

# **Bride Valley News**

## **December 2009**



Christmas images from Evie and Jessica Green, Puncknowle

The Magazine of The Bride Valley Churches

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## CHRISTMAS SERVICES



### Christmas Eve

### Christmas Day

Burton Bradstock

5.30 Crib Service

8.00 Holy Communion

11.30 Holy Communion

11.00 Christmas Service

Shipton Gorge

9.30 Holy Communion

Swyre

9.30 Holy Communion

Puncknowle

11.00 Family Communion

Litton Cheney

4.00 Crib Service

11.30 Holy Communion

Long Bredy

11.00 Holy Communion

Littlebredy

11.00 Holy Communion



HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO  
OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS  
& VERY BEST WISHES FOR 2010

Geoff & Sandy Adderley

Joan & Ian Allan

Mary Bailey

Catherine & Darren Batten

Denise & Ian Bell

Howard & Linda Bongers

John Bowden

John & Diane Bredemear

Peter & Pat Broomhead

Sue & Mike Brown

Betty Champkins

Bernard & Kate Chennells

Judy & Alan Clarke

Diana & Cecil Clifford

Tony & Anne Combe

Chris & Irene Coville

Doreen & John Crawford

Celia Cummings

Steve & Lesley Dove & Family

Daphne & Trevor Ekins

Joan Ellington & Liz Orza

Rob & June Fox

Shirley Gilbert

Jim & Margaret Harding

Betty Howlett

Ian & Mary Ibbotson

Barbara M. James

Marge & Geoff Langwith

Pat Lepine

Tim, Sue, Dave & Hannah Linford

Dennis & Carol Lumley

Justin & Judy Mallinson

Susan Moores & David Edwards

Deryn & John Pakenham-Walsh

Derek & Val Parsons

Susan Paul

Sheila & Ken Pett

Michael & Ann Read

Anne & Graham Rees

Terry Rendell

Gill & Charles Robertson

Ryder & Heather Rogers

David & Yvette Smith

Anne & Mike Southgate

Betty Starkey

Janet & Steve Tolputt

"Walditch" Bob & Linda

Bob & Anne White

Andrea & Chris Wilkinson

David & Pauline Woodford

# THE BRIDE VALLEY CHURCHES

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

*To enquire about Baptism, Marriage and Funeral arrangements,  
please telephone the Team Office on 01308 897695*

*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: 01308 897953

**\* DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE: 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER\***

*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.**

To advertise in this publication, contact Kate Kent  
email: [bvnadverts@btinternet.com](mailto:bvnadverts@btinternet.com), tel: 01308 897574

**\*ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR JANUARY EDITION: 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER\***

## VILLAGE WEBSITES

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

[www.burtonbradstock.org.uk](http://www.burtonbradstock.org.uk)

[www.littoncheney.org.uk](http://www.littoncheney.org.uk)

[www.shiptongorge.org.uk](http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk)

[www.puncknowle.net](http://www.puncknowle.net)

[www.swyre.org.uk](http://www.swyre.org.uk)

[www.westbexington.org.uk](http://www.westbexington.org.uk)

See **BRIDE VALLEY NEWS IN COLOUR,**  
on the Burton Bradstock website



## Merry Christmas

and I trust that I will make it that far this year.

Of course I may not, in which case Jean will be more than a little cross with me. And I may not, because things happen. The most unlikely coincidences seem normal at the time, and only later, looked back on, become on reflection an inevitable series of events.

Merry Christmas, but what if:

1. The birth had gone wrong?
2. The stable caught fire with all those people visiting?
3. Soldiers had caught up with Joseph and his family while they were fleeing to Egypt?

What if any one of a thousand things had just been that tiny bit different and Jesus had not been born, or been rescued, had not survived or grown up?

These are only notional questions, because of course he was born, did survive and thrived to adulthood. The what if question is to do with us saying "God sent his only Son" as if Jesus were posted express delivery; sent by special courier under police escort. If it is all so safely done and dusted we are left with the feeling that once his life had been set in motion the whole of it was going to happen with an effortless, rather dull inevitability.

