

DECEMBER BVN

The Editors wish you all a

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

CONTENTS

FROM THE CLERGY	PAGE	4
FROM THE REGISTERS		6
VALLEY NOTES		7
LONG BREDY		14
LITTON CHENEY		16
PUNCKNOWLE SWYRE WEST BEXINGTON		22
SWYRE		26
SHIPTON GORGE		29
BURTON BRADSTOCK		32
LITTLEBREDY		39
SERVICE SHEET		40
BEYOND THE VALLEY		43
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS		45
DIARY OF EVENTS		46

Please note that the BVN deadline for the January 2007 edition has to be brought forward to **Sunday 10th December**, which means your village correspondent will need to receive your copy by **Friday 8th December** at the latest.

Many thanks.



THE RECTORY,
BURTON BRADSTOCK



THE RECTORY,
LITTON CHENEY

FROM THE CLERGY

This is an advance notice, but only by a smidgen. There's an important change to the regular plan of services overlapping into January. Sunday 7th is a special one for us in the Valley in that we have another united service at 11.00 at Litton Cheney. On this occasion we will be saying farewell to the Revd Anthony Ashwell, and to Anna, and giving thanks for their life and ministry among us in the Valley. As you will be able so see in the January service plan we will be having our regular 8.00 am and 9.30 am services, but the 11.00 am ones at Shipton Gorge, Burton Bradstock and Long Bredy will be cancelled that week so that everyone will have an opportunity to attend at Litton Cheney. The service there will be followed by food and festivities at Thorner's school. Lots of details will be circulating about this I am sure, but I insert it now so that notes can be made in all those brand new diaries.

Anthony and Anna have lived and made their home among us in the Valley for many a long year. In the last couple of years, as we know, Anthony has taken on wider responsibility as Rural Dean of the Lyme Bay Deanery. He has also taken over the Parish of Symondsburry, it's Churches and congregations. This is what happens when you are willing and able. Since August, at his generous suggestion, we have been trying to run our service plan, with the help of the Revd Jean Thorn, the Readers and the Lay Worship Leaders, with Anthony playing long stop in case of need. Our Lay Pastoral Assistants have begun to get into their stride. All of which tells of the amount of work people are having to do to cover the loss of Anthony from among us, as well as how we hope to cope in the future. We have seen less of him of late, but he has been very much at hand to help.

Now, in early January, we will be saying our fond farewells on his well deserved retirement and praying blessings upon him and Anna for long and happy years ahead.

And one more thing; a Happy Notable Birthday to Anthony on the 11th of January. God Bless.

Bob

FROM THE VICAR

Anna and Anthony wish all our readers a most special Christmas, and a New Year full of Blessings.

About the Vicar

Anthony submitted his notice of retirement to the Bishop of Salisbury on November 1st, and his term of office as Vicar in the Bride Valley Team Ministry will end on January 31st 2007. (He expects to have his 65th Birthday in this period). Anthony will not be replaced, and a decision is awaited on the future of Litton Cheney Parsonage House. Anthony is also retiring from the post of Priest-in-charge of Symondsburry at the same time, and ceased being Rural Dean of Lyme Bay at the end of October. Canon Trevor Stubbs from Bridport has taken over this last responsibility.

Anna and Anthony will be retiring to Charmouth where their address will be:-

Ven Cottage,
Five Acres,
Higher Sea Lane,
CHARMOUTH,
Dorset DT6 6BE
Tel. 01297-560847
Email: anthonyashwell@aol.com

They expect to move in around the last week in January.

From the Registers

Baptisms

On Sunday 5th November, Isabella Kate Johnston Hynd was baptized at St Martin's Church, Shipton Gorge. She gurgled through the service, and was joined in her enthusiasm by her family and friends giving thanks to God in singing. She even managed a smile when the water was poured and then straight away posed for the admiring cameras. It was a warm afternoon, all the warmer on top of the hill for being perfectly still and absolutely lovely in the sunshine.

Weddings

On Saturday 14th October at St Martin's, Shipton Gorge, Nicholas Roast and his new bride, Minako Fujita, came to Church to celebrate their marriage and to rejoice in God's blessing upon them. It was a simple and lovely service of two blessings in one; a Christian one led by the Rector, and a Buddhist prayer, sung to the accompaniment of bells, by Minako's Mother, herself a Buddhist priest. The newly married couple celebrated in the company of family and friends from all around the world.

Funerals

On Wednesday 25th October, at Yeovil crematorium, the funeral took place of the late John Edward Spier, brother of Janet Guppy of Burton Bradstock. John had spent some of his early years in Burton Bradstock, and was a regular visitor to the Parish from his home in Swindon. His ashes were interred in the churchyard at Burton Bradstock on Friday 10th November among the family graves. A faithful man, and a devoted member of his Church choir, we pray that he may sing Gods praises in glory.

On Friday 3rd November at St Mary's Church, Litton Cheney, the funeral was held of the late Ruby Kingston. She and her beloved husband, Edwin, arrived in the village from Ireland in the late 1940s to work at Coombe farm, and have lived in the village ever since. A large contingent of the family from Ireland, and many neighbours

from the village heard their son, Paul give a moving account of her life. Their other son, Robert, read the lesson at the service. Irish songs were played in remembrance of her, her faithfulness and Christian life were recalled and prayers were made for the repose of her soul. She was laid to rest in the Churchyard.

Valley Notes

First Steps Toddler Group

For babies and children from birth up until starting school. Parents and carers of all ages are welcome! Come along on a Wednesday morning to make new friends and catch up with existing ones! We have a wide range of play equipment and toys and an active social side.

REMINDER: next night out Friday 8th December at the Beach and Barnicott

We meet in Long Bredy Village Hall, every Wednesday in term time - 10 am - 12 noon.

The Health Visitor will be with us again on Wed 6th December; to weigh babies or answer any questions.

Thursday Fellowship Group (Thursday Housegroup)

The Thursday Fellowship Group meets every Thursday during term time for Prayer & Praise or Study & Discussion. Please phone Paul on 482346 for details of the venue.

Dec 7th - Christmas Prayer and Praise

Dec 14th - Study

Dec 21st - Christmas Social

Tiny Tots/Pram Service

Friday 8th December at 11.00 am at St. Mary's Church,
Burton Bradstock.

A service for 0-5 years, but all are welcome.

Yvette Smith, 898219

Thorner's CE VA Primary School

It hardly seems right that it is December already, time has flown this term and we are working towards our Christmas Concert, Church Service and all the other seasonal activities.

We are extremely fortunate again this year that a number of our talented parents have taken the time and given the effort to produce what I am sure will be a stunning concert the traditional Christmas story from a different point of view with the addition of original songs - a huge thank you must go to Mr Cleden and Mr Jevons (our very own Rogers and Hammerstein). If you would like to join us for the concert it is at 6.30pm on Tuesday 12th December in the school hall.

