

Bride Valley News



by Rob Reeks, Puncknowle

February 2009

The Magazine of The Bride Valley Team Ministry

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email: kate.kent100@yahoo.co.uk, tel: 01308 897574

*** ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR MARCH EDITION: 7th FEBRUARY ***

Articles, notices and advertisements in this magazine may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the people and organisations which fund and support it.

Copy for future issues should be sent to the relevant Village Correspondent, (contact details shown at the head of each Village Section) no later than two days prior to the deadline date shown below, for forwarding to the Editor (handwritten or typed copy should be sent well before the deadline date):
email BVN@hattiemaths.com tel: 897953

*** DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE: 9th FEBRUARY ***

Pictures (not necessarily photographs) for consideration for the front cover, should be sent/delivered direct to the editor by the same date.

DON'T FORGET THERE IS A £5 BOUNTY FOR ANY PICTURE PUBLISHED.

FROM THE RECTORY



THE REV. BOB THORN A.K.C
THE RECTORY,
BURTON BRADSTOCK, DT6 4QS
TEL: 01308 898799

Well, none of us thought that I would be writing this letter. This is being put together on the first week of the New Year - to reach the editor's deadline - and as I sit at my computer, Bob our beloved Rector is lying in Southampton Hospital suffering from a brain haemorrhage, with Jean his dear wife, sitting at his bedside. And although this magazine will not reach you until February it is most likely that Bob will not be back in the driving seat for some time.

So what now?

First, *Pray*. On a hoarding board I saw a picture of a brown papered parcel with a 'Fragile' sticker on it. Underneath a caption read 'Life is fragile, Handle with Prayer' Shipton Gorge straight away set us a shining example in this as the church and village have committed themselves to praying daily for Bob and his family at 7.00pm. Can the rest of us do any less?



St James encourages us by saying 'The prayer of faith will save the sick'. It is somewhat ironical that we began the Healing Services that Bob called for with Bob in hospital. But that is the mystery of this ministry

Second, *Pull together*. Unexpected circumstances create changes and call for flexibility. Things won't be as we necessarily planned or expect. There will be more lay leadership and participation, there will be a few more communions by extension.

Thank the Lord that the Bishops saw fit to 'fast track' my ordination, which in God's mercy means that with both Bob and Jean out of action we still have one 'priest' in the benefice to do the important necessities. Also we are grateful for the help of clergy from outside the Benefice who come in to help, but we are not to rely on them to do our job. Bob did a prophetic thing when he called us to consider 'vocations'. Now with our Lay Worship leaders, worship in the churches can carry on. With Lay Pastoral Assistants visiting people in their homes and hospital, that won't grind to a halt. In fact St Paul in Ephesians 4v12 says that it is the responsibility of the *whole church to do the work of ministry* - not just the specialists or the few who do

that sort of thing. In God's overruling this period can be an exciting time for growth when, as St Paul encourages us, we all do our part - inside the church and out. This is no time for defending *our* corner, *our* church, *our* personal preferences but pulling together as a Benefice. God promises to bless where there is this 'togetherness'

Wouldn't it be great, when he comes back, for Bob to see all the churches filled with new people who have seen the importance of supportive prayer, and churches bubbling with new life as all the members joyfully do their bit?

The Lord help us all during this unexpected time of change

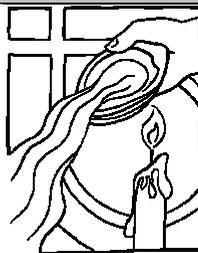
Ryder

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

At Shipton Gorge on 7th December Stephen and Katherine had their son **AUBREY JAMES DAVID JOHNSTON HYDE** christened.

At Puncknowle Rev. Philip Ringer came along at short notice to baptise **ELSIE GRACE HANNAM**, daughter of Sarah and Mike Hannam on 28th December.



WEDDINGS.

Again at short notice, on 27th December, Rev. Trevor Stubbs, our Rural Dean, was brought in to take the wedding of **LIAM THOMAS** and **ANDREA PRENTICE**. This wedding was held at Litton Cheney

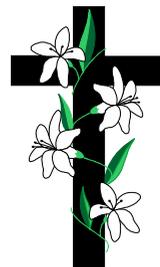
FUNERALS

In Swyre the ashes of **Peggy Ann Miller** were buried at a service conducted by Canon Syd Wilcocks on 12th December

A Thanksgiving Service for **David Richard Reed**, one time church organist and avid bell ringer at Long Bredy, was held in his own church on 13th December

On the 18th December the ashes of **Geraldine Rowlands** were interred at Litton Cheney, and a Service of Thanksgiving led by Rev Andrew Salmon, a previous vicar, was held on 19th December

Also at Shipton Gorge after a thanksgiving service for the life of **Clarissa May Day** held on December 22nd her ashes were buried with her late husband on January 3rd



This has been a tad 'bitty' as a lot of the necessary information is in

Bob's brain, so my apologies to anyone who should have been included but has been omitted.

For the future, maybe, someone from each church could put into their own section of the BVN those things that have happened in their area.

Ryder

BEYOND THE VALLEY



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA

This year's special service will be held at St. Mary & St. Catherine Roman Catholic Church, Victoria Grove, Bridport, on Friday March 6th at 10.30am. This is an important service of unity with more than 180 countries across the globe as we all come together in prayer.

All are welcome at this special service from Papua New Guinea. Let's take this opportunity, to join, in some small way, with others across the world, to come together in Peace and Solidarity.

All churches who would like more information about and/or would like to be involved in these special annual services, are invited to contact Marcia Machin, telephone 01308-423475 or by email at marciamachin@hotmail.com.

GOOD BOOKS

St Mary's Old School, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3RL

Tel: 01308 420483

E-mail: orders@goodbooksbridport.co.uk

YOUR local Christian bookshop and resource centre with a wide range of greetings cards. Call in and see us when you're in Bridport for a cuppa and a browse. We also welcome new volunteers and are looking for book agents in local churches and villages - could this be you?

Opening hours: Monday-Friday 9am-1.00pm, Saturday 10am-12.00.

We may be able to open for groups at other times by special arrangement.



We now have a range of Lent Study material available to view, both for personal use and also with groups. We also stock Timothy Radcliffe books as Churches Together will be following a series of lectures and films by him this year. We always have some sales stock or books at special prices too and a growing number of interesting second-hand books - do come in for a coffee and a browse.

We urgently need some more help in the shop: a regular volunteer is needed for Monday mornings 9am-1pm (or two people, 9-11am and 11am-1pm) and two or three volunteers for holiday/sickness relief. If you have some time to spare, give us a call or pop in for a chat any time.

TEA and CHAT and **CAKE** with Christian Aid South West - Sunday 8th February 3pm at Bridport United Church Hall (hosted by Churches Together). Calling all Christian Aid supporters and friends in the local area and anyone

who wants to find out more, come and meet Stephen Dominy and hear first hand about CA's work with their partners overseas. (Offers of cake contributions to Colin & Myra Gardiner on 01308 898611.)

The next **CHAI & CHAT** (West Dorset/Africa Network) is Monday 16th February 2.30-4.30pm at Good Books, focusing on South Africa with Shirley Smith.

The cake as well as the chat is always good!

TAKING THE ROOF OFF SOCIAL HOUSING

Wherever I go in West Dorset there is nearly always some part of the conversation, which starts with “Where can we house our young people so that they don’t leave West Dorset?” It is a huge problem and a great concern to many people living here. There is a public expectation that developers will provide 33% of the properties they build as social housing - if only it were that simple!



But what is social housing? It used to be called Council Housing but the name and ownership changed in West Dorset in the early 1990's when the council houses were transferred to Magna Housing Association. Social housing can be defined as housing for people who cannot, for one reason or another, provide housing for themselves and in West Dorset there are about 6,250 such homes – about 13.5% of the total housing stock. There are 17 Housing Associations, including Magna, operating in West Dorset.

So how do we obtain more social housing? We need three things that are generally in short supply.

1. **LAND.** This must be cheap or free for a scheme to work. It can be given or purchased at a low cost from a landowner or local public body such as the District Council. Land obtained in this way is sometimes on the outskirts of a village or town where development would not normally be allowed but it is more likely that the land would be part of a larger development where there is a requirement for 33% social housing. Again the land may be free (not very likely) or it would be made available at low cost under a planning agreement.

2. **GRANT AID.** This is essentially a subsidy, usually from the Homes and Community Agency using funds from central government, averaging about £40,000 per property. The purpose is to keep the final price low so that rents are affordable. These grants are often hard to come by although with the present lack of development they may now be more freely available.

3. **A LOAN.** This covers the balance of the purchase price of the property and is taken out by the housing association from the private sector. The loan is, in effect, a mortgage, which has to be repaid with interest over a

25 to 30 year period. These are now more difficult, although not impossible, to obtain, as housing associations are not regarded as bad risks by lenders.

With these three requirements in place, the houses can then be built, owned and managed by a housing association. Most are let but some can be shared-ownership with the purchaser initially owning about half of the property and renting the rest. In this case the grant is only 50% of the rate for houses to be let; its a great idea in the current market but many would-be owners find it difficult to obtain a mortgage. New housing built in the social housing sector is often of a higher standard than private houses because of the high government requirements for insulation etc. As a result, social houses cost more to build than those in the private sector. During the 12 months from April 2007 to April 2008, 42 new social homes were built in West Dorset mostly as a result of land becoming available through larger private development schemes.

