

**FEBRUARY 2007
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Deadline for March edition: 12th February
(Copy to Village Correspondents by 10th February please)

FROM THE RECTOR



THE RECTORY,
BURTON BRADSTOCK

Lent Series

We had planned to do a Lent series this year, and follow it with a course on Christian basics after Easter. When Jean and I put our heads together we thought that this was a bit complicated. The result was we stuck the two together. Not only that, but Jean agreed to lead it, which will be good for us all.

The whole thing is called basix - not my idea – and there are two complementary parts to it. The first is a Lent series about what Christians believe: what is in the Bible, what we have inherited, and how we set about our faith. There are five sessions, and they will be held in St Mary's, Burton Bradstock on Wednesday evenings in Lent, starting at 7.30 p.m. Each session will end with a simple, said Compline.

The description below is meant to be more of a guidance than a set curriculum.

28 th Feb	God the Father	Creation / Law / Choosing
7 th March	God the Spirit	Prophecy / Guidance
14 th March	God the Son	Jesus' birth to baptism
21 st March		Jesus' life and ministry
28 th March		Jesus' death and resurrection

We then have a pause for Holy week and Easter, and a couple of weeks to get most of the Church AGMs out of the diary. Then we have another part of our basic understanding of our faith; namely, what we do with it. This will be a four session series, leading up to Pentecost.

These sessions will be held at the Rectory, Burton Bradstock, again on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.

2 nd May	Worship
9 th May	Service
16 th May	Giving
23 rd May	Hospitality / in the form of a party.

One of the features of these two lumps of basix is that they do stand alone. Ideally all of them together should give a pretty good understanding of our life of faith, but what I am trying to say is that you should not feel concerned that in going to the Lent course you are somehow committing yourself up to Easter when you do not want to do that. In the same way, if you are not around in Lent, the course up to Pentecost will make sense on its own, and there will be good value in dropping in half way through as it were.

I do hope that you will be able to join us.

Bob

Letter

It was a great event on the 7th of January, when Anthony retired. The Church of St Mary, Litton Cheney, was full of people from all over the Bride Valley and beyond. It being the Epiphany, Anthony preached of the gifts of the wise men and how we might understand them today. At the end of the service Sir Philip Williams gave a speech thanking Anthony and Anna for all that they have brought and given to the life of the Parishes. He then presented Anthony and Anna with a cheque made up of money raised throughout the Valley over the past couple of months. Responding, Anthony listed the Parishes, recalling amusing moments, and appreciating the qualities of the people of the Churches and communities.

A lunch and party were held afterwards in Thorner's School, where Anthony has long been a governor, a conductor of many assemblies and a close friend. It was a celebration of all that he has done in his nine and a half years as Team Vicar: a time for thanksgiving, and of great joy to see Anthony and Anna so happy and relaxed as the strains of his many tasks begin to fall from his shoulders.

The time will come when we have to learn to live with there being only one stipendiary Vicar in the Parishes. We have made a pretty good start so far, as Anthony mentioned in his sermon. But his going and not being replaced will inevitably mean changes, which are not easy either to make or to live with. But for now, that time can wait while we remember the celebrations of a day made for saying thank you to Anthony and Anna, and for wishing them every blessing in the years to come.

Bob

Editing the BVN

The January edition of the BVN carried the announcement that Wendy, Claire and Angie, who took over the production of our magazine from Susan in the summer, are standing down. The decision followed criticism concerning the addition of the Winter Solstice article in the December edition. They put in many hours of hard work and I am sure we are all very grateful to them for having taken on the task and worked in so dedicated a manner.

As for this, being the last of their editions as they explained, I am very sorry indeed that it should be so.

I know that there have been a number of people who have been very concerned that the BVN will stop. It will not. We have asked someone, and they have agreed to take on the compilation of the magazine. We will be asking others in the hope of rebuilding a team. And we will be learning lessons from what has happened; about what we are asking of those who produce the magazine, what kind of a magazine it is and whom it serves. But for now, thanks in sorrow, and much of both, to Wendy, Claire and Angie.

Bob

Bride Valley News - Its finance explained

I have been given to understand that many people in the valley are unaware or unsure how the magazine is financed and how any profits made are used. I hope that this short article will help to clarify things but I am always willing to answer questions from anyone wishing to have more information about the “News” as well as the Bride Valley Team Council’s finances.

The records I have show that the News as the Bride Valley Parish magazine started in 1979 and for the first 11 years ran at a loss subsidised by the local Churches. Since then, apart from 2 years, profits have been made, but not large until recently. Last year 2006 was our best year ever. The income comes entirely from advertising revenue thanks to the sterling efforts of the advertising managers. The costs are small amounts of expenses paid to the volunteers who help to produce the magazine and the printing costs this being the major cost. I will arrange to publish figures for 2006 once accounts are audited and approved by the Bride Valley Team Council (BVTC).

The profits each year make up a large part of the funding of the BVTC. The rest of the BVTC finances come from individual Churches in the valley. The costs are the expenses of the clergy team and some miscellaneous costs benefiting all churches. The Council includes members from each of the Bride Valley Churches and the clergy, who meet together to discuss parish issues and policy. Perhaps a future article explaining this in more detail can be arranged.

It is essential that the BVN continue, not only for the valuable financial contribution it makes to the BVTC, but for the large number of interesting and informative articles. It is also a valuable source of information to all residents and visitors as to what is going on in our wonderful locality. I give my personal thanks to all who have worked so hard in its production over so many years.

David Buckland
Treasurer to BVTC (including News)

From the Registers

Funerals

On 28th December at Weymouth Crematorium the funeral took place of the late **Irene Phyllis Sawyer**. Rene and her late husband, George, retired to Burton Bradstock many years ago, to Burton Cove on Shadrach. She lived to a great age, surrounded by her dogs, and tending her beloved garden. Her son, Colin, his wife Sally, and their daughter, Lisa were the principal mourners.