The church service on the last day of term, 9.30am Wednesday 20th December, will also be Anthony Ashwell's last assembly for school. Along with many of you we will miss him, it is an end of an era, he was one of the people who appointed me, we forged closer links between the church and school, introduced many of our pupils to regular visits to the parish church for services and as part of our curriculum topics. During his time in Litton he has led regular weekly worship for the whole school. He has also been very supportive in his role as governor, asking those awkward questions or spotting mistakes, but always being positive and a real asset to Thorner's, especially on the DIY front. We will miss you but wish you well in all that you choose to do in the future.

Alison Johnstone

November 100 Club Winners:	£15	Brenda Oliver
	£10	Sarah Nobes

Burton Bradstock CE VC School

Last month the children enjoyed a disco organised by the PTA and a number of children took part in the annual Cluster Cross Country event held at Symondsburry. We also entered the five-a-side football tournament organised by Team Theme. Our new young team finished 2nd in their qualifying group (only losing 1-0 to the eventual winners, St Mary's Bridport) and were unlucky to be taken to penalties in the quarter final against Salway Ash. Nevertheless, it was a terrific performance and they did us proud.

It's hard to believe that Christmas is once again upon us. There is still something special about this time of year and we look forward with gratitude to Christingle making with the Reads. With all the excitement of the season, plus coughs, colds and bugs, 'peace and goodwill towards men' can wear a bit thin. Hopefully our investment in the SEAL project (social and emotional aspects of learning) will reap dividends in the form of a settled end to term.

I noticed with interest recently a newspaper article noting that the Archbishop of York has accused the Government of pursuing education policies that sideline "manners, morals and spirituality" in favour of purely target-driven academic achievement. Whilst I agree with this premise, I would like to stand up for those of us who do try our best to address a wide curriculum that seeks to develop the whole child. The Archbishop went on to say that education should be pursued in a broader sense and give pupils a "glimpse of what heaven will be like". That's a tall order but infinitely better than SATs!

Mark Stratta

October 100 Club winners:	£20	Liz Mackay
	£10	Ivy Barton
	£5	Suzanne Price

Bride Valley Fledglings Playgroup

The winner of our Summer Quiz was Mr Adams of Bradpole with a total of 68.5 out of 69!! The quiz raised £115 for new resources/toys for playgroup - thanks to **Sue** our Quiz-Master. The Winter Quiz will be out by January and the theme will be "Nursery Rhymes" - so it should be easy!! Look out for a photo in the local paper soon.

Our Harvest Festival box of fruit and vegetables went to Swyre Church this year. We also made vegetable soup - and ate the lot! Some Reception (ex Fledglings) children also helped prepare the veg. We had a wonderful visit from 4 donkeys (and staff) from the Donkey Sanctuary on 17th October - we were able to stroke, groom and feed the donkeys - thanks to Olivia's carrots, and then May, Alia and Oliver were brave enough to have a ride too. Thorner's school children were all able to visit the donkeys too in groups, and learn all about them - despite the rain, which started once our visit had ended. It did not put them off - well done everyone. We made bonfire collages and firework pictures for 5th November, stuffed furry mice for Hickory Dickory Dock week and learned about time, made some cakes during "Pat a Cake" week and took part in lots more activities for "I Had a Little Motor Car" and "Down in the Jungle" weeks.

We hope to have two more children start at playgroup this term - but we still have places available. Our Thursday afternoon session for toddlers and babies is "Nestlings" - please come along any time for music, physical play and messy play in a child-friendly environment.

Our Christmas Market will have taken place by the time you read this with all sorts going on - Live Nativity included - we'll let you know how it went next time - lots of Christmas presents bought, I hope. Our fund-raising webshop is already making money for playgroup - so do have a go at using it - I have purchased birthday and Christmas presents already - www.buy.at/bridevalleyfledglings

Our Christmas party is on Monday 18th December - we will be

dressing up in our Nativity costumes and singing some Christmas songs to our parents. Hopefully, Father Christmas will pay a visit to drop off some small gifts - it is all excitement - not forgetting the Christmas production in the school, which we shall enjoy.

Happy Christmas Everyone!

Carol Bennett (Playleader) 482410 or 897771

or Rachel Maltby (Chair) 482246

Please ring for any information re Fledglings or Nestlings

Bride Valley Ladies Choir Christmas Coffee Morning

This event will take place on Thursday 14th December in the Village Hall at Shipton Gorge from 10.30am until 12 noon. There will be a raffle, Christmas gifts and goodies for sale, and you will be musically entertained as you enjoy coffee and homemade seasonal refreshments.

Do come and celebrate the festive season with us and help raise funds for our local choir.

Janet Lane

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

The Christmas Party for all those children who live in the Eastern End of the Bride Valley will take place on Sunday 10th December 2006. If you are aged 0 - 11 years you are invited to Thorner's School between 3 and 5 pm. Tickets are £1. All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number with them. Tickets need to be purchased in advance preferably by Friday 1st December and should be available from Thorner's School and from individuals in each of the villages.

The Christmas Party for those children in the Eastern End of the Bride Valley has taken place for around 50 years. If the tradition is to continue we welcome the help, interest and support of any individual, group or organisation who could assist in any way.

Katharine Jones 482589

Elizabeth Kingston 482384

New Inn, Shipton, Bride Valley Lunch & Supper Clubs

Lunch: Phone me on 01308 897935 by 8th Dec to obtain a place for the **Monday 11th December**. Lunch at 12.30 pm for 1 pm, a Turkey Lunch + Mince Pie + Coffee/Tea @ £7.95 (or to say you'll order something different on the day).

Supper: One Supper Club event only in December....**Friday 29th December**. Supper, meeting at New Inn, Shipton Gorge at 6.30 pm to eat at 7.00 pm. Please send cheque for £13 to me (made out to 'The New Inn') at September Cottage, 32 Middle St, Burton Bradstock, DT6 4QR (01308 897935), stating whether Fish Pie or Beef Casserole, and whether Apple Crumble or Fresh Fruit Salad.

Over 100 Supper Club members now...please phone me if you would like to join in.

The booking system now changes for Supper...to book you do not wait for forms, but see the dates in each BVN for the end of that month and book for the preferred date, by sending £13 direct to me, stating choice of stated dish options. Please phone me first if trying to book after, say, the 7th of the month to check if any tickets left, as they go fast. The experimental & unserious 30 minute 'table quiz session over coffee' looks set to continue.

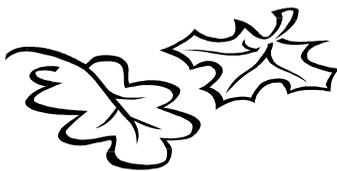
John Grantham

Bride Valley Gardening Club

Diary for December and January:

Monday 11th December - Christmas Party and talk from David Barnikel, 7.30pm, Thorner's School

Monday 8th January - Michael Michaud, 7.30pm, Thorner's School



Jobs to do:

Whenever the weather is mild and dry plant new trees and shrubs as the soil will still be warm. Winter pruning and removal of dead or badly placed wood should be completed. Reduce rose heights to protect the plants from wind rock. Cut down dying ferns and use to cover tender perennials to protect from frost. And when weather

permits continue to tidy up and watch out for wildlife hiding in the bonfire before lighting it. Peruse the seed catalogues and send off orders.