Houses are allocated according to need: those who are homeless, with an urgent medical need where moving will improve their health, living in accommodation where there is serious overcrowding or with a risk to health and safety are put in Band A, while Band B includes those living in temporary accommodation where there is a notice to leave, or in homes with too few bedrooms, no kitchen or bathroom facilities, or where these facilities have to be shared with strangers. Band C is for applicants who have low priority. The list of criteria is indicative only.

To be in Band A or C applicants need to have a local connection. This can be either continuous residence or a permanent workbase within West Dorset for 6 out of the last 12 months, or continuous residence for 3 years out of the last 6. Family needs and homelessness also give a local connection.

Allocations are made from all three bands – 30% to band A, 60% to band B and 10% to band C. If this proportion of allocations was not made, the only people who would be housed would be the homeless. There are currently 2218 (January 2009) people registered as requiring social housing in West Dorset with about 400 houses available for re-let each year. Social housing tenancies are secure and essentially for life. In some cases they can be passed on to a spouse or child.

Rents in the social housing sector of West Dorset are currently in the range of £14 to £164 per week with an average of £75.90 per week. Tenants can claim a means tested housing benefit if their circumstances are such that they cannot afford to pay the full rent. These benefits range from 67p to £158.41 per week with an average of £84.59. Private sector tenants can also claim housing benefits; currently it ranges from £1.46 to £380 per week with average payments of £83.

None of this is cheap with West Dorset Housing Benefit last year

costing £19,062,137, mostly paid by the Government. West Dorset's taxpayers contribute 1.36% of this sum, £259,414. The government also paid West Dorset £696,749 for administering the scheme. It might put these sums in proportion to note that WDDC's gross budget for all other purposes is £23.4 million.

The purpose of this article is to encourage informed public debate on a subject which is important to many people.

Ronald Coatsworth

*Former Chair of Housing WDDC & Board Member & Chair, Finance at Magna Housing Assn.
Presently Chair of West Dorset District Council).*



COMMUNITY SAFETY DRIVES B3157 CHICKERELL TO BRIDPORT ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Dorset County Council is repeating the offer of a free-of-charge opportunity to refresh defensive driving skills and pick up eco-driving tips in an effort to cut the mounting number of road crashes as part of the B3157 Chickerell to Bridport Road Safety Partnership Scheme.

85% of drivers who attended the courses held last September said the course was very useful and that they would be more aware of hazards, more observant and take more notice of road signs. Comments included:

an excellent course

everyone should attend

it's encouraged me to do more training

Drivers can take part in either or both of the courses.

Refresh Your Driving Skills is a theory course presented to a group of drivers at a local venue by a road safety professional, usually a driving instructor. It aims to give drivers of all ages and experience, an opportunity to update and improve their skills and knowledge.

Courses are taking place at:

Chickerell, Willowbed Hall, Wednesday 11 February, 10am to 1pm

Abbotsbury, Strangways Hall, Wednesday 25 February, 2pm to 5pm

To book your place contact the Road Safety Team, Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester DT1 1XJ Tel: 01305 224558 or email roadsafety@dorsetcc.gov.uk.

The practical course is a 1½ hour one-to-one driving session on the route, in your car, with a specially trained driving instructor. It aims to improve defensive driving techniques, raise hazard awareness and increase knowledge of the road.

To register your interest in taking part speak to the presenter at the theory course or contact: Sue Virgin, Senior Road Safety Officer, Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester DT1 1XJ, Tel: 01305 224267 or email s.virgin@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Sue Virgin

VALLEY NOTES

HOUSE GROUP

We continue our look at St Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus on the following dates:

February 4th, 10th, 18th and 24th. We begin at 2.30pm; please telephone Ann and Mike Read (897445) for the venue!

All are welcome.

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 (tel. 01308 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 £11.10 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, B.R.F. Group Secretary



Paul, Reuben and I would like to thank our colleagues, family, friends and neighbours for their help, kindness and support following the sudden death of my father, Ted Higgins.

Elizabeth Kingston

MOTHERS UNION.

A.G.M.

Thursday 26th February-2.30pm. Venue to be arranged.

Yvette Smith. 898219.





First Steps Toddler Group



Long Bredy Village Hall

Term-time: Wednesdays, 10am-to 12noon

Suitable 0-4 years

£2.00 per session, including refreshments.

Small & friendly group

All welcome

Wide range of equipment & resources

Meet friends

01308 482126

for more information

Health Visitor, 1st Wednesday each month

BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYGROUP

The playgroup would like to wish a warm welcome to Imogen Dovie, Olivia and Aisha Sahin and Robyn Marnar. Hope you enjoy your time with us.

The children have been busy this month preparing for the Chinese New Year making Chinese lanterns and hats and tasting very delicious oriental food with chop-sticks.

Our new extended sessions are proving to be very successful. The opening times are as follows:

Mondays 9.15 till 2.15

Wednesday 9.15 till 2.15

Friday 9.15 till 2.15

The toddler group on Wednesday mornings, which is for pregnant mums and parents/carers with children aged 0 to 2½, has been very popular. All welcome to attend our friendly group. Thanks to all helpers.

The Playgroup really appreciates Bob's enthusiasm with the children and we wish him a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are with the whole family at this difficult time.

For new families wishing to visit or enquire about the Playgroup please contact Ann-Marie on 07853150467.

Ann-Marie Pitman (Playgroup Leader) BA Hons Childhood Studies



Charity Commission No. 1042713



BRIDE VALLEY FLEDGLINGS PLAYGROUP

More news from the Christmas Market Fund Raiser - the winner of the first prize in the Grand Draw (the large Christmas Hamper) - was Tina Martin from Bridport. Final figures from Jill - the Grand Draw raised £477.95,

playgroup received donations of £220 and the final Total raised was £1910.23. So once again **THANK YOU**. Money raised will go towards a new climbing frame and playhouse for the outdoor area, which the playgroup children will enjoy.

Fledglings staff had a very enjoyable night out with Thorner's School staff at the Engine Room, Poundbury in December - where the food was excellent, and the company was hilarious by the end of the evening! I'll say no more. Another recent addition to Fledglings staff is Emma Thompson who lives in Puncknowle - Em had been helping on a voluntary basis for a while when Hazel started at playgroup - but now she is an official member of staff.

Now for 2009 - activities this term will include making piggy masks, piggy cakes, using musical instruments to make sounds of the pigs and the wolf - guess what the theme is?? Yes, the Three Little Pigs. The children made a large straw house - sticking on pieces of straw and material bits for curtains. They also went to the Conservation Area to collect sticks for the stick house - even though it was freezing cold! Monday afternoons are going to be for cooking - I wonder what??

A Big Welcome to Marcus Daubeney, who has now officially started at playgroup - he has been coming in since he was a baby while big sister Olivia was with us, and has wanted to stay and play for ages.

NESTLINGS

Open to parents, babies, and toddlers to join in playgroup activities, play with resources, meet others, become familiar with Fledglings environment, find out information re playgroup and school, have a snack & a drink - **when?** Just drop in on **Thursday afternoons at 1.45pm** - only £1.50. And it is nice and warm!

For information about Playgroup or Nestlings, please ring Fledglings / Fiona Evans at school on **01308 482410**.

THORNER'S CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Coming back after the Christmas holidays we were surprised to hear that the Rector was in hospital. We miss listening to him 'jam' prior to our Thursday assemblies, but glad to hear that he is being allowed to play in hospital so we expect to hear a few variations later this year. Our thoughts and prayers are with both Bob and Jean at this time, wishing you well for your recovery.



The Community hall is growing daily - not so much for us to see now as the walls are up and most of the work is going on inside. We are looking forward to completion and the time when we can start to use it.

Normally before Easter we have a concert for friends and parents but at the time of writing we are unsure of plans so keep in touch. Concerts will be so much easier to organize, and will allow greater involvement of the pupils and we hope will inspire them to enjoy the arts and performance part of the curriculum.

Alison Johnstone, Headteacher

100 CLUB WINNERS:

£15	Mrs Sally Jevons
£10	Mrs Carol Bennett

BURTON BRADSTOCK CE VC SCHOOL

Whilst in the process of reflecting about what to include in this article I am desperately trying hard not to be Mr Grumpy and am conscious that, in the spirit of last month's BVN contribution, I also need to balance this with elements of Mr Jolly. This is easier said than done with the start to the year that many of us have had. When we consider factors such as illnesses of loved ones, uncertainties about the economy and jobs, and generally battling against elements of the weather to which we've become unaccustomed. Add a few international conflicts and the picture is increasingly melancholic.

I take some comfort from newspapers that remind us that January is generally the most depressing month of the year. Our Collective Worship theme this half term is 'Courage' – most apt! We are covering topics such as 'Encouraging Others'; 'Facing our Fears with Courage'; 'Facing Bullies with Courage'; 'The Courage to Stand Firm'; and 'Courage to make the first move'. Hopefully we will all learn lessons that will help us to be positive as we face the coming year.

We are always very grateful to villagers for their support in a variety of ways. It can take a lot of courage to come into school, especially during playtimes! I particularly wish to mention at this time Mrs Sue Linford and Mike Read who are taking worship this term, and also Mrs Elaine Colbert who is introducing the Year 6 Art Club to the delights of real watercolour painting.