But our God is a gambling God – or is it gambolling? He risks his only son, and we know this because the love he gives us with which we love each other is full of risk. When people are married they risk the rest of their lives to be with someone. Soldiers do not often give their lives, but they always risk them for love of their country, and sometimes they lose. I have just become a grandfather, and was very aware at the time of the risks surrounding a child being born; and yet for love they are, as Jesus was.

So merry Christmas, but don't plan anything too confidently. I found out last year that this can be a mistake. In celebrating the Christ child born, take a deep breath, remember that for love of you God is risking everything. Then when it is all over we will greet each other on the other side, rejoicing.

God bless, Bob Thorn.



## FROM THE REGISTERS

The funeral of the late **DEB WORDSWORTH** was held on 12<sup>th</sup> of October in Holy Trinity, Swyre. The little Church was overcrowded with family, friends, and parishioners who had come to remember and give thanks for the life of a woman loved and respected throughout the Valley.

Deb's early life was spent in Kent. The family then moved to Rhodesia, long years before it was to become Zimbabwe. After her marriage to Matthew, Deb moved to the Sudan, following which the couple moved to the Bride Valley; for a short time to Long Bredy, and thence to Clayhanger Farm. Deb's last move was to Litton Cheney.

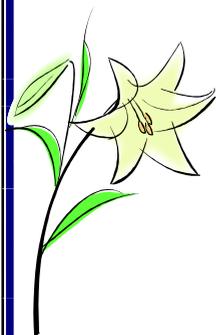
Deb always recalled her life with great joy, aware of how much happiness had come her way, and counting this as a blessing. Her faithfulness was constant, and a warmth of friendship before God to all who knew her. She bore the illness of her latter days with uncomplaining fortitude, and died at the age of 98. She prepared her own funeral service, choosing hymns and readings. Warm tributes were paid to her before the congregation moved into the churchyard where she is now buried.

*Rest eternal grant unto her O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.*

**FRED WHITE**, of Shipton Gorge was cremated in Weymouth crematorium on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> November.



### TRIBUTE TO DEB



On Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> the funeral took place of Deborah Wordsworth at Holy Trinity Church, Swyre attended by many family and friends. There, on a beautiful autumn day, she was laid to rest next to the grave of her husband Matthew. Deb lived in the Bride Valley for over 50 years and in Litton Cheney for the last thirty. She was a well-known member of that community and of the church where, until recent years, she sang in the choir.

Deb loved life, laughter and song and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

*"Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth...  
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God."*

## BEYOND THE VALLEY

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

#### (ABBOTSBURY & PORTESHAM BRANCH)

It is with sadness that we have to record the death of **JACK JOLLIFFE**, a founder member of our branch. Jack served in the Local Defence Volunteers and the Home Guard; he was called up in WW2, trained as a wireless operator and served for 3 yrs 6 months. After the war he returned to his home, Portesham, (where his ancestors have lived for 400 years!), and spent the remainder of his working life as a farmer. We extend our sympathy to his family at their loss which followed so soon after the death of Jack's wife Evelyn. (To read more about his life read "Possum Village Lives" ISSN 1741-7112.)



At our Annual General Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, John Perry was elected as Branch Chairman. Jean Baker, Terry Bown, and Patricia Warren volunteered their services to the Branch Committee.

Retiring Chairman Kevin Donnelly was thanked for his period in office and presented with a Branch Certificate of Appreciation.

Our "Pie and Mash Supper" starts at 7.00pm for 7.30pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2009 at Portesham Village Hall. The event is open to non-members but places must be booked in advance: contact the writer please.

Our next Branch Committee Meeting will be at Portesham Methodist Hall on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, at 7.30pm.