And a happy Christmas to all our members and best wishes for a fruitful New Year.

Valerie Cameron, Club Secretary
E-mail: secretary.bvyc@virgin.net
Dianne Ffoulkes, Chair
01308 482420

SAVE BURTON BRADSTOCK LIBRARY - FOR BRIDE VALLEY USE

You may have heard that the village libraries at risk of closure in Dorset have been given a two year stay of execution.

This does NOT mean they are safe from closure....*only* that we have been given two years to come up with viable plans which would allow some library provision in the village - also hopefully retention of the building for our community.

If you wish library provision within the village it is *essential* to continue support of the existing facility. **It is not necessary for you to live in Burton Bradstock in order to borrow books from Burton.**

Anyone in the local area, e.g. Shipton Gorge, Swyre, Pucknowle and beyond can do so.

Books ordered on-line can also be collected at Burton, thereby saving you a trip into Bridport.

Please support our Library. Remember the motto...

“USE IT OR LOSE IT!”

Jan Proctor
Member of the Library Working Group

LONG BREDY



Village Correspondent: Mrs Elinor Frost
Bridelands, Longbredy (482269)

Long Bredy Parish News December 2006

A Very Merry Christmas to all.

The Long Bredy and Little Bredy Carol Service

It is Long Bredy's turn to host the carol service on Monday 18th December at 6.30 pm. Music, carols and children's voices will be heard, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. The church will be decorated for the weekend 16/17th. Do come along and help with this: children are welcome to help set up the Nativity scene.

The Christmas Day service is Family Communion at Little Bredy 11.00am.

Congratulations to Hugo and Juliet Busby on the birth of Beatrice Juniper Anne (Bea). Juliet and Hugo wish to thank everyone for their good wishes and warm reception to Bea.

Jamie and Julie Woolwich-Moon and family have left the village for Winchester, where Jamie is to be a stonemason at Winchester Cathedral. We wish them well with their new life.

Welcome to 2 The Rookery to Shaun and Susan Pike, Ebony 9, Josh 7 and Lacey 4, plus dogs. We hope they enjoy living in Long Bredy.

A very big thank you to our churchyard mowers and strimmers. It has looked wonderful all year.

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

All children aged 0-11 years are invited to the Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party on Sunday 10th December, 3 - 5 pm at Thorner's School.

All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number. Tickets available in advance.



Christmas Party – 9th December

After the success of last year's party we have been in touch with Father Christmas and arranged for him to make a return visit to Long Bredy on Saturday 9th December in the Village Hall.

The party starts at 5.30pm and he should be with us about an hour afterwards.

Tickets will be available from Village Hall Committee members: Mike and Valerie Shepherd, Elinor Frost, Janet Cuff, Giles Maltby, Sara Winter and Alan Kinghorn.

The cost is £2:50 per family and please don't forget to give us the number and ages of any children. We need to have these details by 2nd December.

Please bring a plate of food and any alcohol you wish to consume; soft drinks will be available with some finger food.

Alan Kinghorn will be organising the raffle and will take any contributions for prizes you would like to give.

LITTON CHENEY



Village Correspondent: Josie Belasco

11 Manor Farm Close, Litton Cheney

Tel: (01308) 482484 jo.belasco@tiscali.co.uk

Christmas at St. Mary's Church

Friday 1st December 9.30 a.m. – Christmas Cleaning

If you can spare an hour or two you would be most welcome to help at the annual church cleaning morning in readiness for Christmas. Coffee and refreshments provided.

Our candlelit **Carol Service** will be held on **Wednesday 20th December at 6.30 pm.** Come and join us for favourite carols and readings. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards in the Church Hall.

Christmas Eve 4.30 pm. Crib Service

A wonderful way to start the celebrations. Bring the children along to hear the Christmas story and put the crib figures in place. **Midnight Communion** by candlelight at **11.30 pm** is the very best way to start Christmas Day. Do come along!

New Year's Eve 11.15 pm. A short Watch Night Service precedes the traditional "Ringing Out the Old and Ringing In the New". Visitors are welcome up the Tower to watch the bell-ringing and join in the New Year celebrations.

Retirement of Revd Anthony Ashwell

As you will have read in "From the Clergy" there is to be a farewell lunch for Anthony and Anna at Thorner's School following the service on **Sunday 7th January.** We hope many of you will want to attend, so to help with catering arrangements, please could I ask you

to let me know if you are planning to come to the buffet lunch?
Thank you.

Wendy Taylor, PCC Secretary, 482532

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that we have a new Parish Clerk. We are grateful to Mrs Gwen Kinghorn of Long Bredy who has agreed to be our Clerk with immediate effect. She can be contacted on 482270 or by email: aking44634@aol.com.

Litton Cheney Social Committee

The Bonfire Party was a great success, we didn't quite expect 150 of you, so we must apologise for running out of lagers, glasses and eventually food. Thank you for all of the compliments we have received about the event, you obviously enjoyed it. Our thanks must go to John Perrin who worked really hard collecting wood for the fire, and for putting on such a grand display of fireworks in his garden, which could be seen from the field.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the litter pick.

At the time of writing we are preparing for this evening's Children in Need Event, so more about that next month and we have the village walk tomorrow. Including the Harvest Supper, this means five very different events within 36 days! If you are new to the village or surrounding areas we look forward to seeing you at our events.

We are currently putting together the programme for next year, so if you have any ideas about events that you would like us to think about, or perhaps you have enjoyed elsewhere let us know.

Please join us on **14th and 15th December for Carol singing** around the village – meet at the Bus Shelter at 6.30 pm. We will be collecting for The Naomi House Children's Hospice so please listen out for us and give generously to this very good cause.

Monday 1st January New Year's Day Walk – meet at the Bus Shelter at 10.00am .

We wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and hope to see you soon.

Kathy Kourik Secretary LCSC 482552

The Litton Cheney Relief In Need Trust

- as in previous years the trustees of this Charity invite applications from residents of Litton Cheney who in the main have to rely on State Retirement Pensions or Benefits.

It is realised that such recipients may also be in receipt of additional income from other sources, which may obviate the necessity for them to seek a grant from this Charity. The Trustees hope residents in the latter category consider and would feel they should not apply.

If you feel, however, that you do qualify or know of someone that could qualify, please apply in confidence to Mary Anderson, Talisman, Main Street, or to one of the other Trustees on or before 14th December 2006 .

Those residents who at present benefit from a grant need not re-apply.

Lithe Litton Ladies

Alex is taking a well-earned break this month so there will be no classes except on 18th December. We begin again on 8th January 2007 - do join us if you'd like to feel fitter.

Ring for more details.

A happy and healthy Christmas and New Year to you all.

Alison Davidson Tel. 482661

Many thanks to all those who carry on steadfastly helping me save postage stamps for Joseph Weld. The Christmas card season being just round the corner, to boost our collections please keep them coming to 15, Baglake, Litton Cheney, or phone Sylvia on 482583 I will always collect.