This term Class 4 is studying the Romans and they have learnt (amongst a lot of other things) that the month of February comes from 'Febra' a festival to confess sins. It would be intriguing to have a circle time in which everyone confessed their sins though probably not very politically correct. Can you imagine the scene? Some children would be very honest, a few would be trying to outdo each other whilst a small minority would I suspect claim to never have sinned at all. We could invent a game based upon the 'Weakest Link'. There could be questions about etiquette and moral situations about the right thing to do or say. After each round the quiz master could say, "Who was the weakest sinner in that round?" "Ok – shall

we forgive them or throw them in the stream?” All kinds of interesting discussions would ensue. I digress but the process of clearing the air can nevertheless be very liberating – a kind of spiritual and moral spring clean.

Finally, one of my colleagues brought to my attention an article about dealing with stress. There are ten words all beginning with the letter ‘C’ that offer coping strategies. Unfortunately we can’t remember them all so instead we’ve come up with just one of our own – ‘Chocolate’. I’m not sure yet how we can mesh this with our Healthy Eating policy but where there’s a will there’s a way

Mark Stratta

BRIDE VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

By popular demand our meetings have reverted to the third Monday of the month from March to October taking place at the Puncknowle and Swyre Village Hall. We will kick off with our first meeting of 2009 on March 16th with another Gardeners Question Time led by Phil Gamble who ran this popular event last year with great enthusiasm and excellent advice. We are hoping that this year's meeting will also cover subjects such as gardening in small spaces as well as plant problems but of course it all depends on the questions you ask. As well as questions from the floor it would be appreciated if written questions could be sent in either to the Chair or the Secretary or handed in on the day. This year at the March meeting we are offering free entry to visitors (normally £2) to show Valley residents how much their own local gardening club can offer them.



JOBS TO DO:

Make sure all apple and pears have been pruned and autumn raspberries have been cut down to the ground. Cut back ornamental grasses and other perennials left for winter interest. Put up nesting boxes for birds and make a log or twig pile from prunings to provide habitats for invertebrates and small animals.

Sylvia Delves, Acting Chair. e-mail sylvia@delvesuk.freeserve.co.uk

Valerie Cameron, Club Secretary. e-mail: secretary.bvgc@virgin.net

Tel: 01308 482240



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (Abbotsbury & Portesham Branch)

It is with great sadness that we record the death of **Tom D. Dunford** (Portesham). A true gentleman and friend of many of our members he was one of the most regular attendees at our events and we shall sorely miss him. Our sincere condolences to Betty and family.

“Riverdance”, B.I.C. Bournemouth (sold out) Thursday, 12th February, 2009. Coach departures are:

Winterborne Abbas 6 p.m., Abbotsbury Square 6.15 p.m., Portesham Green 6.20 p.m., 35a London Rd. Dorchester 6.40 p.m.

“Rome & Environs” holiday is from 21st -28th February, 2009 and coach departures are:

Bridport 4.15 a.m., Abbotsbury 4.40 a.m., Portesham 4.50 a.m., Dorchester 5.20 a.m. Puddletown 5.35 a.m.

The Branch **Annual Dinner** will be held at Upwey Wishing Well Restaurant on Friday, 27th March, 2009. Booking has now opened. Menu and coach details will appear in the next Branch Newsletter.

We are exploring the possibility of a 3-day trip to **Stoke-on-Trent**, visiting gardens and potteries, together with **Alrewas National Arboretum Memorial Gardens** and Lichfield Cathedral in May/June. It would be helpful to the Entertainments Committee to know if this interests you.

An 8-Day tour of the Poitiers and Limoges area of France is being planned for September, 2009. If you are interested in this or any of the above, please telephone me on 01305 267617.

Des Baker, Branch Vice Chairman

BURTON BRADSTOCK W.I.

In December our W.I. had a very different afternoon. Instead of a speaker we were entertained by “Two’s Company Harmony Singing” and heard a delightful little concert of songs, poems and carols performed by Hilary Charlesworth and Dee Thorne, enjoyed by all.

We also held our annual photo competition and this year the subject was “Rivers of Britain”, with some very scenic entries. The trophy was won by Joan Dady, with runners up Carol Lumley and Heather Seadon. And to get us into the festive mood, at tea time we enjoyed homemade mince pies made by Gill Redford – and very delicious they were, too!

On the 18th, eighteen members went to Sherborne for the biannual Carol Service at Sherborne Abbey. This year the music was very different and our group thought it was a pity that no traditional carols were chosen for everyone to give hearty voice to. Finally that week there were more festivities, as sixty members, husbands and friends enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch at Bridport and West Dorset Golf Club.

Burton Bradstock W.I. would like to wish everyone a happy New Year.

At the January meeting we heard about the work of the Dorset children’s hospice, Julia’s House, and on Tuesday, 10th February at 2.15 pm



Charlie Fuge will tell us about writing and illustrating children's picture books. New members will be given a warm welcome, so please come along and join us.

Heather

POLICE WARNING MESSAGE

A man came over and offered his services as a painter to a female putting petrol in her car and left his card. She said no, but accepted his card out of kindness and got in the car. The man then got into a car driven by another gentleman. As the lady left the service station, she saw the men following her out of the station at the same time. Almost immediately, she started to feel dizzy and could not catch her breath. She tried to open the window and realized that there was an odour on her hand; the same hand which accepted the card from the gentleman at the service station.

She then noticed the men were immediately behind her and she felt she needed to do something at that moment. She drove into the first driveway and began to honk her horn repeatedly to ask for help. The men drove away but the lady still felt pretty bad for several minutes.

Apparently, there was a substance on the card that could have seriously injured her. This drug is called 'BURUNDANGA' and it is used by people who wish to incapacitate a victim in order to steal from or take advantage of them.

This drug is four times more dangerous than the date rape drug and is transferable on simple cards.

So take heed and make sure you don't accept cards at any given time alone or from someone on the streets. This applies to those making house calls and slipping you a card when they offer their services.

DC1597 Simon Lofting-CMI, Essex Police Marine Unit, Burnham on Crouch

LITTLEBREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT:

Email: pwbridehead@btinternet.com

Tel: 482232



Although our Christmas Day Communion was overshadowed by the news of Bob Thorn's health, we were grateful to James Webster for leading the service and preaching, and the Church looked splendid, thanks to the efforts and creativity of the flower arranging team.

The candles which enlivened the decorations were originally used in the Church for John Barker's daughter Sarah's wedding here some ten years ago or so, and it was good to see her back in the village with her family a few days after Christmas, admiring the decorations and the fact that the candles are still

being put to good use from time to time.

The village gained two umbrellas after Bryan Hansford's memorial at the end of November. If they belong(ed) to visitors from afar, they may never be reclaimed, but if a local lost an umbrella that day – and you never remember where you might have left it till the next time it rains – then it is not too late to have it back.

The Social Club's February event is a **FUN QUIZ NIGHT** (and the word "fun" is stressed – nothing too academic) for everyone on **Saturday 28th February**. The hall will be open from 7.00pm, with the first question being asked at 7.30pm. It is difficult to imagine that anyone's General Knowledge will be much worse than the Minister for Higher Education's when he appeared on "Celebrity Mastermind" on Boxing Day! There will be intervals for a snack supper during the evening, and the committee hopes for a good and keen turnout if possible.

LONG BREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: CAROLINE MORRISH-BANHAM

TEL: 482757

EMAIL: mark_banham@btinternet.com



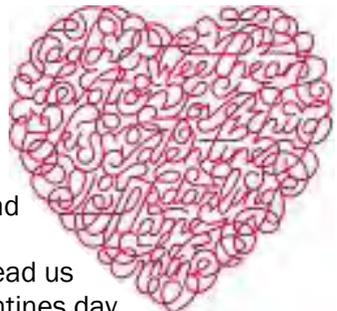
Thank you to all who helped with our lovely carol service, the children who read the poetry, lesson readers, Sandra who played the organ and the providers of the lovely food and mulled wine. A cheque for £120 has been sent to Julia's House Children's Hospice.

On behalf of the villagers of Long Bredy we send our best wishes and prayers to Bob and Jean Thorn at this time and wish Bob a speedy recovery.

Not to be missed:



The **PRE-VALENTINES WINE TASTING** is on Saturday, February 7th at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Please come along to the village hall, Long Bredy, for a fun and informative wine tasting. Mark Banham of Palmers Brewery will lead us through a selection of wines for Valentines day.



All are most welcome. Cost is £10 per ticket in aid of village hall funds. For tickets please contact Mark at Palmers Wine Store, 01308 427500 or Long Bredy 482757.

Thank you from Winifred Reed and daughter Pauline Gordon to the villagers of Long Bredy and all our friends in the Bride Valley, for joining us on 13th December at St. Peters, when we gave thanks for David's life, and at the crematorium on 6th November. Your prayers, thoughts and acts of kindness are a comfort. Pauline and I found the kindness and concern shown quite overwhelming.

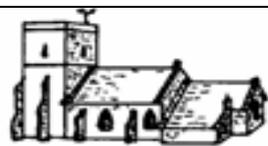
The celebration in the village hall which followed and was so generously provided by the Long Bredy parishioners, was a truly joyous occasion and enjoyed by all. We felt a fitting tribute to a beloved Husband and Father.

Thanks also to the Litton Cheney Bellringers. It was a great joy to ring with you in your tribute to David on the afternoon of the 13th December. Thank you all.

Winifred Reed

SWYRE

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: SID MARSHALL
1 GREEN BARTON, SWYRE
smarshall@which.net tel: 897318



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SWYRE

SERVICES

I am sure all are aware that Bob Thorn is very ill in Southampton hospital but he would have wished all services in Bride Valley Churches continue as planned. Our prayers are with Bob and Jean at this difficult time.