On 8th January the funeral of **Alfred George Brown** was held at St Mary's Puncknowle. He was warmly spoken of as a good man who will be sadly missed. His war record was remembered, as was his membership of the association of the Dorsetshire regiment, for whom he was a standard bearer. His dedication to his garden and the wide circle of friends he made was celebrated. Above all his beloved wife, Betty and his loving marriage to her for all but 60 years, was recalled with thanksgiving before a Church full to capacity of friends and mourners.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Valley Notes

Tiny Tots / Pram Service



Friday 9th February 11.00 a.m.
at St. Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock
A short service for 0-5 years, **but all are welcome**

Yvette Smith 898219

Mothers' Union

Sunday 11th February. Wedding Fair at Kingston Maurwood, Dorchester.
9 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Friday 16th February, Deanery Speakers Day, 10.00 a.m. at
Church House, St. Mary's, Bridport. £1.50 or £3.00 if having lunch.

Thursday 22nd February, MU Meeting at 2.30 p.m. Venue to be arranged.

Yvette Smith 898219

Thursday Fellowship Group

The group meets from 7.30 p.m. on the following dates for either study or prayer, and fellowship. All in the Bride Valley are welcome to join us. Please contact Paul on 482346 for details of venues.

February 1st - Prayer

8th - Study

5th - Prayer

2nd - no meeting (half term)

March 1st - Study

8th - Prayer

15th - Study

22nd - Prayer

29th - Study

Quiet Days

Rev. Jean Thorn holds Quiet Days at the Rectory in Burton Bradstock for anyone living in the valley or beyond who may be interested in taking part. The day starts at 9.30 a.m. with coffee and ends at 3.30 p.m. with tea. Lunch is also provided. A donation of £12 is requested to cover all costs of the day. The next dates are:

Friday 23rd February - 'The Wilderness' - looking at the importance of living in the desert.

Saturday 24th March - 'The Way of the Cross' - using pictures and art.

Please phone Jean on 898799 for further details or an explanation of what happens. Numbers limited to 12.

Christian Youth Club

This group meets on the first Friday of each month at Burton Bradstock Rectory at 6.30 p.m. and is open to all Bride Valley residents aged 12 - 18 years. Phone Jean on 898799 for further details.

Bride Valley Lunch and Supper Clubs

Following 3 busy January Club events at The New Inn, Shipton Gorge, (with several new recruits from Bothenhampton and Litton), at least 3 more events are planned for February: Lunch on Monday 12th, and Supper Clubs (concluding with Limericks completed by each table! + cafetière coffee) on Thursday 15th and Monday 19th February. Call John Grantham now for details/menu sheet and to join in (897935). Welcome!

John Grantham.

Bible Reading Fellowship Notes

Notes for the daily reading of the bible (two series – “Guidelines” and “New Daylight”) are produced by the Bible Reading Fellowship. Those interested in receiving these (samples are available) please be in touch with me (897849).

“New Daylight” offers daily Bible reading and comment for everybody who wants to travel further on their journey of Christian faith. It is especially suitable for those looking for an accessible way into studying the Bible. “Guidelines” is a unique Bible reading resource offering in-depth study, aiming to build bridges between devotional life and current scholarly approaches to the Bible. Its intention is to nourish faith, provoke thought and broaden understanding for all its readers, while helping to equip those who are leaders in the church for ministry and mission.

The subscription year starts in May with three four-monthly issues (both sets of notes priced at £10.50 per annum.) The bulk order for the Bride Valley is placed in mid-February but requests for additional copies may be made at any time. Those already on the list have their copies ordered automatically unless I am informed otherwise.

Hilary Mousley, BRF Group Secretary.

Bride Valley Fledglings Playgroup News



Our new term is well under way, learning all about "OUR WORLD" beginning with our homes and villages where we live, ourselves and our families, then moving on to look at the bigger picture and other places around the world. After beginning with our own New Year, we celebrated Chinese New Year by dancing with our Dragon (after some renovation!) and tasting noodles, making sweet and sour sauce and dipping prawn crackers in it.

Some of the parents/Committee members and staff went for a celebratory meal at The White Horse in January, which was postponed from before Christmas. Our Secretary, Kate Smith finally produced her third baby on 9th January - Congratulations Kate and Daniel. May, who comes to playgroup told us: "See, I was right - it was a baby girl!" - which was what she wanted - another sister like Phoebe.

Our new QUIZ is out - all about "Nursery Rhymes" - on sale at the Post Office in Burton Bradstock, at local pubs, Tourist Information Centres etc. - only £1 so have a go. Do make use of our Webshop for birthday presents and general shopping – log on to www.buy.at/bridevalleyfledglings and save your legs. All my purchases for Christmas arrived promptly.

Places are still available at our warm and friendly playgroup on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays for morning and afternoon Sessions, plus Lunch Club from 12 – 1 p.m. "Nestlings" for younger children is on Thursday afternoons from 1.45 - 3.15 p.m. Drop in to see us in action any time - we have our own entrance at the side of the school - or ring for information. **Chair : Rachel Maltby 482246 or myself - Playleader Carol Bennett 897771.**

Burton Bradstock CE VC School

We are now well into the new school year. This term promises to be as full as ever. Next month Class 3 visit Leeson House for their residential trip. This is always a really worthwhile experience for the children who not only enjoy a range of fun activities, but also learn much about themselves and each other. In addition to this there are pyramid dance and choral festivals. Many of our children will be involved in these and as such will be busy with preparations and workshops this term. We will also be involved in football and other sporting competitions too.

As a staff we had our First Aid refresher course at the start of term and although only three years since we completed the last one, it's surprising how approaches can change. It's that time once again when we update the development plan and get to grips with the budget and priorities for the coming year.

We've all heard a lot in the media about changes in education such as more vocational courses, different approaches for boys, personalised learning and so on. Mostly old themes re-invented with new jargon.