Thank-you

Christmas and New Year Refuse Collection

Normal day

Rearranged day

Tuesday 26th Dec plus
recycling

Thursday 28th Dec

Tuesday 2nd Jan -----

Thursday 4th Jan

Tuesday 9th Jan plus
recycling

Wednesday 10th Jan

If you do have to put your rubbish out early please put it into an animal proof container.

Photography Classes

Would you like to learn how to take stunning photographs of your family, friends, pets, countryside, wildlife, etc? Do you struggle to turn your digital pictures into DVD slide shows or glossy prints? Do you just want to know how to use your camera? If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes' then we may be able to help.

Simon Nobes and Steve Kourik will be running a series of ten weekly photography classes starting on Thursday 11th January 2007. Each class will be two hours long commencing at 7.30 pm.

No knowledge of photography is necessary so this course will be suitable for absolute beginners but also those who would like to improve their skills.

The cost will be £5 per lesson or £40 for those who wish to pay for the whole course in advance. All proceeds will go to the Litton and

Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH) project.

Places are limited so if you are interested book early by contacting Steve on 01308 482552 or skourik@toucansurf.com

Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH)

If you visited the LATCH stall at the Christmas Producers' Market you will have found an attractive new recipe book "Litton Cheney Cooks", a collection of over 100 recipes, many with local connections, for sale at the unbelievably modest price of £5. This book rivals any put out by the army of so called celebrity chefs who flit across our television screens on a daily basis. If you missed the chance to buy your own first edition, please contact either Ron Davidson (482661), David Taylor (482532), John Firrell (482313), Freddie Spicer (482617), Alison Johnstone (482410), Paul Kingston (482384) or Eddy Fry (482260) who will ensure the "presents" arrive in good time for Christmas.

The same applies to the 2007 calendar "The Beautiful Bride Valley" also sold in aid of the new community hall. You will find 12 stunning images of this wonderful valley in which we live and many work. Once again £5 will make you the proud owner of a calendar and there may even be deals done on multi-copies should you wish to furnish all your friends and relatives (and make them jealous) with pictures of our very own area of outstanding natural beauty. As for the recipe book please contact the people above to reserve your cache of these soon to be collector's items.

The Big Lottery application form has been dispatched and we wait with baited breath for an answer sometime around April 2007. If we get a Yes, it means we move on to stage 2 of the application process which will hopefully culminate with another Yes sometime before the end of the year. LATCH intend to hold an open meeting early in the new year to bring people up to date with everything that has happened, is happening and plans for the future. In the meantime

should you wish to know more please contact one of the people shown above.

Stop Press: A Concert (in aid of LATCH) will be given by the Dorset Youth Orchestra at Herrison Hall (Charlton Down) on Saturday 14th April 2007 at 7.30 pm. More details in early 2007 but please note your diaries for this not-to-be-missed occasion.

Thank you to all who have supported LATCH since its inception this year.

A Happy Christmas to all and here's to good news in 2007.

Producers' Market & Shop – Questionnaire

The last market of 2006 finished with a seasonal flourish at Thorner's School on 18th November. Thank you to all who supported this event and we hope you enjoyed the occasion almost as much as we did organizing it. A big thank you to the members of Litton Retailers Association for all their efforts, often in varying weather conditions, which would have given any aspiring cartoonist sufficient material for many years to come!

Our market plans for 2007 have yet to firm up but to help us gain valuable feed-back, a questionnaire will have been delivered to your home over the last few weeks concerning the markets and the village shop. Please spend a few minutes filling in the form and dropping it off at the various collecting points. If you have difficulty getting to any of the locations please give a ring to 482313 to arrange collection. This is your chance to have a say in what happens next. Returns please by Friday 8th December.

A Happy Christmas to everyone! See you in 2007.

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

All children aged 0-11 years are invited to the Bride Valley Eastern

End Christmas Party on Sunday 10th December, 3 - 5 pm at
Thorner's School. All pre-school children must be accompanied by
an adult and all children must bring a contact number.

Tickets £1 available in advance from 482589 (Coo)
or 482384 (Higgy)



PUNCKNOWLE SWYRE WEST BEXINGTON

Village Correspondent: Elizabeth Slater
1 Lytton Close, Puncknowle, Dorchester DT2 9BH
Tel: (01308) 897751

Puncknowle and Swyre Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30 pm in the
Village Hall in Puncknowle on Tuesday 5th December 2006.

Dog fouling

The Parish Council has received complaints from parishioners
concerning dog fouling both on roads and pavements and particularly
footpaths. We ask dog owners to ensure they have the necessary
equipment to remove dog waste as it occurs.

Madeline Marshall, Chair Puncknowle and Swyre Parish Council

Puncknowle and Swyre Village Hall

The refurbishment of the Hall is making good progress. The new
toilet block is almost completed with just the tiling of the walls to be
done and painting completed. We shall be looking at the next stages
of update over the coming months.

The hall is now available for letting so, as previously advised, we

wait to hear from all of you with thoughts of starting a new venture. We hope to be able to offer concessionary terms for clubs and societies wishing to hire on a regular basis. Ideas are also welcome as to what you would like to see happening. Your hall needs to be used for the benefit of all residents of Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington.

Do not forget – if you don't want to lose it – use it!

David Buckland

On behalf of the Village Hall committee.



Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride

Thank you to those who supported this event which raised £250. A special thank you to Nick Tait for his contribution.

Ann Roberts

Carols by Candlelight – Sunday 17th December, 5 pm

At which we will hear the Christmas story, sing carols and assemble the crib. Afterwards stay and enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies. All are most welcome.

Decorating the Church – Saturday 16th December, 10 am

We will be decorating the church with tree and greenery. Help with this will be more than welcome.

Carol Singing Round the Village – Tuesday 19th December, 6pm

Meet at Ruth's – 'The Dairyhouse' - with a torch to enjoy a glass of mulled wine. Come to the back door, approaching by the drive to the farmyard opposite the Village Hall – Telephone 01308 897716.

Puncknowle Art Group

We are very grateful to Jill Newsome and Claudio Munoz who made us so welcome one sunny morning, showing us round their fascinating studios and talking to us about their work. Our session on trying out new materials resulted in members making additions to their Christmas lists.

Dates for December:

1st -- Bronwen Coe

15th -- Christmas party.

Christine Molony

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

All children aged 0-11 years are invited to the Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party on Sunday 10th December, 3 - 5 pm at Thorner's School. All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number.

Tickets £1 available in advance from 897068 (Sally)

Many Grateful Thanks

Ray and Betty Lee would like to say how very grateful they are for all the cards received and help given to them both, not only while Ray was in hospital but also now that he is home recovering. They greatly appreciate all the kind offers of help from mowing lawns to getting groceries – very many thanks to all their friends in Swyre Road – not forgetting Ann and John for picking Betty up from the floor!!