Services for February will therefore be:

Sunday 1st February 3.30 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday 8th February 11 a.m. The new service for Morning Worship followed by Tea/Coffee.

Sunday 15th February 11 a.m. Holy Communion.

Sunday 22nd February 11 a.m. Holy Communion by extension.



TRINITY FAYRE.

We are hoping to continue this event this year on Saturday 6th June. I would be grateful for ideas and volunteers for helping on stalls. Could you please let me know as soon as possible, when I will arrange to call a meeting of all, to plan the event. Monies will be towards the Sound system which we hope to be able to install this year.

David Buckland 898492.

BARRY PYE

Over twenty five years ago Barry Pye agreed to cut the grass in the Churchyard on a temporary basis. At the end of last year he decided that as he has now retired it was time to call it a day.

He has the heartfelt gratitude of us all for all the work he has done for the Church even if it was only “temporary”. Thank you so much Barry we shall miss your cheerful smile around the Church. Enjoy your retirement and look after yourself.

The Church Wardens and Swyre PCC

BURTON BRADSTOCK

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS: CATHY & JOHN LAY-FLURRIE
22 BEACH ROAD, BURTON BRADSTOCK
CLAYFLURRIE@TISCALI.CO.UK TEL: 897281



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Children's Society during 2008. Box collections for the year amounted to £502 and carol singing in December raised another £167. Well done to all those who sang their hearts out in the freezing cold and special thanks to Pam, who not only sang with us, but also generously hosted us at *The Three Horseshoes* afterwards.

If you would like to have a home box for this worthwhile charity please contact Pauline Woodford on 01308 898327.



BURTON BRADSTOCK'S GOING DIGITAL IN 2009!



You are probably aware that the Burton Bradstock area will be fully switched over to Digital TV on 20th May 2009. There is special help available for a number of categories of people. The Parish Council are willing to put on a session in the Reading Room with advisors from Digital UK to offer help and advice and answer any questions you might have.

If you are interested in attending a meeting please contact the Parish Clerk at the Reading Room, via the post box or contact him on 01308 459001.

There is an information pack at the Library on the Digital Switchover, or alternatively you can contact the Digital UK Regional Project Co-ordinator, for the South West ,Karen Farnworth, on email: karen.farnworth@eaga.com.

Also for more information call free on 0800 40 85 900 or visit: helpscheme.co.uk.

Fel Moore, Clerk to the Council

HOME WATCH

Could YOU be caught by any of these three?

A passing caller (and some of the most expensive words in the English language!)

“I've just noticed you've got a tile loose at the top of your roof which



could start letting the rain in – would you like me to have a look at it, as I happen to have the ladders on my vehicle right now?”

Odd-jobber:

“That bush of yours there is going to start causing you problems with those cables in the Spring – would you like me to cut it back for you now to save you problems in the future?”

Telephone caller (male, foreign accent) who has taken many people in all over Dorset recently:

“Good morning. I am from your telephone provider and am sorry to have to report to you that you are in arrears with your telephone bill from last year. Indeed, unless the amount is paid right away now, by debit card, I regret to inform you that we will have no alternative but to cut off your phone service with immediate effect”.

“No” to all of course – and if on the first 2 you believe there IS a problem, why not get 3 quotes from local reputable traders in your own time? (Of course with CCCZ they should not even be banging at your door.)

Still no decision on CCCZ but I hope to let you know in March, and news of questionnaires.

Finally, there is an AGM for Home Watch Co-ordinators at my house on Mon 2nd March 6.45pm – 7.45pm. I am in the process of seeking my replacement when I step down as Controller at the end of March. Anyone who would like to play some additional role in running Home Watch in Burton Bradstock, please call me on 01308-897935

John Grantham.

BURTON BRADSTOCK BRIDGE GROUP



The Bridge Group will meet on Tuesday 3rd Feb in the Village Hall and on the 10th and 17th Feb at St. Swithun’s Hall, Bridport all at 2pm. There will be no meeting on 24th Feb.

For further information please telephone Chris on 898117

BURTON BRADSTOCK ONLINE

DIGITAL PHOTO COMPETITION RESULTS FOR 2008

Theme: Wildlife in Burton Bradstock

At the Burton Bradstock Village Hall Trusts’ coffee morning on Saturday, 6th December, 2008, the judges announced the winners of the 2008 Digital Photo Competition. From the 176 acceptable entries in the adult section, the judges, Mary Bailey, David Barnikel and Mike Southgate, selected a shortlist of 21 photographs from which to pick the winners. This was a difficult task as the pictures in this final list were all excellent and interesting, encompassing a wide range of local wild life. After looking for

the finer points e.g. eye-catching composition and technical excellence, they chose the following prize winners:

ADULTS: 1st (£100) Patricia Neal, 2nd (£50) Mike Dempsey, 3rd (£25) Jan Hinton, **Highly Commended:** Carol Lumley, Jan Hinton

UNDER 16s: Sadly, there were not many entries in the under-16 section, so the judges decided to limit the number of prizes. However the winning picture of a coiled adder by Aaron Sinclair was very good. **The winner** (£25) was Aaron Sinclair: **Highly Commended**, Millie Reeves, Thomas Bird.



Patricia Neale receives her award



To see all photos entered go to: [http://www.burtonbradstock.org.uk/AAA%20photo%20competition%202008/Photocompetition%](http://www.burtonbradstock.org.uk/AAA%20photo%20competition%202008/Photocompetition%20)

NEW BURTONBRADSTOCKONLINE DIGITAL PHOTO COMPETITION for 2009:

It has been decided to once again run a competition as follows:

Topic: **“THE HUMOROUS OR UNUSUAL IN BURTON BRADSTOCK”**. This should encourage creativity and, we hope, will be lots of fun.

PRIZES: £265 TO BE WON!!

Three prizes in each category:

Adults: £100, £50 and £25

Under 16s: £50, £25 and £15

(Under 16s must be under 16 at 16th

Sept. 2009 and supply their date of birth with their entries)

QUALITY & ORIGINALITY will score highest points!!

Entries accepted - 1st January to 16th September 2009 inclusive
Open to anyone, anywhere, including holiday makers, visitors etc., but excluding Burton Bradstock ONLINE & Burton Bradstock Village Web Site Committee members.

Maximum number of pictures - 10 per person

Photographs must be original work of the sender & be taken after 1st January 2009.

For full details go to www.burtonbradstock.org.uk & click on “What’s on” to find the link to the competition rules, or to see the photos entered in



previous years.

A parallel inter-class competition will again be held at Burton Bradstock School sponsored by Burton Bradstock ONLINE.

Ken Pett 897550

BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

For Bookings – Telephone 01308 898222

THANK YOU A big thank you to everyone who supported the Village Hall events held in 2008. The two December events, the Christmas Market and Quiz, were very successful and raised over a £1,000 to help maintain and improve the Village Hall.



200 CLUB

JANUARY 2009 DRAW

Congratulations to:

1st Prize:	No. 86	Mr. Graham Blunden	£43.40
2nd Prize:	No. 130	Mrs. J Spencer	£21.70
3rd Prize:	No. 146	Mrs. Gill Knight	£10.85

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the FEBRUARY 2009 draw should telephone Alan Clarke on 01308 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. The Village Hall Trust is a trust registered with the local authority, the West Dorset District Council. Lotteries Licence No. SLO080
Alan Clarke - Promoter for 200 Club - 01308 897051



THE NEW ROPE STRING BAND will be performing at Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Friday, 6th February. This is more than just a band - it will be an evening of entertainment with beautiful music plus some bizarre physical nonsense and is not to be missed!

By the time this reminder appears in BVN it may be that we have sold out - but you can ring me on 01308 897214 or call in the Post Office for any remaining tickets which will be £9 for adults, £6.50 under 18s and £26 for a family. Hope you will be one of the lucky ones!

THE LAST RESORT'

Saturday 14th March 2009

Another date for your diary - On Saturday, 14th March we have booked "The Last Resort" from Strange Face Theatre. A Dr Faustus - type satire on redemption' in a style described as "Spitting Image meets Wallace and Gromit!" More of this later.

Norman Saunders-White - Promoter for Artsreach - 01308 897214

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US

A big thank you to all of you who kindly responded to our questionnaire in December's Bride Valley News where we asked what you would like to see us supply at the Shop and Post Office. We have had a marvellous response and we greatly appreciate the time and effort given by everyone who completed the questionnaire.



One major request was for the shop to open at 8.00am and this will happen from January the 26th.

We will implement a broader range of products and services in the coming weeks based on your feedback and we will keep you all informed as to when the changes happen. In the meantime we continue to offer, Monday to Friday, 8.00am-1.00pm, 2.00-5.30pm and Saturdays 8.00am-12.30pm:

Post Office Counter Services

A wide range of Greeting Cards for all occasions

Daily Newspapers (Monday – Saturday)

Dry Cleaning & Laundry – ‘Drop Off & Pick Up’

Fresh Bread, Milk, Free Range Eggs & Dry Goods

A selection of Framptons Foods (Bacon, Pâté, Cold Meats)

A broad selection of stationery and related items

Finally we would like to thank John Grantham and the Bride Valley News volunteers for their efforts in kindly organising and distributing the questionnaire.

Burton Bradstock Post Office & Shop

75 Mill Street, Burton Bradstock, 01308 897243

VOLUNTEERS: POST OFFICE STORES

I read the kind and totally unexpected eulogy in the December BVN regarding the Post Office Stores with pleasant surprise and would like to thank the anonymous writer most sincerely.

