hall. Perhaps make a jar to two more for the sale? More details nearer the time.

If you would like to become a member, or are interested in supporting the charity in any way, please contact Anne Crowe on 07393 214635 or email annecrowe2016@hotmail.com

Details as usual on our website:

http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/Shipton_Gorge_Heritage_16417.aspx
and in the Shipton Gorge Diary <https://www.shiptongorgediary.co.uk>

Parish Council

Unfortunately, we had to postpone the Annual Meeting on 30th May and reschedule for 23rd June. Our next regular meeting is on Thursday 10th July at 7.00pm in the village hall. Do come along to see what we have been up to, raise any issues you would like us to look into and also to see if you would like to join us on the Council. It would be great to have at least one more member as among other things it will make it easier to have a quorum if there are any last minute problems.

Lilian Stone Trust

If you, or someone you know is in need of some financial help then the Trust may be able to help. It exists in order to assist any resident, young or old, living in the Parish of Shipton Gorge. A grant can be given towards a range of items such as assistance with utility bills, schooling (including school trips), higher education, transport or household equipment, in fact most day-to-day issues where some financial support is needed and would be welcomed.

Your application can be sent to lilianstonetrust@gmail.com or contact the Rector or any of the Trustees for further information:

*The Rector - Andrew Rawding 898799 Paul Thimont - 07770 381579
Heather Puttock - 898355 Richard Hewlett - 897278*

All requests are kept in strictest confidence and only shared between the Trustees and the Rector.

New Inn Update, From New Inn Support Limited

On behalf of the whole village, New Inn Support Limited is delighted to welcome Jack Godwin and Téah Goodfellow to our community leased pub, the New Inn at Shipton Gorge. Thanks to a great deal of hard work from Jack, Téah, members of their family and many locals under the banner of the Friends of the New Inn, the pub has been refurbished and is now welcoming customers for drinking and dining. We look forward to a successful and long-lasting partnership with Jack and Téah.

Please come and meet Jack and Téah and perhaps enjoy a drink and a meal from the new menu. Bookings can be made by calling on 01308 897302 or by visiting in person.

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

My dear Nephew Darren



So, you have received your first letter of complaint. I am not wholly unsympathetic with your complainant, as attempting to marry the bride to the best man would have created havoc with the seating arrangements at the reception. However, you must learn that receiving letters of complaint is an integral part of the ordained ministry. After 50 years of parish life, the number of such letters I have received are now held in bound volumes.

The anonymous ones you will receive, invariably written in green ink on lined notepaper, can be safely consigned to your wastepaper basket, along with all mail, from whatever source, labelled 'Urgent'.

You will receive letters complaining that you did not pray for someone who was in hospital, regardless of the fact that you knew nothing of it. Probably by the next post, you will receive a letter complaining that you did pray for someone in hospital - when they had wanted to keep their cosmetic surgery secret.

Those who regard themselves as guardians of doctrinal purity will write complaining of the heresies contained in the previous Sunday's sermon. These can be filed with those letters that complain that your sermons are too short, along with those who complain that they are too long. The hourly striking of the church clock is a perennial favourite for complaints. I usually reply by saying

that we are currently exploring the possibility of getting it to strike the quarters too.

Letters of complaint will arrive in November, complaining that the church is too cold, so making prayer impossible. Others will drop on the doormat in April saying that it is too hot, so making prayer impossible. In Spring, some will write that the churchyard should be mown more often, while others will complain that it is mown too often and ruins it as a habitat for wildlife. The annual Summer 'Procession of Witness' generates complaints that the brass band ruined the slumbers of parishioners having a Sunday lie-in. Then come Harvest, there will be the letters complaining that they did not receive a Harvest gift, which was particularly unforgivable, as their grandmother had once sung in the choir. Thus, the annual round is accompanied by reams of notepaper. The only letter of complaint I have really treasured came from the Bishop, rebuking me for never having attended any meeting when he was present. I have had it framed and hung on the study wall.

Your loving uncle, Eustace



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- Meal Preparation & Shopping Visits
- Transportation
- Cleaning & Laundry/ Ironing Service
- Office & Holiday Let Cleaning
- End of Tenancy Cleaning
- Dog Walking & Pet Sitting
- Administration Support



I have over 16 years of adult care experience supporting a range of individuals with varying health & social care needs. Being qualified to NVQ/ Diploma levels 2, 3, and 5 and having spent almost ten years working as a Registered Care Manager within both Residential & Home Care settings. I have a further 50+ adult care, lifestyle, and accommodation management related courses to which support me to offer you the above quality and professional services.

Being fully insured, referenced, and DBS checked; Please contact me for a free no obligation information pack issued via post or email and/ or a free informal home visit to discuss your home support needs.

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Chilcombe		6.30pm Evening Prayer 9.30am Morning Worship		
Litton Cheney	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	6.00pm Evensong	11.00am Morning Worship and baptism
Puncknowle	Morning Praise 11.00am	9.30am Holy Communion		11.00am Café Church
Swyre	6.00pm Evening Prayer		11.00am Holy Communion 3.00pm Pet Service	
Shipton Gorge		9.30am Breakfast Church		11.00am Holy Communion
Long Bredy	11.00am Holy Communion		9.30am Morning Worship	Long Bredy Pilgrimage of Peace starting from Village Hall at 3.00pm 11am Holy Communion
Littlebredy		11.00am Morning Worship 10.00am Family Praise		
Portesham			11.00am Holy Communion	9.00am BCP Holy Communion
Abbotsbury	11.00am Holy Communion			10am Family Praise
Langton Herring	9.00am BCP	11.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Family Praise	Evening Prayer 7.00pm (outdoors if the weather if fine)
Wednesday 2 nd July	11.30am Holy Communion at Burton Bradstock, to be followed by a light lunch.			