**Don't forget Father Christmas comes to West Bexington, Swyre
and Puncknowle on the
9th December**

FATHER CHRISTMAS

**FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO HIS GROTTO IN
PUNCKNOWLE"**

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Following his extremely successful 'tour' last year, Santa will once again pay a visit to his special grotto in the grounds of the Crown public house, Puncknowle between 4pm and 8pm on Saturday 9th December.

Come follow Santa's procession:

Santa and his helpers will be gathering at the beach in
West Bexington at 3 pm

follow his 'sleigh' singing some seasonal songs along the way –
stopping at **Swyre outside the church (around 3.20 pm)** for a
blessing

until he **reaches his grotto around 4 pm at the Crown**

where, with his helpers, he'll be encouraging children to tell him what
they'd like for Christmas and, of course, dispensing

PRESENTS !!!!!!!
(admission to grotto £1.)

**There will be general festivities until around 8pm and all families,
friends, and adults of the villages of the Valley must come and
welcome Santa. Join together for carol singing and festive music,
mulled wine and hot food, local produce and other stalls – all
enlivened with the antics of Hattie the Clown.**

Elizabeth Edwards (Tel 897435) and Eizabeth Slater (897751) would
like your help now with offers of home-made products (eg. cakes,
preserves, fancy goods, decorations etc.)Valerie Pye (897426) would
like to hear from anyone who is able to help with any Christmas fare
(small toys, hand made goods, gifts and raffle prizes)

If you would like any further information on this event or would like
to help in some way, please contact Andy Marshall on 897732 or
Sid Marshall on 897318

******* All proceeds go to Julia's House Dorset Children's Hospice *******

PUNCKNOWLE ADVENT TRAIL



If you walk round Puncknowle during Advent, you might meet King David and Isaiah, Herod lurking in a tent, a host of angels under umbrellas, other biblical characters connected with the Christmas story, or the Holy Family just near the church. There will be life-sized models along Church Street and in many of the front gardens around the village.

The Trail will open on Sunday December 3rd. Come to the "Lych Gate Café" at 10.30 (after the 9.30am Advent Service) for free mince pies and coffee and pick up a clue-sheet (£1), then follow the trail at your leisure to discover the identity of the figures.

If you can't make that time, pick up a clue sheet from Burwell Cottage (opposite the church) any time afterwards.

There will be a prize for the best entry picked out of a hat on 31st December.

For further information contact Sue Brown 897953
or Ann Roberts, 897716

SWYRE



Village Correspondent: Sid Marshall
3 Green Barton, Swyre Tel: 897318
s.marshall@which.net

Holy Trinity Church, Swyre
Saturday 2nd December from 10.30 am
Advent Coffee Morning and Sale.

Come along for a chat over a cuppa, and buy some Christmas goodies:- cakes, preserves, pots of bulbs, wreaths, cards, potpourri and much more besides! All proceeds towards our refurbishment

project- if you want to know more come along and ask!
Contributions towards the sale would be very much appreciated,
especially cakes, mince pies and the like.

Each Sunday during Advent we will be **lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath** during the service. If you and your family, friends or neighbours would like to be involved in this, please speak to Vera or myself. It is good to have as many of the community involved as possible.

Saturday 23rd December from 10 am we will be **decorating the Church for Christmas**. Do come along and share in this activity - you don't have to be an expert flower arranger - there is something for everyone to help with, and another opportunity to chat and get to know each other as we work. Contributions of flowers and greenery always appreciated.

Sunday 24th December at 9.30 pm, Early "Midnight" Communion. This is a very special and traditional service at our Church, and a lovely way to prepare for Christmas Day. We look forward to seeing you there. There will be **no** 11am Morning Worship on 24th December.

The Churchyard is looking good thanks to its regular upkeep plus the extra help given by various friends in the village. The ditch and its banks have been cleared to reveal the old walling and allow the water to flow through freely. Everyone's help has been very much appreciated. Thank you.

We wish you all a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas, and look forward to seeing you during December.

Yvonne Buckland and Vera Hirst
Church Wardens

Ben's Poem

Hospital wasn't the best in life,
But physios gave me good advice,
I had many hopes and fears,
But never ended up in tears,
Physiotherapy was good for me,
But harder than having a cup of tea,
The wheelchair which was provided for me,
Was a sporty one,
Just like me.

My future hobbies, I have planned already,
I'm going to do more surfing,
When I'm more steady.

My thanks to everyone for their love and support,
This gave me hope and strength when feeling fraught,
I am happy that I am almost there,
Having given back my wheelchair.

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, prayers and help since March when Ben had his illness. We are pleased to see Ben make such good progress, he is back to school, riding his bicycle and working!

Many thanks again.

Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year,

Steve, Sara, Laura, and Ben

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

All children aged 0-11 years are invited to the Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party on Sunday 10th December, 3 - 5 pm at Thorner's School. All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number.

Tickets £1 available in advance from 898480 (Alison)

SHIPTON GORGE



Village Correspondent: Mrs Barbara Chambers
Stonacre, Shipton Gorge – Tel 01308 897482

Christmas Coffee Morning

This will take place on Thursday 14th December in the Village Hall starting at 10.30 am, and will be organized by the Bride Valley Ladies Choir – see Valley Notes for details.

Carol Service

This will take place at St. Martin 's church on Sunday 17th December at 6.30 pm, and will include traditional carols with readings. The service will be led by Rev. Jean Thorn and all are cordially invited to celebrate this joyful season with hearty singing followed by seasonal refreshments in the Village Hall.

Village Carol Singing

We meet in Brook Street on Tuesday 19th December at 6.30 pm to sing all our favourite carols round the village. As usual we will be collecting for Save the Children, so please come and join our merry band of singers – we might even end up at the New Inn!

Shipton Gorge Ramblers

This month we meet in the New Inn car park at 11 am for a short walk before our Christmas Lunch at 12.30 pm. We are hoping for a bright sunny morning for our festive ramble, and Vicky and I look forward to seeing you all. (If you can't manage the walk but would like to join us for lunch please let us know in good time as Gary needs to know about numbers)

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all who helped in any way, and to all who supported the event which took place in October. We raised over £206 in a very short time – well done everyone!

Janet Lane

St. Martin's Church, Shipton Gorge

A tree in the corner of the churchyard has caused considerable damage to the stone wall, and the decision has been made to remove it. The wall will be repaired and made safe and a suitable new tree will be planted.

*Gillian Maxfield
Churchwarden*

Shipton Gorge Parish Council

Firework Party

The Firework Party held near the Village Hall on 4th November was well attended with around 80 people watching a fantastic display of fireworks and enjoying a supper of sausages and roast potatoes in the Village Hall afterwards. This event is only possible because of the help and support of the following people, and Shipton Gorge Parish Council would like to thank Charles Errington for donating the fireworks, Keith and Den Sorrell for the use of their land, the New Inn for helping with the cooking, the Village Society for their help with the organisation and finally to Steve Larcombe and Nick Parker for making sure that the fireworks were let off safely and

so effectively. All your help is much appreciated.

Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 10th January at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. These meetings are open to everybody, so although it will probably be a cold winter night come along and see what your Parish Council does – you will be most welcome.