During the past fourteen months the volunteers who ran the shop, and also my husband Jim, have been so reliable and uncomplaining that my task of arranging the daily rota, although time-consuming, has been a very rewarding one. My personal thanks go to every one of you for all the hours given so willingly. As well as pricing the bread, checking the sell-by dates and Hoovering the carpet, we had to learn the intricacies of the till.

That till needs a clear head and no chatting while operating. Many times I have forgotten to press the brown button between each item sold, thereby ringing up thousands of pounds instead of a few pence. (The one in ‘Open all Hours’ was a doddle by comparison!)

Also to be recognised are Geoff Adderley and his merry men who drove to Beaminster at the crack of dawn, whatever the weather, to collect the newspapers and return the unsold ones at closing time. Rain, fog, ice or

even a previous night on the tiles, nothing deterred them. Thank you Geoff and Co.

So, we still have a Post Office and Shop in Burton Bradstock. Welcome to Gwen and Simon who have won our hearts already. All they need now, to go from strength to strength, is the support of everyone in the Bride Valley.

Margaret Harding.



Thank you so much to all those people who sent cards and good wishes to me while I was in hospital in November.

They were a tremendous boost to my confidence, as I waited for an unexpected heart operation, and a source of comfort to realise how many people were thinking about me and praying for me. Thank You!

Pat Levine

BBVSOC

Being let down at the last minute, the Village Society could not have hoped for anything more perfect. Tom Brereton, all innocent-enthusiasm and commitment; all knowledge and even local, took us briskly to the cliff tops, the sea and even the Bridport shops, to show us how lucky we are to live not only at the Spaghetti Junction of bird migration, but also in the micro-climate that shelters Britain's rarest and smallest butterfly, the Lulworth skipper. Near the Beach we can see the very rare green winged orchid; at West Bay we can meet, "Flipper", the "sexually aggressive" dolphin (called "Randy" in the Channel Isles, yet merely "Dave" in Kent!) and even rare ferns on the wall at "Somersfields". He defended the Herring Gulls and told us flies pollinate the plants that give us chocolate. We have the sweetest little birds

PUNCKNOWLE & WEST BEXINGTON

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: ELIZABETH SLATER
1, LITTON CLOSE, PUNCKNOWLE
liz@ruddle.org.uk TEL: 897751



CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

This raised over £200 for Charis House in Weymouth (Alabare Christian Care Centre) which provides supported living accommodation for homeless men in need. Very many thanks to all who sang and contributed.

BOOK/READING GROUP

A new Book Club/ Reading Group will be starting up in Puncknowle Village Hall. If you are interested, please ring Carol Bennett on 897771.





PUNKNOWLE ART GROUP

The AGM was very productive with many ideas for meetings and workshops. We would like to thank all those who have supported us over the past twenty - three years by buying our paintings. If you are wondering where to see our new works for sale, we are pleased to announce that they will be in The Bull Inn at Swyre by kind permission of the landlady, Sue

Meetings for February will be 6th - a talk and workshop by Sallie on L.S. Lowry, and 20th will be Blue Still Life. These meetings will be at The Bull, Swyre.

Christine Molony

PUNCKNOWLE SWYRE & WEST BEXINGTON VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

Prizes for November

- £10 John Holker
- £ 5 David Robbins

December/Christmas Prizes

- £75 Vera Hirst
- £25 Ellie Pearson
- £25 John Manning
- £15 Pam Massey
- £10 Christine Reeks



*For bookings, telephone
01308 897724*

FUTURE EVENTS

A new Hall social committee has been formed to increase the use of the hall by local residents. It is planned to hold regular social events, so watch this space. We are starting with a series of regular monthly coffee mornings, entitled:

HI-TECH - LO-TEC-

To be held on the fourth Saturday in every month, from 10.00am - 12noon.

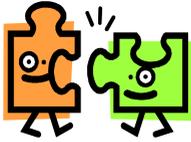
The computers will be available for use and demonstration and it will be an opportunity get on line and learn some new computer skills in a friendly supportive environment. Those with some computer skills are invited to volunteer by sharing their expertise with others.



The proposed programme will be as follows. Each session will be guided by someone with relevant expertise.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| February 24 th | Finding out about your family history records on line and other soft ware |
| March 28 th | Computers for beginners – how to send and receive emails, surfing the net |

April 25 th	Making Easter cards
May 23 rd	Managing your photos
June 27 th	Internet shopping
July 25 th	Children's session
August 22 nd	Facebook
September 26 th	Downloading music
October 24 th	Christmas on the internet
November 28 th	Making Christmas cards
January 25 th	Using E-Bay



Coffee and biscuits will be available and there will be a jig saw swap (bring your old—complete— jigsaw and swap it for a different one for £1), and other activities in due course. No booking is necessary – just turn up - so do come along. Everyone is welcome whether you are *hi-tec* or *lo-tec* or somewhere in between.

In addition, from the middle of March, the Village Hall will open every Wednesday afternoon from 3.00 - 6.00pm when the computer, and printer will be available for anyone who may wish to brush up their skills, use email, or just browse the web. Again there will somebody available to assist those who may need it

We plan to hold a Calendar Competition in June with the results announced in September.

If you would like to know more, speak to one (or more) of Carol Bennett, Debbie Legge, Sue Brown, Penny Pither, Sandy Marshall, Rob Reeks or Brenda?

QUIZ NIGHTS FOR 2009

I am hoping to re-commence the Quiz Nights in the future. Please look out for announcements in future BVN's.



PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE AND WEST BEXINGTON LUNCHEON CLUB.

On 16th December some members gathered to prepare Puncknowle and Swyre Hall for our Christmas Lunch. We were delighted to find that the Hall had been decorated complete with a tall and impressive tree but the central heating refused to come on. Whilst an angel in the form of Sue Brown lit a welcome fire, another member with a practical turn of mind telephoned the heating engineers. They arrived just in time to save the day.

We had been given a subsidy for the lunch by the Trustees of the Napper Charity of Puncknowle so we were able to reduce the cost of the lunch from the usual £4 to £2. We should like to thank the Trustees for thinking of us.

The meal started with sherry or fruit juice followed by roast breast of turkey with all the usual trimmings, roast potatoes and brussels. A flaming

Christmas pudding was then brought in to great applause. Ice cream was also on offer for those watching their waist lines followed by mince pies, tea or coffee with an After Eight mint. Meanwhile, two friendly musicians, Janet Lane (violin) and Sue Smith (piano) arrived and played requests for Christmas carols in which members joined in singing. We believe everyone enjoyed our first Christmas lunch and hope we can manage another next year.

Any member who was not at the January lunch and wishes to come to the February one should telephone 897622 to order their meal as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to join the Club, they should contact the same number.

CHRISTMAS BINGO AND FAYRE WEEKEND

A most enjoyable Bingo evening was held on Saturday 13th December. Regretfully the appeal of other attractions (Strictly Come Dancing etc.) meant that our numbers were much lower than hoped for. Notwithstanding this, we just covered our costs and there were some very happy prize-winners.

Father Christmas was in attendance the next afternoon and met many local children and handed out presents. The raffle, stalls and games ensured that the weekend was fairly successful and enabled us to make a small contribution to the upkeep of the Village Hall and a donation of £60 to Julia's House, the Dorset Children's Hospice.

Sid Marshall

LITTON CHENEY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: JOHN YATES
2, SUNNYSIDE COTTAGE, LITTON CHENEY
yjohnyates@aol.com Tel: 01308 482585



LATCH – THE END IS NIGH!

Apologies if the heading sounds laden with gloom for that is very much not the case. In fact we are delighted that the end is nigh because it means that within a few months of reading this you will have a brand new community hall in which to be entertained, exercised, taught and in which to socialize.



Several bookings have already been made in readiness for the opening and we hope to shortly produce an opening programme that will give everyone a chance to sample the goodies that could be on offer. If you require further information please call Wendy Taylor (482532) who will appraise you of the facilities, costs and availability.

We still require additional funds so that the hall can be equipped in a manner that befits a brand new state of the art community facility. If you

wish to join the growing number of donors please contact Freddie Spicer (482617), Ron Davidson (482661), David Taylor (482532) or John Firrell (482313). Every little helps and if you are an online shopping fan, by going through www.easyfundraising.org.uk and ordering your shopping via the many companies who have an online shopping facility, you will raise funds for LATCH, and it will cost you nothing more than the cost of your shopping. I think the saying is "a no brainer." Thank you for your support.

LITTON CHENEY SOCIAL COMMITTEE

CAROL SINGING

The weather was finally kind for an outdoor social committee event - Carol Singing around the village on Thursday and Friday prior to Christmas. Almost 20 singers gathered each evening, more than ever before, thank you, and sang their way around the village raising money for Julia's House. A record sum of £230 was raised, so a big thank you to all who gave so generously to a very deserving cause. Both evenings were very enjoyable with several refreshment stops en route, for which many thanks to Steve and Kathy Kourik, Brian and Jenny Prentice, David Bethell, and Cassie at the White Horse. No wonder the singing sounded so good.



Many thanks go to Brian Prentice, John Salvetti and David Taylor for their help in putting up and taking down the Christmas tree, including the lights. From the many comments it was very much appreciated by the village.



VILLAGE WALK

January 1st dawned rather chilly and grey but that didn't stop a very determined and energetic group of 20 meeting for the traditional New Year's Day village walk led by Steve Kourik - just the medicine to get rid of those late night/early morning cobwebs. A very brisk climb to start got the circulation going, then down through Higher and Lower Coombe, across to Puncknowle and back to The White Horse for a very well deserved brunch.