Haven't we heard it all before? Perhaps the only firm conclusion we can come to is that education is a highly complex process where no one blueprint fits all. It would be nice if occasionally the press and government recognised and praised schools and other public services for the positive things that go on rather than making us feel that nothing we ever do is good enough.

Now I've got that off my chest I shall attend to the here and now by removing the dog deposit just outside the gate!

Mark Stratta

Lucky '100 Club' winners for December:

£20	-	Mr & Mrs Symes	£10	-	Mrs Barrett
£10	-	Mrs Wilson	£10	-	Mr & Mrs Kenway
£5	-	Toby Brookes	£10	-	Mrs Bowles
£10	-	Mrs Lamble			

Thorner's CE VA Primary School

By the time you read this, the new Spring Term will be well under way. We have been pleased to welcome Mrs Pat Cunningham as our Acting Head in Alison Johnstone's absence and hope that she enjoys her time here with us.

I felt very privileged to represent Thorner's at Anthony Ashwell's Farewell Service and Lunch (what a delicious lunch it was too!). There was a real sense of close community and our link with Litton and the other villages of the Bride Valley is something we value highly.

As a school our progress on the ICT ladder continues with the installation of a whizzy new set up called 'Espresso', which will further enable us to enhance and animate our teaching with readily available and relevant texts, film clips, news items etc. I hope the day never comes when teachers stay at home and 'teach their pupils' via a computer link, how I would miss those 'first thing in the morning surprise gifts' such as a dead

owl or a dead frog with guts hanging out, which was the most recent pleasure!

As we are drawn into this 'Brave New Whirl' of technology and rely on it more and more for our teaching, I can't help thinking that the words 'power cut' will instil as much dread as those other feared words 'Ofsted approaching'!

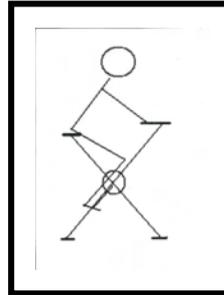
Over the past year I have taken monthly photographs of the trees at the bottom of the school field and at the end of February I should have the complete 'round the year' set and I look forward to seeing them as a whole, a speeded up version of the natural course of things which goes on around us all the time but is often un-noticed. I never take for granted the wonderful view from my classroom window but sometimes it is easy to get so caught up in a busy life that we miss the small and beautiful details of the natural world around us. I must remember that when the next surprise dead gift comes in!

Maggie Hooper

Cycling for Cambodia

Well! Well! Well!

For my 65th Birthday this month
I shall attempt to cycle **65 miles**
so that a well can be dug in Cambodia.
I do not want gifts or cards thank you,
but would welcome any sponsorship.



Before you are too impressed the 65 miles will be on my 'exercise' cycle outside my house at Stonehaven, Bindbarrow, Burton Bradstock.

Start time is 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 22nd February.

You are welcome to come and check that I am not slacking, but please leave rotten eggs and squashed tomatoes at home!

Heather Rogers

*(Well done Heather and **GOOD LUCK** from the BVN-Team)*

♪..ADVANCE NEWS ON ♪
♪..MUSIC FESTIVAL ♪

Following its sell-out success last year,
it is confirmed that the dates for the

Burton Bradstock Music Festival for 2007

are Tuesday 14th to Saturday 18th August.

This will be a really exciting 5 days with top international music artists here, and a programme that will meet a variety of musical tastes. More news in a couple of months' time. We will be advising shortly the date in May of the

'Pre-Festival Concert' in the Village Hall.

To help make the Festival happen, if you believe you can help towards the arrangements (e.g. on publicity, the programme, staffing the bar, etc) please contact Mike Southgate now on 897487 to discuss.

Many hands make light work!

More news soon ~ *John Grantham*



Pentecost Play

If you would like to be involved in this drama that will take place on Sunday 27th May (Whit Sunday) please contact Jake Dove or Heather Rogers. We need people to act, to sing, and to help in practical ways. Thank you.

Revd Anthony Ashwell's Retirement

Last month The Bride Valley said its Goodbyes to Anthony and Anna Ashwell: Anthony writes:

Anna and I can only begin to thank everybody who has wished us farewell and who contributed to our many retirement presents. Words seem quite inadequate to acknowledge your wonderful generosity, but this is the only way it can reasonably be, I'm afraid.

During this last couple of months or so we have received cards and gifts from (in some kind of order) the Wednesday Bible Study Groups, Thorner's School, Litton Cheney P.C.C., the Valley Churches as a body (their presents included a brilliant Lunch Party), and many individuals. The Churches' cheque was enormous and utterly humbling, and at present we have no real idea how it will be spent. However a small part of it may well fund a new green stole in special memory of the green Bride Valley.

Many many thanks and every Blessing.

Anthony Ashwell

P.S. A final reminder of our new address (hint, hint!):

Ven Cottage, Five Acres, Higher Sea Lane, Charmouth, Dorset DT6 6BE
01297-560847 ~ anthonyashwell@aol.com

Au revoir! ~ Adios! ~ Arrivederci! ~ Auf Wiedersehen! ~ Goodbye!



The BVN-Team would like to add their best wishes on the occasion of your retirement and wish you and Anna a very happy future in Charmouth

National Garden Scheme

On Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th February
The garden of The Old Rectory, Litton Cheney,
will be open for **Snowdrops and Hellebores**
From 2 – 5 p.m. Admission £2.50
For information please call *Carol Lindsay*(482383)



Bride Valley Gardening Club



Diary for February and March

Monday 12th February	Colin Varndell, Flowers of Dorset 7.30 p.m. Thorner's School
Monday 12th March	Questions and Answers. 7.30 p.m. Thorner's School

Our Christmas party went with a real swing and everyone enjoyed David Barnikel's wonderful slide show of snow scenes in Iceland and Greenland. Wine was provided by the Club and many members brought a superb spread of food to be shared out.