Village Website

The village website contains much useful information on the village past and present as well as forthcoming events, Parish Council minutes, planning applications, church services, details of footpaths and bridleways and much, much more. It is surprising how many people who are planning a visit to the village or who have links with it from the past go onto the site to see what we have to offer. The pages are being reviewed continually and the site updated, but the information is only as good as the information you all give us. Please make sure that any events you or your organisations are planning to hold are listed on the site, although any news, stories or anecdotes are also most welcome. Have you logged on to www.shiptongorge.org.uk yet?

Shipton Gorge Village Society

Xmas Shopping Trip

This year we are going by coach to Poole on Wednesday 6th December leaving the New Inn at 9.30 am , and returning from Poole at 4.00 pm . Tickets will cost £8. For more information and to book seats please ring Sally on 897168.

Christmas with the Casterbridge Choir

By popular request there will be a concert by the Casterbridge Choir in St. Martin's Church on Wednesday 13th December starting at 7.30 pm in aid of the Village Society. Tickets at £5 each are available from Ed Buck 898278, Sally Parker 897168, Terry Hunt 898301, Heather Puttock, Kelly Puttock, or Dave Curtis.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall (BBVH)

BBVH - 200 Club – October 2006 Draw – Congratulations to:

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the December draw should telephone Alan Clarke on 01308 897051 and let him have £1. There are double prizes in the December draw.

1st Prize	No. 25	Mrs Andrea Harmer	£36.20
2nd Prize	No. 7	Mr A Palmer	£18.10
3rd Prize	No. 172	Ms Valerie McRobert	£9.05

The Village Hall Trust is a trust registered with the local authority, the West Dorset District Council. Lotteries Licence No. LA005.

BBVH - Forthcoming Events

‘Village Hall Christmas Event’ – Saturday 16th December 2006

The Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee is putting on a seasonal quiz and musical entertainment with bar in the Village Hall from 7.30 pm on Saturday 16th December. In order to achieve comfortable seating arrangements, ideally the quiz part of the evening will be run with teams of 8 so think about building your team now. The quiz will have a music round with ‘Bob and Jean’ providing sound-bite clues and leading some singing, with ‘Mór or Less’ performing Irish music and songs. There will be prizes for quiz winners and, if last year’s Christmas event is anything to go by, a great evening will be had by all. Tickets are available from Burton Bradstock Post Office priced £6.00 each and this includes complimentary Christmas nibbles.

Burton Bradstock
Village Hall Christmas Event
SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER 2006
@ 7.30pm
Seasonal Quiz
(ideally teams of 8)
&
Live Music
with
'Mór or Less'
Complimentary Christmas Nibbles, Prizes,
Raffle and Bar
Tickets £6
On sale at Post Office from Friday 17th November
(Entry by Ticket Only - Performers Free)
MERRY CHRISTMAS
All proceeds in aid of The Village Hall

Susan Moores

Secretary, Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee 01308 897673

Burton Bradstock Village Hall Trust (BBVHT) AGM – Friday 19th January 2007

The second BBVHT Annual General Meeting will be held in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Friday 19th January 2007 @ 7.30 pm. This is a public meeting so please come along, hear all about the Village Hall Trust's past year and plans for the future and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles. Anyone who is resident in the village and who would like to stand as an Independent Member of the Committee should give their name in writing, along with the names of a proposer and seconder, to Susan Moores before 31 December 2006.

Susan Moores

Barn Dance – Saturday 27th January 2007

David Powell & The Bride Valley Band will be returning to the Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 27th January 2007. Come along and enjoy what has become a fun experience at the Village Hall and see your friends attempt to keep up with David's calling! Tickets will cost - £5.50 Adult, £2.50 U14 and will be available from Burton Bradstock Post Office in early January. You will need to move quickly to buy your tickets – last year's event was an early sell out.

Susan Moores

Artsreach News

By the time you read this I hope that you will have seen and enjoyed "Appalachian Roots". The next Artsreach event at Burton Bradstock Village Hall will not be until Friday 16th February 2007, when we will have a chance to see "Plutot La Vie" with "A Clean Sweep" - a scriptless theatre piece involving brushes of all shapes and sizes, using clowning, dance, object animation and visual storytelling. A family show that was a big hit at the Edinburgh Festival. More new nearer the time.

Norman Saunders-White
Artsreach Promoter

Village Diary

Please remember that if you are organising a village event in Burton Bradstock there is a diary kept in Burton Bradstock Post Office for you to enter details. This will help people arranging the events to avoid clashes of similar things in quick succession.

Burton Bradstock Village Society

We were all whisked through 200 years' History of London in 50 Minutes when Bob Ayers gave us an enthralling guide to the capital from Roman times to the present on 20th October. It was the Romans who first landed at the swamps of Southwark and built the first wooden bridge across the Tamesis Flumen to build a stockade at what is now known as the Barbican. The defensive walls had gates called Ludgate, Newgate, Aldgate, Billingsgate and so on. Following the Battle of Hastings, London was allowed to elect its own mayor who had to show himself once a year – hence the Lord Mayor's Show. The show was held on the river with boats – hence the term 'float' as in carnival. So many fascinating facts about the origin of our modern day phrases came from these old London events... 'Baker's Dozen' where a baker would add an extra loaf to make certain that his weight allocation was up to standard, or 'Robbing Peter to pay Paul' where after the Great Fire of London building material was seconded from St Peter's to repair St Paul's Cathedral. With so many major literary figures living there, many of the original trunk roads starting at the Bank of England, and coffee houses becoming the major centres for insurance, banking and such, it is no wonder that London soon became the capital of England. Our evening was ended with a quiz to test our knowledge of London, which we all found quite difficult but great fun.

Don't miss Friday Dec 8th 7.30pm "My Life at the BBC – a Light-hearted Look at Entertainment" by David Taylor from Litton Cheney.

Peter Dutton

Christingle Service

There will be a Christingle Service held at St Mary's Church on Sunday 3rd December at 4.00 pm. This service is especially suitable for children and families but as always people of all ages are most welcome to join us. There will be a tea in the village hall following the service. The collection will be given to The Childrens' Society.

Childrens' Society

Please come and join us on Friday 15th December at 6 pm outside the Rectory for carol singing around Burton Bradstock, followed by refreshments in the Rectory.

All welcome, the more the merrier.

Your sincerely
Great Heal

Home Watch – Burton Bradstock – December 2006

Our local policeman, Simon Herfet, reports very few incidents indeed from mid September to the end of October in Burton Bradstock, and nothing that could be classed as a trend – except an overall reduction. Let's continue to help in this:

- Keep Christmas gifts out of sight by not leaving them visible in the car, and preferably not left even in the boot of the car.
- Take great care not to make it easy for a wallet or purse to be lifted off you while Christmas shopping.
- There have been instances elsewhere in the country where debit/credit cards have been stolen and the thief phones you posing as the bank "to whom your card has been returned". They then say they want to refund your account with money just stolen out of it by the thief, and can do so if you give them your pin number.....but.....