The next village walk will be February 14th, see you at 10.00am at the bus stop.

Ron Davidson Chairman LCSC

LITTON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

GRASS CUTTING

The Council invites tenders to cut the Playing Field grass for a twelve month period commencing in April 2009. Full details from Cllr. Brian Prentice (2835350). Tenders are to be delivered to the Clerk, John Firrell, at Wheelwright's Cottage, Main Street by 28th February.

SHIPTON GORGE

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: BARBARA CHAMBERS
WEST COURT, BROOK STREET, SHIPTON GORGE
bjc39@btinternet.com TEL: 01308 897482



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

In Bob's temporary absence our Church Services will remain unchanged.

The Archdeacon Paul Taylor will be helping with some of our Communion Services along with Rev. Phillip Ringer who rose magnificently to the occasion when he took our Christmas Day Service at less than 24 hours notice. We will also have Communion by extension which will be given by either Mike Read or James Webster. Matins and Evensong will be led by one of the Bride Valley Team.

MORNING PRAYER

I have been asked to continue Bob's practice and read Morning Prayer every Friday for the foreseeable future. This will take place on a Friday morning at 9.00am (ish). If anyone would care to join me, I would be very grateful. All I ask is that you wrap up extremely warmly.

ANNUAL GENERAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This will take place on Wednesday 25th March at 7.30pm. If anyone would like to join the PCC, become a Church Warden, Church Secretary etc. please contact any member of the PCC.

EASTER SERVICES

As soon as I have been notified as to what Services we are having, and the times, I will put notices around the village.

CHURCH FETE

This will be held on Saturday 11th July at 2pm in and around the Village Hall.

HARVEST FESTIVAL & SUPPER

These dates will be notified later in the year.

If anyone has a problem and cannot contact Ryder, please phone me (01308 897346) and I will do my very best to help

Gillian Maxfield. Churchwarden



Back by popular demand on Saturday 28th February at 7.30pm are Ministry of Entertainment with their new production 'Goodbye Mrs Chips'. Those of you who were lucky enough to see MoE's wonderful show 'Mrs Gerrish's Guesthouse' will I know snap up

the tickets immediately! However, I can tell you nothing about the show except that the subject is 1950's school days! I don't even know at this stage the price of the tickets, but please book with Doris as usual on 897562 and I am confident that you will not be disappointed. Seating will be Cabaret Style at tables, so please bring your own refreshments. For those of you who like dressing up (no names mentioned) there will be prizes for the 'best dressed' in their school uniforms!! I am sure this will be another night to remember in more ways than one!!

Jo Warren

SHIPTON GORGE VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

January Draw

£10 No 31 Richard Cunningham

£20 No 100 Richard Hewlett



SHIPTON GORGE VILLAGE SOCIETY

Friday 6th February 7.30pm
Sipton Gorge Village Hall

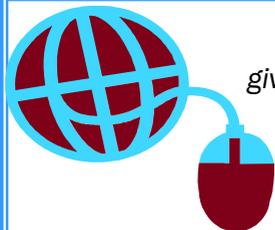
Back by popular demand -

SALLY & LIZ'S STEW AND DUMPLING SUPPER! WITH A QUIZ!!!

For those of you with a healthy appetite and an open mind!

Tickets £6.50

from Sally Parker (897168) John Kent (897574)



VILLAGE WEBSITES

giving details of events, news, history, photographs etc.

www.burtonbradstock.org.uk

www.littoncheney.org.uk

www.shiptongorge.org.uk

www.puncknowle.net

www.swyre.org.uk

www.westbexington.org.uk

See the *Bride Valley News*
IN COLOUR, on the
Burton Bradstock website

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

by Perry Scope



Many readers will remember Lobby Ludd. The only clue to his identity was the silhouette of a natty chap in a trilby published in the *Mirror*; in the 1950's. Seaside resorts across the country were abuzz as every other person was identified as the mystery man in order to claim the five pound prize (subject, of course, to having a ready copy of that day's paper).

"Are you Perry Scope?" people keep asking and, by way of justifying their obvious mistake, adding, "Well, you wear red trousers". My response has been, "Try Gill Robertson, her husband or that chap Bourne-Taylor; they all wear red trousers." There could be trouble at Henley this year.

Thinking warmly about nostalgia ("..and tautology," mutters the wife), a recent trip down Memory Lane opened a tin of condensed milk (sell-by date contemporaneous with the Relief of Mafeking); it tasted a little of rust, but yummy, as they say. Of course, there is no fun in just tasting it, one has to eat the whole tin. Which reminds me of Malcolm Fraser (the Prime Minister of Australia) who used to say, "There's no fun in a bag of sweeties, Perry, unless you finish the whole bag" - I had usually bought the bag of sweeties, though.

Overheard in the Post Office the other day: "I'd rather have a telephone call than a card saying, 'Hope you are well'"

LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY OPENS VIRTUAL DOORS

A new-look website has just been launched that will help Lambeth Palace Library share even more of its 1,000 years of history. The outstanding collections of Lambeth Palace Library, the historic library and record office of the Archbishops of Canterbury and the principal repository of the history of the Church of England, are now more accessible with the launch of the Library's newly redesigned website which can be found at:

www.lambethpalacelibrary.org

Approximately 20,000 visitors per month currently visit the

website, and Library staff hope the revamp will see this number increase. The Library is housed within the grounds of Lambeth Palace and is open to the public, full details can be found on the website.

St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his letters from 'Uncle Eustace:'

On how to manage the boiler at church

The Rectory

St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren,

I confess to being rather disappointed that little Miss Asquith retired from stoking the church boiler last month. She was ideally suited to the job; being only five feet, two inches tall, she didn't have to stoop too much to get into the five foot high cellar.

That she had done the job for the past 50 years seemed another good reason for her continuing. But no, just because she turned 94 at the end of last month and was finding it difficult to negotiate the cellar steps on her two sticks, she decided to throw in the towel. And her rash decision placed us in a dilemma.

The boiler has been lit every Wednesday, so that the church becomes almost bearable by Sunday morning. It therefore means that it has had to be stoked three times a day for four days - not too onerous a duty I would have thought, especially as it gives an ample three days afterwards for recovery. Admittedly, the fact that a complete change of clothing is necessary after each visit is a slight handicap, but no one could be persuaded. Such is the level of Christian commitment these days.

And so we have become very modern and now have a gas boiler. No longer used, the cellar was instantly invaded and occupied by the flower arrangers and is now full of chipped vases no one can bring themselves to

throw away, and lengths of string and chicken wire that seem indispensable to their art.

There was an attempted second invasion by the Scouts looking for somewhere to store their tents, but they were repulsed by volleys of Oasis from the female occupying forces. They initially also took hostages, until the police convinced them it was not an entirely good idea.

We now have a system with frost detectors, thermostats and so many options on the time clock that it renders the system incomprehensible. Apparently a simple on/off switch was an option the plumbers were unaware of. I also miss that deep rumble beneath our feet during Mattins, sounding like the Queen Mary coming into port, letting us know that the ancient boiler was attempting to get the water lukewarm.

Naturally, there have been teething troubles; for several weeks, the church was admirably heated on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons when it was unused, but arctic on Sundays. On another occasion, the frost stat took over, but would then not let go, keeping the building heated for 14 days continuously. We shall probably need a loan from the International Monetary Fund to pay the bill.

And so twenty-first century technology is beginning to make a not altogether welcome appearance at St. James'. Miss Asquith has a lot to answer for.

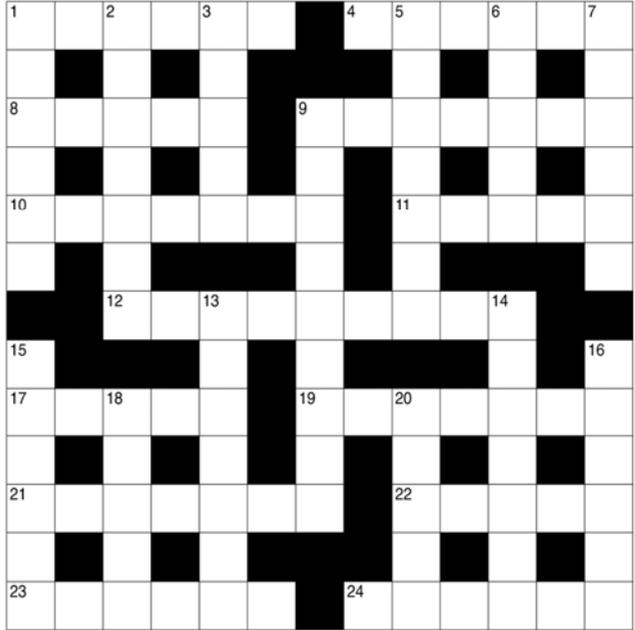
Your loving uncle,
Eustace

With the Epcot Center, the Disney corporation has accomplished something I didn't think possible in today's world. They have created a land of make-believe that's worse than regular life.