In January Michael Michaud gave a fascinating talk about the vegetables he grows for the different ethnic communities in this country in particular the different chillies for which he is so well known. He accompanied this with some beautiful slides. He kindly donated his fee to the Pilsdon Community Trust.

The March meeting will be led by Chris Hunter from Kingston Maurward who will be prepared to answer any gardening questions on fruit, flowers and vegetables. We would ask our members to prepare questions in advance and if possible send them either to the Chair or the Secretary.

Alf Brown, who will be remembered by many of our long-standing members, died on 29th December 2006 aged 85. He had been an active and successful member for many years and in honour of the many contributions he made to the Club was made President in 1994, a post which he held until his resignation in 2002. He won many of the cups and prizes at our shows and will be remembered as a quiet and kindly member. A donation in his memory has been given to the Poppy Appeal.

Jobs to do: Plant onion and shallot sets. Apply farmyard manure or any other rich fertilizer to soft fruit bushes. Prune apple trees. Prune summer flowering clematis. Bulbs, which have flowered indoors, should be planted outdoors in a sheltered spot to ripen off before being used for naturalization.

Valerie Cameron, Club Secretary - e-mail: secretary.bvgc@virgin.net
Dianne Ffoulkes - Chair 482420

PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE & WEST BEXINGTON



Village Correspondent: Elizabeth Slater
1 Lytton Close, Puncknowle, Dorchester DT2 9BH
Telephone: 897751

Carol Singing

Many thanks to those people, who turned out on a cold night to sing carols around the village and to everyone, who so generously gave donations and refreshments – special thanks to John and Mary for their hospitality. A total of £170 was collected for a local charity - ‘Re-Run’ -, which helps teenagers in rural Dorset, who may be without a home. Well done to the collectors – Calum Armstrong, Daniel Bentley and Andrew Moore.

Ruth Brierley

Boxing Day Charity Swim in West Bay

Congratulations to Nick Tait and his brother, who braved the cold sea and raised £240 to help the charities that had their boxes stolen at the United Reform Church Christmas tree exhibition. They were dressed as convicts in the hope that the culprits will be similarly dressed very soon. They won the fancy dress.

Ann Roberts

Lent Frugal Lunch

This will be held on Thursday 22nd March in the Hall from 12.30 p.m. Come and join us for home made soup, bread and cheese. The collection will be for a practical project for helping the Third World through help in restocking their livestock.

Ann Roberts

Puncknowle and Swyre Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall in Puncknowle on Tuesday 6th February 2007.

Puncknowle Art Group

The year began with a very fruitful AGM [and some of Maureen's delicious chocolate cake]. Two new members were welcomed and a new programme was formed. Many, many thanks must go to Jennifer, our retiring chairman, who has worked very hard for the past six years and will be followed by two co-chairmen, Doreen and Pam.

Dates for February: 2nd - A talk by Tracy on illustrating,
16th - Encaustic art, led by Maureen and Sallie.

Christine Molony

Calling all Knitters

St Mary's Church Fete will be held on Saturday 28th July 2007 and I am in need of some hand-made items to boost dwindling stock for the Fancy Goods stall. Knitted items, such as baby clothes, always sell very well. I have an amount of wool and various needles and would be delighted to hear from any knitters who could put these to good use. Offers of wool or other hand made items would also be very welcome – material is available for any keen sewers.

Please contact: Ruth Brierley, Dairy House, Puncknowle – 898283

Puncknowle and Swyre Village Hall.

Regretfully the committee has decided that they need to dispose of the piano from the Village Hall. It would require money spent to restore it to good working order, and this is not felt to be justified. If anyone is interested in the fate of the piano please would they contact a member of the hall committee before the end of February. If no interest is shown by then the piano will be disposed of.

The work on the toilet block is now virtually completed. We will be looking to start the next renovation project shortly. This will be to modernize the heating system. In the meantime the Hall is now ready for all those people who expressed an interest in forming a club to use the hall for a wide variety of activities. Let us hear from you. Do not forget that the early birds can have the best choices of when they would like to use the Hall on a regular basis!

Sid Marshall 897318
Yvonne Buckland 898492

SWYRE



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

Holy Trinity Church, Swyre

It was lovely to see so many people at our early "Midnight Communion" on Christmas Eve. Grateful thanks are due to all who helped with the decoration of the church with flowers, greenery and Christmas trees, as well as those who played a part in our Advent and Christmas services. Our regular services continue throughout February, and we look forward to welcoming you in church.,

*Church Wardens
Yvonne Buckland and Vera Hirst*

LITTON CHENEY



Village Correspondent: Josie Belasco
11 Manor Farm Close, Litton Cheney - 482484
jo.belasco@tiscali.co.uk

From St. Mary's PCC

As you will have read earlier in the BVN, Anthony and Anna's farewell lunch at Thorner's School was a great occasion. Thank you very much to everyone who brought food to provide the splendid buffet and to all those, who helped with the planning beforehand and worked on the day to make it such a success.

Wendy Taylor, PCC Secretary

Litton Cheney Social Committee

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to raise the £470.17, which was sent to the Children in Need Appeal.

This year's Carol Singing raised £314.63 for Naomi House, which is a record amount so again, thank you. A very muddy walk was enjoyed by 17 people on New Year's Day. Our thanks go to Alison for inviting us all to lunch afterwards.

Saturday 3rd February, Wine & Wisdom, Quiz Evening,
Thorner's School, Entrance £2.50. Wine on sale.



Saturday 10th February, Village Walk, meet at the bus shelter at 10.00 a.m. for a walk of about five miles.

Thursday 1st March, Skittles Evening,
meet at the Skittle Alley, the White Horse at 7.00 p.m.
An entrance fee of £2.50 will cover a buffet,
which Cassie has kindly agreed to prepare.



You are welcome to come and support the teams if you do not want to play. The cost to each player will be £1.00. A maximum of 30 people will be able to play.