STOP! And NEVER give your pin number out to someone who phones in to you. Instead phone your bank and report the incident.

John Grantham

Burton Bradstock Bridge Group

Meet on Tuesdays (excl. 12th Dec.) in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

New members welcome (a little experience necessary)

Further information available from Chris Clarke on 01308-898117

Bride Valley Rotary Club are pleased to announce that Father Christmas will be visiting Burton Bradstock on Monday 11th December between 6 and 8 pm.

Message from Australia!

Dear Friends,

Margaret and I send you all our Greetings and our abject apologies for not writing sooner. Any ideas we may have cherished about an easy and slickly organised move from Burton Bradstock to Australia were rapidly shattered when we realised this was to be no ordinary 'house to house' move in the UK, and time caught up with us, without being able to say 'cheerio' to so many. However, we really are 'down-under', and after wonderful diamond wedding celebrations in Melbourne, we are now in Foster, acclimatising to spring gales, bucketing rain and cold, cold weather, much to our surprise. The locals have been very welcoming, and, given time, we hope to share the community spirit that meant so much to us at BB. Thank you all for your kindness – we miss you all.

Arthur and Margaret (Enstice)

Burton Bradstock WI Meeting held at 2.15pm on 14 November 2006

President, Heather Seadon, welcomed 38 members and 3 guests to the meeting. Our afternoon's speaker was June Jach who regaled us with a tale of how cycling led her to Vietnam. While most of us learned to cycle as children, June did not begin until the age of 45 - no stabilisers for her! Despite a wobbly start June persevered, and with the help of her family and a trip to Centre Parcs, she eventually joined Bridport Cycling Club. Wanting to put her new-found skill to good

use, June became involved in charity rides. Having embarked on a rigorous training programme to ride in China (subsequently cancelled due to SARS), she was delighted to accept the offer of a ride in Vietnam to raise funds for Mencap. Fifty cyclists took part, aged between 18 and 72. Despite June's asthma, the heat, sanitation - or rather lack of - this intrepid band covered 350 miles in 6 days, raising £5,085 for Mencap. Any hardships encountered were more than offset by the group's camaraderie, beautiful scenery and welcoming Vietnamese. Ten years on and June is still riding and considering her next big trip - Cuba maybe. So get cycling!

Back to Burton: last month's coffee morning raised £207 for the Stroke Association and the Quiz Night £212 for the children's hospice, Julia's House. Events coming up include Christmas Lunch on 8 December and New Year's Party on 20 January. Please join us for our Christmas Coffee Morning on 25 November. The next meeting will be at 2.15pm on Tuesday 12 December.

Felicity Tattersall-Craft

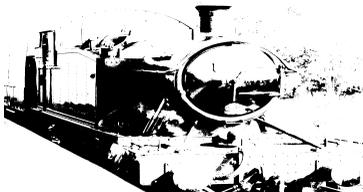
BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT IN THE VILLAGE HALL

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

A Musical Play Adapted by Paul Bexon and Martin Gorst

MON 26TH FEB TO SAT 3TH MARCH
NIGHTLY AT 7.30PM

DIRECTED BY
Barbara Powell & Chris Knight



TICKETS: ADULTS £6.00
CHILDREN (UNDER 16) £4.00
AVAILABLE FROM SAT 27TH
JAN 2007 AT BURTON
BRADSTOCK POST OFFICE OR BY
TELEPHONE BOOKING
TO LYNETTE WOODROW:
TEL (01308) 424852

Bridge Cottage Stores

We would just like to thank all our customers for their on-going support and to let you all know that by supporting your village shop you are also supporting many other small local businesses as well. Happy Christmas and New Year

Best Wishes

Tim and Liz Comley

LITTLEBREDY



What a fantastic bonfire and fireworks display on the Village Green on November 3rd! A great effort, as usual, by those who organised it (and the “elf ‘n safety” precautions were excellent too) and who laid on the fine supper at the Village Hall afterwards.

Foxholes Farm is now fully occupied again. Since the spring our Longbredy neighbours the Smith family and the Maltby family have been using parts of the farm, but now Ian and Denise Bell have moved into the heartland and the farmhouse and brought organically (in fact biodynamically) reared cattle, pigs and poultry with them from a National Trust farm near Morcombelake. There will be plenty of activity while the farmhouse, cottage and traditional buildings are transformed over the next year or two, and we trust that they will thoroughly enjoy their move to Littlebredy, get to know their new neighbours soon, and be happy and prosperous here for years to come.

CHURCH SERVICES

Decemb

Date	Burton Bradstock	Shipton Gorge	Chilcombe	Swyre
Dec 3rd Advent Sunday	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Morning Worship 4.00 Christingle	11.00 All age Holy Communion		3.30 Evening Prayer
Dec 10th 2nd of Advent	9.30 Family Service 11.00 Holy Communion	9.30 Morning Prayer		11.00 Morning Prayer
Dec 17th 3rd of Advent	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Morning Prayer BCP 6.30 Carols MR	9.30 Holy Communion 6.30 Carols		11.00 Holy Communion
Dec 24th 4th of Advent	9.30 Family Service (Communion) 11.00 Morning Worship 5.00 Family Service 11.30 Holy Communion			9.30 pm Holy Communion
Dec 25th Christmas Day	8.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Christmas Morning Worship	9.30 Holy Communion		
Dec 31st 1st after Christmas	8.00 Holy Communion			

Rector: The Revd. Bob Thorn Vicar: The Revd. Anthony Ashwell NSM: The Revd Jean Thorn

	Puncknowle	Litton Cheney	Long Bredy	Littlebredy
	9.30 Holy Communion (With hymns)	9.30 Family Service	11.00 Holy Communion (said)	
	5.00 Evening Service	9.30 Holy Communion		11.00 Family Service
on	8.00 Holy Communion 5.00 Carols	9.30 Morning Prayer	11.00 Family Service	
on	11.00 Family Service	4.30 Crib Service 11.30 Holy Communion		9.30 Holy Communion By extension
	11.00 Family Communion			11.00 Family Communion
	8.00 Holy Communion	11.00 United Service 11.15 Watchnight		

n **Reader: Mike Read**

Associate Minister: The Revd Ryder Rogers

To add to the Bells' arrival, it's been a significant month for high-quality specialist food producers in the village, because the November issue of "Dorset" magazine contained a double-page article about John and Patricia Barker's farming enterprise and its associated (and highly recommended – assuming plugs are allowed in the magazine) Bride Valley Farm Shop in Abbotsbury. Apart from relocating Longlands Farm into Longbredy, the article reflected great credit on John and Patricia – congratulations to them.