P. J. O'Rourke

CROSSWORD

Use the NIV Bible



ACROSS

- 1 'This is a hard teaching. Who can — it?' (John 6:60) (6)
 4 As a bride — herself with her jewels' (Isaiah 61:10) (6)
 8 'Bless those who — you, pray for those who ill-treat you' Luke 6:28) (5)
 9 'He was a — man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures' (Acts 18:24) (7)
 10 Not properly aligned (3,4)
 11 Lo, Ben (anag.) (5)
 12 'All the — of the Egyptians died' (Exodus 9:6) (9)
 17 Advantage (Daniel 11:27) (5)
 19 'That — serpent called the devil' (Revelation 12:9) (7)
 21 'The — took the men into Joseph's house' (Genesis 43:24) (7)
 22 I bade (anag.) (5)
 23 'And the — with his sickle at harvest' (Jeremiah 50:16) (6)
 24 'Remember the — from which you have fallen!' (Revelation 2:5) (6)

- 3 Portion (Luke 24:42) (5)
 5 'Let not my heart be — — what is evil' (Psalm 141:4) (5,2)
 6 Rhythm and Blues (1,3,1)
 7 'He said to his sons, " — the donkey for me"' (1 Kings 13:13) (6)
 9 Source of illumination (Daniel 5:5) (9)
 13 'Two of them were going to a — called Emmaus' (Luke 24:13) (7)
 14 'Remember the Sabbath day by — it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
 15 Roman Emperor (John 19:15) (6)
 16 'Go to the house of Judas on Straight — ' (Acts 9:11) (6)
 18 Stadium (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)
 20 'Day and night will never — ' (Genesis 8:22) (5)

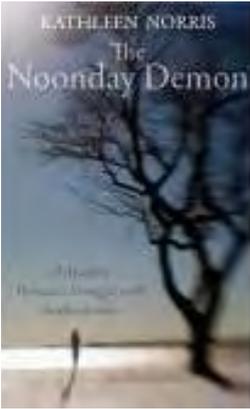
DOWN

- 1 Used to secure a ship at sea (Acts 27:13) (6)
 2 'Be very — , then, how you live' (Ephesians 5:15) (7)

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1, Accept; 4, Adorns; 8, Curse; 9, Learned; 10, Drawn to; 6, R and B; 7, Saddle; 9, Lampstand; 13, Village; 14, Keeping; 15, Caesar; 16, Street; 18, Arena; 20, Cease; 23, Reaper; 24, Height.
DOWN: 1, Anchor; 2, Careful; 3, Piece; 5, Off beam; 11, Nobel; 12, Livestock; 17, Avail; 19, Ancient; 21, Steward; 22, Abide; 23, Reaper; 24, Height.



THE NOONDAY DEMON -

A MODERN WOMAN'S STRUGGLE WITH SOULWEARINESS
by Kathleen Norris, LionHudson, £10.99

Kathleen Norris had written several much-loved books, yet she couldn't drag herself out of bed in the morning or summon the energy for daily tasks. Even as she struggled, Norris recognised her familiar battle with acedia. She had discovered the word in an early Church text when she was in her thirties, and instantly recognised herself in a passage describing the affliction as sinking into a state of being unable to care.

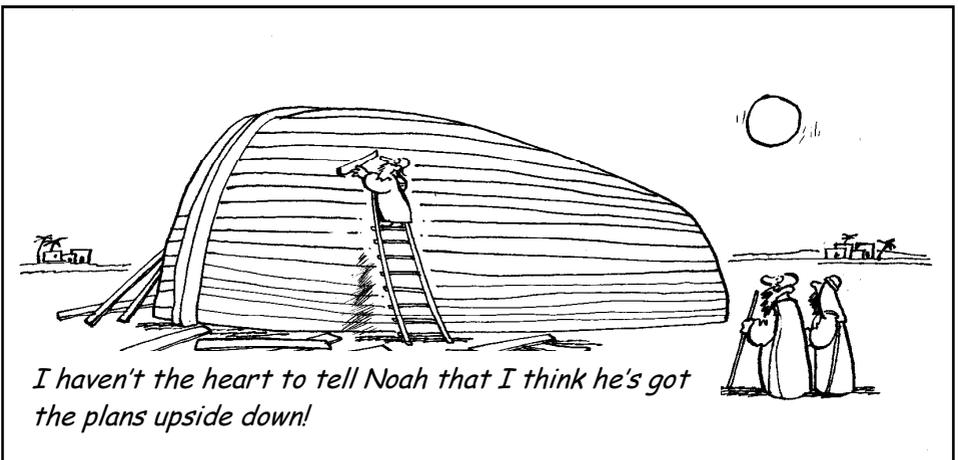
Fascinated by this 'noonday demon' so familiar to the early Church, Norris read intensively and knew she must restore this forgotten but utterly important concept to the modern world's vernacular.

Kathleen Norris is a poet and author of the best selling books, *The Cloister Walk* and *Amazing Grace*. A popular speaker, she is editor at large at *The Christian Century*. She divides her time between Hawaii and South Dakota, USA.

Sin

A young minister, serving his first church, noticed that one of his flock had been absent from services several Sundays in a row, so he decided to see her and ask the reason.

The old woman shook her head and looked at him pityingly. "Son," she said, "you can't help me. You are not old enough to have sinned enough to have repented enough to be able to preach about it."





CELEBRATE?

Have you had a cold this winter?

Hope is at hand if you've got a sore throat because February 3rd is St Blaise's Day and he is the patron saint of sore throats. There is actually a church in London, St Ethelreda's, where they still hold a special service of Blessing the Throats.

Another way to celebrate February 3rd is to join in the Japanese festival of Setsuban. Setsuban (which means 'change of seasons') separates winter from spring. You throw beans to drive off imaginary devils and scatter beans in the home to discourage evil spirits.



I have a feeling that spreading baked beans on the living room carpet wouldn't be a good idea – nor throwing the odd tin at friends!

CELEBRATING

We all celebrate lots of different things – can you say what is celebrated when

1. You blow out the candles on a cake and have presents?
2. When children eat lots of chocolate eggs?
3. Jesus and his disciples celebrated it with a special meal?
4. People remember the day they got married?
5. We decorate our homes, sing carols and remember when Jesus was born?

Answers at the bottom of this page.



What cake can you eat in heaven?

Angel cake.



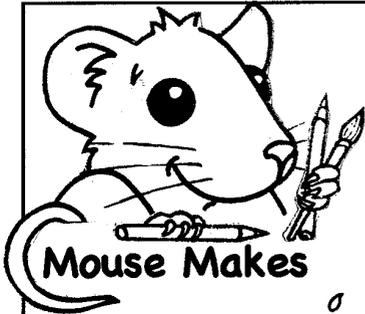
Why did the banana go out with a prune?

Because he couldn't find a date.

My dad's a light eater. As soon as it's light, he starts eating.



Answers: 1. birthday 2. Easter 3. Passover 4. anniversary 5. Christmas

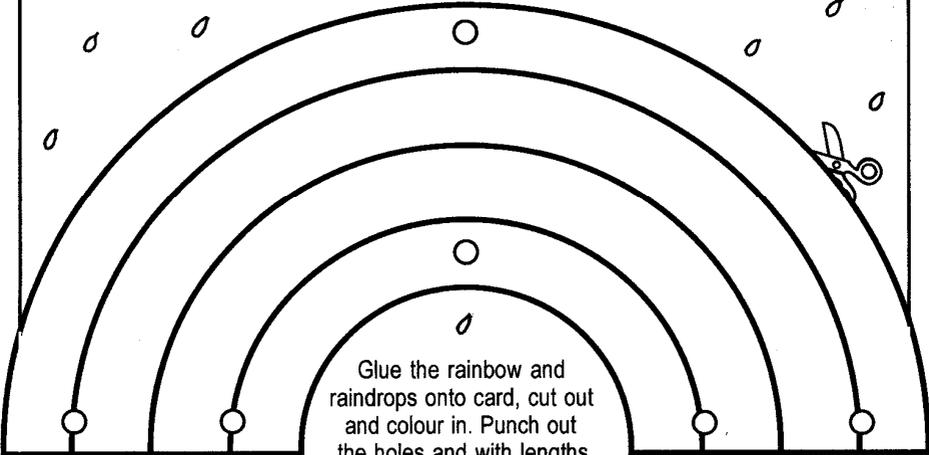


Mouse Makes

God **ALWAYS** keeps his promises,
 He **NEVER** changes His promises.
 God's promises **ALWAYS** come true.

GOD'S PROMISE
 When the great flood covered the earth, only Noah, his family and at least two of every living creature were still alive, safe in the great ark God had told Noah to build. When the flood went down, Noah came out of the ark, praised God and built an altar to the Lord.

And God made a promise:
"I have set a rainbow in the clouds and it will be a sign... Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life."



Glue the rainbow and raindrops onto card, cut out and colour in. Punch out the holes and with lengths of thread, tie the raindrop

promises on to the rainbow and hang by the window

God **FORGIVES**
 See: 1 John 1:9

Look up these promises in your bible

God **SETS FREE** from fear
 See: Psalm 34:4

God **PROVIDES**
 See: Phillipians 4:19

God **PROTECTS**
 See: Psalm 91:11

Jesus will come **AGAIN**
 See: John 14:2-3

Look out for more of God's promises as you read your Bible

Rainbow Rhymes

BARGAIN

Poems and Promises to cut out and collect.

The worst thing in the world

The worst thing in the world
Is when we have to go shopping.
The worst thing about the worst thing in the world,
Is that when we do go shopping
There is always someone my mother knows
Who goes shopping at the same time,
And we always bump into her.
Sometimes by the sugar,
Sometimes by the organic broccoli,
Sometimes by the quilted toilet rolls,
(Twelve for the price of nine,
in Rose, Grape, Snowflake, Buttercup and Blueberry)
But it always happens, without fail.
And then they talk, they talk, they talk.
And we wait, we wait, we wait.
We might wander around for a while,
Trying to take an interest in the thrills of the supermarket,
Trying not to poke holes in the sugar bags,
Or rub the seedy bits off the broccoli,
Or demolish the toilet roll mountain.
Hoping that whoever she meets
Will have laryngitis and can't talk,
Or diarrhoea and have to dash.
Longing for the day everyone shops on the Internet,
So that holidays and Saturdays
Won't always be ruined
By the worst thing in the world.