Kathy Kourik Secretary LCSC 482552

Bride Valley Eastern End Christmas Party

Over 50 children attended the party on Sunday 10th December. Thank you to everyone, who ensured the tradition was continued: the donations from Litton Cheney Bellringers and Social Committee; Sue, for organising the games; the Fledglings Playgroup leader Carol; Sue, Glen and Mandy for the lighting and music system; the support of the staff of Thorner's School; Father Christmas; Nick, Lyn and Rosie our helpers without children and everyone, who helped in anyway to ensure a lovely afternoon for the children.

We hope to continue the tradition next year –

Katharine Jones (Coo) 898553, Elizabeth Kingston (Higgy) 482162
(please note the new telephone numbers).

**Litton and Thorner's
Community Hall (LATCH)**



**Advance Notice
Concert
Herrison Hall, Charlton Down**



We enter 2007 full of positive thoughts for the future and work has already begun on our next major event on **Saturday 14th April**.

A concert has been arranged at **Herrison Hall**, Charlton Down when those attending will be serenaded by the undoubted musical talents of the.

DORSET YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Tickets for this event will go **on sale** on **5th March**, and local residents will have first bite of the cherry. You can book your reserved seats by phoning David and Wendy Taylor on **482532** or e-mailing them at taylor@bridevalley.com After the first week tickets will go on general sale to the public at large. Tickets are priced at £7.50 per person for the concert which commences at 7.30 p.m. We will also be holding a reception (including drinks and refreshments) at 6.30 p.m. Tickets for the reception and concert are priced at £15 per person but space is limited and you are urged to book early.

There is little doubt this concert will be a must-see event. Whilst the programme has yet to be confirmed you can rest assured it will include many of your orchestral favourites. More details will be available in March's BVN but please make a note in your diaries now to avoid disappointment.

“News just in: – We are pleased to announce that Humberts of Bridport have agreed to be one of the sponsors of the LATCH concert.”

Producers' Markets – Litton Retailers Association

The Christmas Producers' Market at Thorner's School in November raised monies in the region of **£350** for The Joseph Weld & Trimar Hospice and CancerCare Dorset Trust. Thank you everyone who came, shopped, gave, smiled, chatted and left with a spring in their step.

Our new season of markets will start in **May 2007**

Thank you to all who completed and returned their **shop and market questionnaire**. Your answers and comments were extremely useful and will help us formulate a way forward for both markets and the hoped for shop. There was a considerable amount of information gleaned from the questionnaires. Of those who responded **96%** thought the markets very worthwhile, **90%** thought the timing (9.30a.m. to 12.30 p.m.) convenient, **96%** will support the markets in 2007. **88%** of respondents want a shop in the village, **8 a.m. to 6 p.m.** was the preferred hours of opening but many other times were suggested and **90%** were happy with the possible location near to The White Horse unless a more central position became available. More details next month about the volunteer situation (critical) to run the shop and also information on the other questions we asked you.

We look forward to seeing you at our 2007 markets and thank you to all who gave us their support in 2006.

The Litton Retailers Association, which organizes the markets and will be formulating plans for the shop, is in need of more support. If you would like to help (no pay, no holidays but the natives are friendly!) or you are a producer, who would like to have a stall at the markets, please call John Firrell (482313) or Wendy Taylor (482532).

You will be warmly welcomed.

Congratulations to **Luca Spiller**
for your achievement at Weymouth College
being an award winner of the Computing Cup 2006





SHIPTON GORGE

Village Correspondent: Mrs Barbara Chambers
Stoneacre, Shipton Gorge – 897482
barcol@bchambers.wanadoo.co.uk

Village Society

A Coffee Morning will be held every Tuesday at the New Inn from 11.00 a.m. onwards. Come along for a chat, and enjoy a cup of coffee/tea with Danish pastries etc. Everyone is welcome.

Pensioner Lunches

These will take place at the New Inn, fortnightly, on a Thursday at 12.30 p.m. There is a choice of three main courses plus a sweet, price £4.50. All are welcome but please book in advance. Contact Sally Parker on 897168 for details.

Calendars

Happy New Year to you all, and if you have still not acquired a calendar for 2007 why not buy one from us. This year the theme is a photographic record of the work that took place to renovate and re-open the New Inn. Priced at £4, all proceeds will go to the Village Society.

Contact Sally Parker 897168

Village Carol Singing

Many thanks to all those who turned up on a very cold evening in December to sing carols round our village - I think we had eighteen carollers of all ages. The total raised for Save the Children was £113.20, so well done everyone, especially our three tireless collectors, who were on the go for at least two hours!

Shipton Gorge Ramblers

We meet on Friday 16th February at 10.30 a.m. in Brook Street, and if weather conditions are unfavourable for a local walk, we will drive to

Hive Beach in shared cars for a coastal ramble. For those who would like advance details of walks - an itinerary has been drawn up for the year, so please contact Vicky or Janet for a copy of this.

Shipton Gorge Ltd

The first public meeting of Shipton Gorge Ltd will be held on Friday 2nd February 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Everyone in the village is invited to attend this meeting where the recent purchase of the community land in Brook Street and its future management and maintenance will be discussed.

Mary Boughton

New Inn Support Ltd

The raffle is soon to be drawn for the beautiful painting of Bredy Farm by John Rabbetts, which is still on display in the New Inn. If you have not already purchased tickets, hurry up and do so - £2 each or 3 for £5 – obtainable from either Gary or Sandra at the New Inn.

Moviola Wednesday 28th February
at Shipton Gorge Village Hall. 7.30 p.m.



The good news is that we have booked an all-time classic farce from Jacques Tati – **Monsieur Hulot’s Holiday**. This is just a splendidly relaxed film, always popular, with wonderfully worked out gags which just grow in the remembrance and will appeal to **ALL** age groups. Just the thing for a February night out!!! Tickets priced at £4.50 will be available in person from the New Inn or from Doris Benselin 897562.