Writing on the 9th November, it seems very early to be thinking about Christmas – despite commercial efforts to extend the season almost indefinitely in adverts and the shops – but print deadlines mean it has to be done. Our shared Carol Service with Longbredy is there this year, and no doubt a date and time is published elsewhere in the magazine. Christmas Eve is the 4th Sunday in the month, so we are due our usual 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service in the Church. **Our Christmas Day Family Communion Service, to which all ages are warmly invited, is at 11.00 am.**

There has been a suggestion to resurrect a carol-singing party around the village this year, but this will be organised in the meanwhile. Any specific offers of hospitality at a "pit stop" would be welcome if anyone wants to ring Bridehead (482232), where the party will probably start with some refreshment to stretch the lungs for singing. Further information to follow.

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

All children aged 0-11 years are invited to the Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas party on Sunday 10th December, 3 - 5 pm at Thorner's School. All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number.

Tickets £1 available in advance from 483525 (Mandy)

Beyond The Valley

Bridport United Church Christmas Tree Festival

The ninth annual eight-day Festival commences on Tuesday 5th December with a Dedication Service at 7.00 pm when the Town Mayor, Councillor Geoff Ackerman, will switch on the lights. It will continue the next day from 10.00 am until 9.00 pm, with the Mountjoy School Handbell Ringers performing at 2.00 pm. As there will be no late-night shopping festival this year, there will be a Charity Christmas Card Fair in the Main Hall starting at 6.00 pm with 15 charities selling cards and other items. Coffee will also be served.

The Festival will continue each day from 10.00 am (Sunday from 2.00 pm), with, on Saturday, an NCH Coffee Morning and Bridport Choral Society's Christmas Concert at 7.30 pm. The Church's Stepping Stones Pre-School Nativity will take place on Tuesday at 11.00 am, with Bridport W.I. Annual Carol Service at 7.00 pm. The final day is Wednesday 13 December when the Festival will again stay open until 9.00 pm.

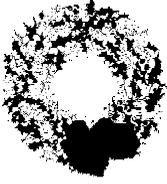
Over 80 invitations have been sent out, with seven of those to organisations who have never participated before. The maximum number of trees than can be accommodated is 65. Each tree will be illuminated and individually decorated by schools, young people's groups, churches, charities, music and cultural societies, public bodies and community organisations. Thousands of visitors come to the Festival each year from this country and around the world. Since the Festival started in 1998, over £30,000 has been raised for charitable purposes. This year the Church will be supporting the Shelterbox Charity.

Bryan Chant
Chairman of Organising Committee



CHURCHES TOGETHER in BRIDPORT & DISTRICT **Live Outdoor Nativity in the Streets of Bridport**

On the morning of Saturday 16th December, people from the churches will re-enact the Nativity ending with a tableau and drama in Bucky Doo Square at about 11.00 am. This will be followed by some songs and carols. Do come along, line the streets and watch, and join in with the singing, or just enjoy the true Christmas atmosphere. It will surely be a wonderful occasion!



Christmas Wreath Workshop



Come along and create your own beautiful
door wreath

Saturday 9th December at Portesham
Village Hall, 2.00-4.00pm

OR

Sunday 10th December at Lodders Village Hall, 2.30-4.30pm

Admission by ticket only. Price includes all materials needed to
make and decorate a mixed foliage door wreath, mulled wine, mince
pies, tea & coffee

All for just £10 per person - Limited places available so book now

Contact Angela on 01308 482183

HANDELS MESSIAH

Performed by
Briantspuddle Singers

with orchestral accompaniment

Friday 16th December, 7.30 pm (concludes 9.45 approx.)

At St Mary's Church, Frampton

With

Julia Simpson (mezzo soprano)

Christopher Price (tenor)

Richard Hall (conductor)

Tickets £10, to include a glass of wine with mince pie after the
concert, are available from

Harmony Music, 3-4 The Forum Centre, Trinity Street,
Dorchester, or call Maureen Stephens on 01300 320730, or purchase
at the door from 6.30 pm onwards.

All proceeds will be donated to

Macmillan Cancer Support (registered charity no.261017)



**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO
OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS**



From:

Geoff & Sandy Adderley
Mary Bailey
Catherine & Darren Batten
Howard & Linda Bongers
Max & Freda Bonner
John Bowden
Jerry & Margaret Bown
Bernard & Kate Chennells
Cecil & Diana Clifford
Tony & Anne Combe
Tim & Liz Comley & family
Celia Cummins
Lesley, Steve, Gemma & Jake Dove
Daphne & Trevor Ekins
Rob & June Fox
Jim & Margaret Harding
John & Barbara Ivall
Peter & Carrie Jackson & family
Barbara M James
Patricia Lepine
Tim, Sue, David & Hannah Linford
Dennis & Carol Lumley
Justin & Judy Mallinson
Valerie McRobert & Alistair Bristoll
Susan Moores & David Edwards

Edna Murrell
Georgie Northover
John & Deryn Pakenham-Walsh
Derek & Val Parsons
Susan Paul
Dick & Judy Pearce
Harold & Dorothy Percy
Sheila & Ken Pett
Anne & Graham Rees
Terry Rendell
Elise Ripley & family
Gill & Charles Robertson
Yvette & David Smith
Mike & Anne Southgate
Jill & Derek Spinney
Betty Starkey
Freddy & Elaine Tame
Anne & Brian Thompson
Peggy Thompson
Bill & Heather Thomson
Karen, David, Paul & Rebecca Venn
Clare Viney
Andrea & Chris Wilkinson
Pauline & David Woodford



*In support of the Bride Valley News &
the Joseph Weld & Trimar Hospice & Cancer Care
Dorset Trust*



THE WINTER SOLSTICE

by Valerie Jeffery DMS.Astrol.,F.A.P.A.I.

At the end of this year, 2006, on the 20th December, two days before the Winter Solstice, there will be a line-up of six planets in Sagittarius. These are Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, Pluto and the Sun and Moon. It will be a New Moon with Pluto just two degrees away, which will bestow this time of new beginnings with even more elimination, re-birth and transformation. Pluto, although the smallest, furthest planet in the Solar System is the most powerful, and you have to go with its energies, as holding back makes life problematic. You need to go with the flow.

As Jupiter, Mars and Mercury are all part of this Stellium - the name for three or more planets with eight or less degrees between them - this particular New Moon will be energised with mental and physical energy which will provide an excellent time for philosophy and spiritual knowledge on a worldwide scale, especially as Jupiter rules Sagittarius. So hopefully, there will be an emphasis on Peace and Goodwill this Christmastime.

Neptune is in Aquarius, and Uranus is in Pisces, so they are in each others Signs, which means they are in mutual reception. It is as if they are side by side and blending their energies. They will be in these Signs for some years to come, and can add compassion and idealism throughout humanity at a time like this. There is so much out there, but unfortunately, negative happenings make headline news.

Venus will be in Capricorn at the time of the New Moon, heralding the pathway of the Sun into this Sign for the Winter Solstice on the 22nd after its liaison with the Moon.

The shape of the planets around the Solar System at this time is what is known as The Bucket Shape, with Saturn on the opposite side to all the other nine planets, providing the handle! Saturn is up there like a conductor with his baton keeping the other planets in harmony for this very special season.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

BVN Contact Details:

Editors: bridevalleynews@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising: Bob and Anne White: 01308 898203
cairnhill@talk21.com