SPECIAL OFFER

★BUY ONE
GET ONE FREE!



Sol says:
"Forget shopping—what's
the BEST thing in the
world?"
'God saw all that He had made
and it was very good.'
Genesis 1:31 NIV

Poem by Daphne Kitching, Picture by Elaine Hill, Coloured by.....

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR ALL PARISHES:**FEBRUARY 2009**

Tue	3	2.00pm	BB Bridge Group	BB Village Hall
Wed	4	2.30pm	House Group	TBA
Fri	6	10.30am	Puncknowle Art Group " <i>Lowry</i> "	The Bull, Swyre
		7.30pm	Sally & Liz's Stew & Dumpling Supper, + Quiz Artsreach <i>New Rope String Band</i>	SG Village Hall BB Village Hall
Sat	7	7.00pm	Pre Valentine Wine Tasting	Long Bredy VillageHall
Sun	8	3.00pm	Chai & Chat " <i>Christian Aid South West</i> "	Bridport United Church
Tue	10	2.00pm	BB Bridge Group	St Swithun's Hall, Bridport
		2.15pm	WI " <i>Illustrating Children's Picture Books</i> "	BB Village Hall
		2.30pm	House Group	TBA
		7.30pm	Bridport Camera Club Meeting	Strode Room, Beaminster
Wed	11	10.00am	Refresh Driving Skills Course	Willowbed Hall, Chickerell
		7.30pm	Bridport Camera Club Meeting	The Salt House, West Bay
Sat	14		ST VALENTINE'S DAY	
		10.00am	Village Walk	Bus Shelter, Litton Cheney
Mon	16	2.30pm	Chai & Chat " <i>Focus on South Africa</i> "	Good Books
Tue	17	12noon	PSWB Lunch Club	PSWB Village Hall
		2.00pm	BB Bridge Group	St Swithun's Hall, Bridport
Wed	18	2.30pm	House Group	TBA
Fri	20	10.30am	Puncknowle Art Group " <i>Blue Still Life</i> "	The Bull, Swyre
Sat	21	2.00pm	" <i>Pied Piper</i> "	BB Village Hall
	23-28	7.30pm	" <i>Pied Piper</i> "	BB Village Hall
Tue	24	2.30pm	House Group	TBA
			SHROVE TUESDAY	
Wed	25	2.00pm	Refresh Driving Skills Course	Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury
		7.30pm	Bridport Camera Club Meeting	The Salt House, West Bay
Thu	26	2.30pm	MU Meeting	TBA
Sat	28	10.00am	HiTec-LoTec " <i>Family History on line</i> "	PSWB Village Hall
		7.00pm	Fun Quiz Night	Littlebredy Village Hall
		7.30pm	Artsreach <i>Ministry of Entertainment</i>	SG Village Hall

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR ALL PARISHES:**MARCH 2009**

Fri	6	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer	Ss Mary & Catherine RC Church, Bridport
		6.45pm	BB Home Watch AGM	JG Home
Sat	14		Artsreach " <i>The last Resort</i> "	BB Village Hall
Mon	16	7.30pm	BVGC " <i>Gardeners' Question Time</i> "	PSWB Village Hall
Sun	22		MOTHERING SUNDAY	
Wed	25	7.30pm	St Martin's APCM	
Fri	27		RBL(Abbotsbury) Annual Dinner	Wishing Well, Upwey
Sat	28	10.00am	HiTec-LoTec " <i>Computers for Beginners</i> "	PSWB Village Hall

LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH

January

- 1 Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c.525
- 2 **THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)**
- 3 **ANSKAR, ARCHBISHOP OF HAMBURG, MISSIONARY IN DENMARK AND SWEDEN, 865**
- 4 Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order, 1189
- 6 The Martyrs of Japan, 1597
- 10 Scholastica, sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola, c.543
- 14 **CYRIL AND METHODIUS, MISSIONARIES TO THE SLAVS, 869 AND 885**
- 14 Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269
- 15 Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045
- 15 Thomas Bray, Priest, Founder of the SPCK and the SPG, 1730
- 17 **JANANI LUWUM, ARCHBISHOP OF UGANDA, MARTYR, 1977**
- 23 **POLYCARP, BISHOP OF SMYRNA, MARTYR, c.155**
- 27 **GEORGE HERBERT, PRIEST, POET, 1633**

Alternative dates: Matthias may be celebrated on 24 February instead of 14 May.

March

- 1 **DAVID, BISHOP OF MENEVIA, PATRON OF WALES, c.601**
- 2 **CHAD, BISHOP OF LICHFIELD, MISSIONARY, 672**
- 7 **PERPETUA, FELICITY AND THEIR COMPANIONS, MARTYRS AT CARTHAGE, 203**
- 8 **EDWARD KING, BISHOP OF LINCOLN, 1910**
- 8 Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647
- 8 Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poet, 1929
- 17 **PATRICK, BISHOP, MISSIONARY, PATRON OF IRELAND, c.460**
- 18 Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386
- 19 **JOSEPH OF NAZARETH**
- 21 **CUTHBERT, BISHOP OF LINDISFARNE, MISSIONARY, 687**
- 24 **THOMAS CRANMER, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, REFORMATION MARTYR, 1556**
- 24 Walter Hilton of Thurgarton, Augustinian Canon, Mystic, 1396
- 25 Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, Martyr, 1980
- 26 **THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
- 27 Harriet Monsell, Founder of the Community of St John the Baptist, 1883
- 31 John Donne, Priest, Poet, 1631

*Alternative dates: Chad may be celebrated with Cedd on 26 October instead of 2 March.
Cuthbert may be celebrated on 4 September instead of 20 March*

With Valentine's Day and Love in mind:

Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking together in the same direction. *Antoine De Saint-Exupery*

Men should keep their eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterward. *Madame Scudery*

The Christian is supposed to love his neighbour, and since his wife is his nearest neighbour, she should be his deepest love. *Martin Luther*

THE BRIDE VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY

ST MARY: Burton Bradstock

ST MARY: Litton Cheney

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS: Littlebredy

ST PETER: Long Bredy

CHILCOMBE (Dedication unknown)

ST MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN: Puncknowle

ST MARTIN: Shipton Gorge

Holy Trinity: Swyre

Rector:	The Revd Bob Thorn A.K.C. The Rectory, Burton Bradstock, DT6 4QS	Tel: (01308) 898799
NSM:	The Revd Jean Thorn	Tel: (01308) 898799
Asst. Curate:	The Revd Ryder Rogers	Tel: (01308) 897780
Reader:	Mike Read	Tel: (01308) 897445
Reader:	James Webster	Tel: (01308) 89 8657

WEEKDAY SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE VALLEY: FEBRUARY 2009

Monday	2nd	9.00am	Little Bredy	
Wednesday	4th	10.00am	Burton Bradstock	Holy Communion
Thursday	5th	9.00am	Puncknowle	
Friday	6th	10.00am	Shipton Gorge	

Monday	9th	9.00am	Long Bredy	
Wednesday	11th	10.00am	Burton Bradstock	Holy Communion
Thursday	12th	9.00am	Swyre	
Friday	13th	10.00am	Shipton Gorge	

Monday	16th	9.00am	Little Bredy	
Wednesday	18th	10.00am	Burton Bradstock	Holy Communion
Thursday	19th	9.00am	Puncknowle	
Friday	20th	10.00am	Shipton Gorge	

Monday	23rd	9.00am	Long Bredy	
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ASH WEDNESDAY, 25TH



10.00AM	PUNCKNOWLE	HOLY COMMUNION WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES
10.00AM	BURTON BRADSTOCK	HOLY COMMUNION WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES
6.30PM	BURTON BRADSTOCK	HOLY COMMUNION WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Thursday	26th	9.00am	Swyre	
Friday	27th	10.00am	Shipton Gorge	

CHURCH SERVICES

THE BRIDE VALLEY TEAM OF PARISHES

February 2009

Date Parish	1 st Sunday 1 st February 4 th of Epiphany Feast of the Presentation	2 nd Sunday 8 th February 3 rd before Lent Septuagesima	3 rd Sunday 15 th February 2 nd before Lent Sexagesima	4 th Sunday 22 nd February Next before Lent Quinquagesima
Burton Bradstock	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Songs of Praise 6.30 Evening Prayer	9.30 Family Service 11.00 Holy Communion 6.30 Evening Prayer	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family service 11.00 Holy Communion (By extension) 6.30 Evening Prayer	9.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Prayer 6.30 Evening Prayer
Shipton Gorge	11.00 Holy Communion (By extension)	9.30 Morning Prayer	9.30 Holy Communion	6.30 Evening Prayer
Chilcombe				
Swyre	3.30 Evening Prayer	11.00 Morning Worship	11.00 Holy Communion	11.00 Holy Communion (By extension)
Puncknowle	9.30 Holy Communion (By extension)	5.00 Evening Prayer	8.00 Holy Communion	11.00 Family Service
Litton Cheney	11.00 Family Service	9.30 Holy Communion	9.30 Morning Prayer	9.30 Holy Communion (By extension)
Long Bredy	11.00 Holy Communion		11. 00 Morning Worship	
Littlebredy		11.00 Family Service		11.00 Holy Communion