The bad news is a “use it or lose it” message from Moviola – their costs have risen and we now need a target audience of 60 people per film for Moviola to break even. We are very keen to continue with films in the village hall as there is nothing nicer than strolling down the road to a cosy village hall to watch a memorable film surrounded by friends. Please support this film if you can, and please feel free to suggest any future titles you may wish to see to Jo Warren on 897948.

Shipton Gorge Village Hall 100 Club January Draw Winners

£20 No 65 Alice Townsend £10 No 42 John Epplestone

**100th Birthday Congratulations to our oldest resident
Mrs Constance Gale will be celebrating her 100th Birthday
on 21st February 2007**

Constance has lived in Rockway, Shipton Gorge, for nearly 40 years, buying the property when her late husband, Ernest, retired at the end of the 1960s.

The couple were both active in the village, with Constance joining the Mothers' Union and Ernest being involved with the Parish Council for several years. Their new garden at Rockway took a lot of their time and attention to begin with. Constance was, and still is, a knowledgeable gardener and is only sorry that she is not able any more to "do it herself"! One of her main interests is Current Affairs; she has been reading the Daily Telegraph most of her life and is well informed on world events as well as keeping abreast of local news and developments in Bridport. Indeed her neighbours often remark that she is better informed than most people to what is going on in the world around her!

Constance spent her early years in Brighton and then trained as a nurse, in the days of starched aprons and frilled caps, eventually becoming a ward sister. She married and lived in Hong Kong for 18 months before the Second World War, and there she came into contact with many local artisans and shop-keepers. She married Ernest after the death of her first husband, and retirement brought them to Shipton, where Ernest had spent his childhood.

Constance has many friends, especially in Rockway, who provide her with support and help with her shopping, library books, hairdressing, as well as just dropping in for a chat to make up for the difficulties she now has in getting about. She values these friendships and all the help given to her over the years. A truly remarkable centenarian and one whom the village feels privileged to have as a member of the community.

Many congratulations on your centenary Constance.



*And best wishes
from the BVN - Team, too
Happy Birthday Constance*



BURTON BRADSTOCK



Village Correspondent: John Grantham
(01308) 897935

Village Correspondent: We are very grateful to John Grantham for all his hard work and glad to announce that Cathy and John Lay-Flurrie will be taking over for the coming months.
Address: 22 Beach Road, Burton Bradstock,
Dorset, DT6 4RF. Tel: 01308-897281
E-mail: clayflurrie@tiscali.co.uk

Midweek Communion Service held every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in St Mary's Church followed by coffee in the Rectory. All welcome.

Tiny Tots Pram Service held at 11 a.m. on the second Friday of the month in St Mary's Church. Refreshments provided afterwards. All most welcome.

Lent Lunch

St Mary's Church will be hosting a Lent Lunch in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 10th March between 12 noon and 2 p.m. Soup, bread and cheese, coffee and biscuits will be served for a donation towards St Mary's nominated mission charities for 2007. All residents of the village, valley and beyond most welcome to join us.

Mothering Sunday Lunch

Plans are in progress to hold a 'Bring & Share' lunch at 12.30 p.m. on Sunday 18th March. Please see St Mary's weekly pew sheet in church for further details.

Coffee Morning

All welcome to drop in for coffee/tea and a chat from 10.30 a.m.-12 noon on Tuesday 13th March at Chesil Court Hall.



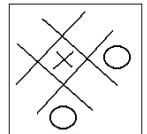
Burton Bradstock Parish Council

If you care about Burton Bradstock and are prepared to help in making sure that the pleasant community life and amenities we enjoy in the village at least continue and more importantly improve in the future, then please consider joining the Parish Council. Elections will be taking place in May and we need candidates to come forward from all sections of the village so that it is a democratically elected body rather than one filled by co-option as in the recent past. The issues which come before the Council for deliberation are wide ranging and as most have a bearing on the quality of life in the village, the decision making needs to be truly representative of all aspects of village life.

If you are interested in becoming a councillor, please contact me, Mike Southgate, on 897487 or any member of the Parish Council for further information. Also in the months leading up to the election, the Council will be publicising more information on the role of the Council and how it functions. Though being a parish councillor takes up time and subjects one to certain pressures from the rest of the community, it is a rewarding and satisfying experience.

Mike Southgate, Chairman Burton Bradstock Parish Council

BBVH - Quiz Night - Saturday 31st March 2007



There will be a Quiz Night in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 31st March. Either bring along a team of 8, or join a team on the night and enjoy not only a fun quiz but also a Fish and Chip Supper. Ticket cost will include the supper and details will appear on posters around the Valley.

Susan Moores - Secretary, Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

Burton Bradstock Village Hall

Mon 26th Feb - Sat 3rd March

7.30pm

*Tickets from 27th January at The Post Office, Burton
Bradstock*



DON'T MISS THE TRAIN !!

Advance Notice:

Easter Sunday 8th April

The Great Burton Bradstock
Annual Duck Race is coming.....

More details to follow."



Burton Bradstock Village Hall (BBVH)

BBVH - 200 Club - January 2007 Draw – Congratulations to:

1st Prize:	No.	308	Mrs O. Cheney	£40.20
2nd Prize:	No.	380	Mrs M. Herbert	£20.10
3rd Prize:	No.	340	Mrs V. Coutts	£10.05

Remember, names of the winners are displayed each month on the Notice Board outside the Village Hall and anyone wanting to become a member in time for the February-December draws should telephone Alan Clarke on 897051 and let him have £11 – one pound for each of the remaining 11 draws in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw.

Thank you

everyone for your generous contributions to the Club for 2007, providing an invaluable source of income for the upkeep of the Village Hall. Although the membership of the “200 Club” has passed the 200 level, further members will be warmly welcomed!

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

Burton Bradstock Village Diary 2007

Please remember that if you are organising a village event in Burton Bradstock, there is a diary kept in Burton Bradstock Post Office in which you can enter details. This should help to prevent people arranging events of a similar nature in quick succession.

BBVH - Forthcoming Events

BBVH - Artsreach

Don't forget on Friday 16th February at 7.30 p.m. at Burton Bradstock Village Hall to come and see "A Clean Sweep", a show for all the family by Plutot La Vie, who were a big hit at last year's Edinburgh Festival. ... "Two men trying to survive in an archaic world of brooms and brushes, doing anything but clearing up..."! A rare chance to see this fabulously funny Scottish group down South. Tickets are £7 each from the Post Office or in advance from Norman Saunders-White (897214).

And on Saturday 24th March - "Strings Ain't What They Used to Be" - a musical programme from "Wheatley's Arcadians" who will play and sing music from the Golden Age of the 20's and 30's, using a huge variety of stringed instruments. An entertaining evening is in store! So put the date in your diaries now - Saturday 24th March at 7.30 p.m. in Burton Bradstock Village Hall. Tickets are £7.50 each and will be available nearer the time from the Post Office and from

Norman Saunders-White - Promoter for Artsreach - 897214

BBVH -Village Fayre - Monday 28th May 2007 (2.00 pm to 4.30 pm)

The Burton Bradstock Village Fayre will once again be held in the Rectory Gardens on Bank Holiday Monday 28th May. Your support last year made this event a great success and the money raised has allowed the Village Hall Committee to maintain and upgrade the hall and facilities. Help will again be needed to organise, set up and run stalls; anyone who wishes to volunteer should contact Susan Moores on 01308 897673. Entertainment for children will once again be a central feature of the Fayre with supervised Children's Races and a Fancy Dress Competition. Look out for further details on Notice Boards around the Village.

Susan Moores – Secretary, Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee

Burton Bradstock Village Society

It was just like watching on telly on a Saturday night when, on 9th December David Taylor from Litton Cheney treated us to a light-hearted insight into his life with BBC Entertainment.

He left the Midland Bank to work for the BBC as a call boy and soon became assistant floor manager. He shared with us some memories of his involvement with shows such as ‘Dad’s Army’ and ‘Blue Peter’ (which is where he met his wife.) He then became a producer of hit shows like ‘Blankety Blank’, ‘Jim’ll Fix It’ and the ‘The Paul Daniels Magic Show.’ But the crème de la crème turned out to be ‘The Generation Game’ with Bruce Forsyth.

He showed us some hilarious skits, which had us all in stitches. However, it took around a week to put each show together and we were surprised to hear that most of the quips and banter were pre-written and rehearsed. The contestants *never* rehearsed so all their input was spontaneous. Bruce Forsyth eventually left the show, which was never the same again and David Taylor became a freelancer.

Although ‘The Generation Game’ may now look a little dated, as we all ate our mince pies and sipped our mulled wine afterwards, we couldn’t all help but wonder why they don’t make shows like that anymore.

Don’t miss Margery Hookings talking on “Bridport: My Kind of Town” at 7.30 p.m. Friday 9th February.

Peter Dutton

Burton Bradstock WI Meeting

President, Heather Seadon, welcomed members to the first meeting of the New Year, which was held at 2.15 p.m. on Tuesday 9th January 2007. When Heather told us we were to have a talk by someone representing Bridport Bag Ladies, I admit to being somewhat apprehensive - did Bridport really have bag ladies?

Our speaker, Daphne Ekins, soon allayed any fears I harboured when she showed us an array of colourful crocheted bags, of all shapes and sizes, that had been made from recycled plastic carrier bags. Begun in February 2000, Daphne and a group of dedicated crocheting ladies sell these bags at the Wednesday coffee mornings held in the Bridport United Church. All proceeds go to the South African charity HOPE (Health Opportunity Partnership Employment), and so far just over £2,000 has been raised. I think we were all impressed with the skill and artistry that goes into this work, and enjoyed a demonstration by Jean Burden, who magically turned a carrier bag into strands for crocheting. Not only are these ladies helping the underprivileged in South Africa, but also doing their bit for the environment.

There's HOPE for the humble carrier bag yet.

At the time of writing members are looking forward to the WI New Year's party to be held on 20th January.

The subject of our next photographic competition is Burton Bradstock in Bloom, hopefully resulting in a calendar for 2009. We are so organised that we even have the dates for the Carol Concert we are hosting (6th December) and this year's Christmas lunch (7th December).

The next meeting is at 2.15 p.m. on Tuesday 13th February.

Felicity Tattersall-Craft

Burton Bradstock Bridge Group

During February the Group will meet as follows:

Tues 6th in the Village Hall at 2.00pm

Tues 13th – No Bridge

Tues 20th & 27th at Burton Cliff Hotel at 2.00pm

Further information from Chris Clarke, Tel:-898117



BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYGROUP



Happy New Year to everyone!

The 1st prize winner of our Christmas Draw was
C. Cox of Dorchester

The 2nd prize went to L. Nolan from Weymouth

The draw raised over £530 for our playgroup and we would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who helped to sell the tickets, including the Post Office.

We had a fantastic Nativity with lots of singing by the children, who dressed up. We also had a visit from Father Christmas.

We have Travelling Trends coming on

23rd March at 7.00 p.m.

Tickets are £5.00 and include a glass of wine

Tickets are available from the Post Office at Burton or Burwoods Domestic, 84 St Michaels Trading Estate, Bridport. For queries ask Mandy on 01308 423519

We still have places at our playgroup and anyone is welcome to drop in on one of our sessions Mon, Wed or Fri. 9.30-12.00. We also run a lunch club on Mon and Fri 12.00-1.00.

Contact Ann Marie on 07814 316963 or 01305 788221

Mission Partners

Excellent news from Tanzania! Our Mission Partners, Andy and Susie Hart, will be visiting us over the Whitsunday weekend (26th/27th May). We hope their little girls, Grace and Rosie, will be with them. Please make a note in your diary now and, of course, details will be made known nearer the time.

Mission Sub-committee of the P.C.C.

The Children's Society

It was certainly a better night for our Carol Singing around the village – though not so many men unfortunately. As usual everyone was very generous with their donations. We had out two regular staunch collectors, Basil and Howard, with the help of Joe and Holly, and we were given some warming punch, which helped us along! Bob kept us in tune with his guitar and later he and Jean served us with some tasty soup and other refreshments. I will be able to send £160 for Carol Singing (to Waves C of E Weymouth), £393.06 has already been sent from Box Holders, who give so generously on a regular basis. The Christingle collection was £131.61. John (from Bridget's) kindly donated the oranges this year. That makes the Total £687.67 for a very worthy cause to help our young people.

Many, many thanks to you all.

Greta Heal

Home Watch News

In no circumstances spoil a good walk ...*but* ...anyone walking around Burton who has a mobile phone is in a perfect position to call the Police *if* they see something suspicious happening. The call can be "I don't know whether this is significant or not, but I have just seen 'x' happening". Let's give *the Police* the chance to decide if they want to investigate or not.

The telephone number is easy to memorise: 01305-22 22 22.

And if you don't have a mobile phone please call from a landline asap. *Never* feel 'It looks a bit suspicious, but it probably isn't and anyway I don't want to bother the Police'.....rather let's do what *they* ask and give *them* the benefit of hundreds more eyes and ears! *Your* bit of info may tie in with another bit.

*Note to Home Watch Co-ordinators: Brief Annual Meeting
planned for March – details imminent.*

John Grantham 897935

LITTLEBREDY NOTES



The Christmas Day congregation in Church was the largest for several years, and they appreciated, as ever, the exceptional seasonal decorations, as well as a lively and varied service. Congratulations to all concerned.

The Social Club Committee has not yet decided on the form of February's event, but the Hall will be open in the evening of Friday 9th February, and posters or fliers will advertise whatever has been planned in the meanwhile.

Thank you

Simon, Siobhan, Nathan and especially Kieran Baxter would like to take the opportunity to thank all those who sent get well messages during Kieran's impromptu stay in hospital over the Christmas week. As you can imagine the timing couldn't have been any better to create ultimate disruption but all is well in the end, though having now to prevent his lordship from doing anything too strenuous is a task in itself!! Many thanks for all the 'phone calls, they were much appreciated.

LONG BREDY



Village Correspondent: Mrs Elinor Frost
Bridelands, Long Bredy - 482269

Long Bredy Parish News February 2007

The Frugal Lunch will be held this year at Langebride on Friday 23rd February at 12.45 p.m. All proceeds will go to Julia's House, the Dorset Children's Hospice.

The next Parochial Church Council meeting will be held at Langebride on 8th February at 7.30 p.m.

Congratulations to Kate and Daniel Smith on the arrival of their new baby daughter, Clementine; a sister for May and Phoebe.

The Christmas Carol Service of the combined villages of Long Bredy and Littlebredy took place on 18th December at St Peter's in a beautifully decorated Church. A mixture of carols, Bible readings and poetry raised in excess of £118, which will be donated to Christian Aid.

Any parish news for the March BVN should be sent to Mike Shepherd, Knowle View (482250).

Beyond the Valley

Women's World Day of Prayer from Paraguay

This year the special annual service will be held at **Chapel in the Garden, East Street, Bridport, on Friday 2nd March at 10.30 a.m.** This is an important service of unity with more than 180 countries across the globe as we all come together in prayer. Last year's service was devised by the women of South Africa; this year from the women of Paraguay.

Paraguay, land-locked in central South America, is a country with a young population. Despite its many problems, there are signs of hope. Paraguayans show solidarity and traditionally join together to solve their problems, particularly in poorer areas. There are growing numbers of cooperatives both in the city and rural areas.

All, (men and women) are welcome at this special service from South America, on 2nd March. Let's take this opportunity, in some small way, to join with others across the world, as we come together in Peace and Solidarity.

Marcia Machim

VILLAGE WEBSITES

Giving detail of events, news, history, photographs etc.

www.burtonbradstock.org.uk

www.littoncheney.org.uk

www.shiptongorge.org.uk

THE DAFFODIL

Why can't the noble daffodil enjoy the summer's sun?
Nature decrees it dies before new beauties are begun.
Why is it not rewarded for the pleasure it bestows,
After scenes of dark and cold, rain and frost and snows.



That which brings us pleasure through its grandeur and it's grace,
And sets us looking forward to new beauty in it's place,
Cannot stay to watch delight, and join the children's laughter,
With the many flowers that follow in the seasons after.

But unlike us, who seek perfection from our time of birth,
And know that death defines the pleasures we get from the earth,
The daffodil rests from it's life, and duty having done
Returns to burst its beauty to awaken next year's sun.

Frank Whillock

THE SEE-SAW

A constant flow of up and down
Feet in the air then back on the ground
The pulling and pushing and tug-of-war
The umming and aahing for less and more
The pros and cons of decisions we make
To help us avoid our next big mistake



The to and fro on the see-saw of life
Learning to cope with the joy and the strife
The questions we ask, the yes and the no
The ifs and the buts increase as we grow.
Backwards and forwards, the stop and the go
The pace becomes faster, yet we become slow

The ins and outs and the odd mood swing
The perhapses and maybes and challenge they bring
Young and foolish now older and wise
So much to see through tiring eyes.

The balance of worst against the best
Take a deep breath ... *and just have a rest!*

Claire



Last, but by no means least,
*a big **Thank you** to our
distribution team ...*

They set out in all weathers and put up
with awkward letterboxes, territorial dogs
and the odd complaint from dissatisfied
readers in order to deliver your copy of the
magazine.

Where would we be without them?

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