There will be a Memorial service for Major (Rtd) Peter Hoare at 2.00pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, in St. Nicholas Church, Abbotsbury. (Peter was a Branch Committee Member and Branch Poppy Appeal Organiser.)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, is the occasion for the annual inter-branch Skittles Match between the men's and women's section. Starts at 7.00pm, Swan Inn, Abbotsbury. Light refreshments available but it helps to know in advance of your intended participation for catering purposes.

Jean and I have now finalized details of our next charity fund-raising trip, a 5 Day Tour of Snowdonia, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 inclusive. Full details from the writer on 01305 267617.

*Des Baker, Branch Committee Member*

### NEW "RECYCLE FOR DORSET BLOG" GOES LIVE

The new Recycle for Dorset blog means local residents can keep up-to-date with all the latest recycling news from Dorset councils and check out the recent adventures of mascot Sammie Strawberry.



Recycle for Dorset will be an online information hub with details of the latest recycling campaigns across the county, including information on the Love Food Hate Waste roadshows aimed at reducing, reusing, recycling and composting materials to stop food waste.

Helping to highlight and reduce the amount of food thrown away in Dorset, residents can also keep track of Sammie Strawberry's latest visits to supermarkets, town centres and other shopping areas across Dorset.

County Council cabinet member for the environment, Hilary Cox, said, "Recycle for Dorset is an ideal way for local residents to keep informed but the blog also aims to encourage them to get more involved in recycling.

"The blog allows us to communicate with local people and listen to their views. We welcome people's comments on our blog entries and encourage residents to contact us for further information. It's also a way for them to raise any questions they may have about our initiatives or campaigns."

Visit Recycle for Dorset today at <http://recyclefordorset.wordpress.com/> to find out more about current recycling campaigns and activities.

*Hayley Paterson, PRO, Waste Management, 01305 221313,  
email [h.paterson@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:h.paterson@dorsetcc.gov.uk)*

## COAST ROAD SAFETY PROJECT MOVES AHEAD



A package of measures aimed at reducing casualties on the B3157 coast road between Chickerell and Bridport will be introduced by Dorset County Council over the coming months following discussions with local communities.

The B3157 Road Safety Partnership Project Board, met on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the comments received at public consultation days held in September. Over 180 comments forms were returned by local people, expressing a range of views about the proposals put forward by the safety partnership.

After considering the feedback, the Board agreed to embark on a package of measures to support the goal of cutting the number of crashes on the scenic coastal route, which has a recent history of serious and fatal casualty collisions. These will include:

- introducing a 50mph speed limit for the 'rural' sections of the route between Chickerell and Portesham and Portesham and Bridport;
- refreshing white edge markings along the whole of the route, and white centre markings at identified hazard locations between Abbotsbury and Swyre;
- maintenance to central cats eyes along the whole route;
- work to repair and enhance lay-bys;

- landscaping of road verges to highlight known hazards; and
- working with local communities to rationalise signs and reduce non-essential sign clutter.

In addition, the board heard that the County Council is in discussions with the police and Dorset Safety Camera Partnership to increase enforcement and police presence along the route as part of a major county-wide casualty reduction campaign beginning in January.

One of the issues still under discussion is the proposal to use centre lines where highlighting specific hazards. Elected members of the Board asked to see further evidence of where similar measures have been used to reduce casualties in Dorset and elsewhere in the country.

It was also confirmed that further, detailed consultation will take place within the communities along to route to consider enhancement to safety and access within the villages. The Board agreed in principle to the development of the concept of village 'gateway' features, which would highlight that road users were entering a different environment and enhance local distinctiveness.

The County Council said it would hold on-site assessments of areas of specific concern with local communities in early 2010. These would help to develop initial concepts presented at the consultation events by working with local people to consider how to meet safety and access needs most appropriately, while retaining the character of the villages.

*Michael Carhart-Harris, PRO, 01305 225065: email: m.carhart-harris@dorsetcc.gov.uk*

CHURCHES TOGETHER in BRIDPORT & DISTRICT

## THE BRIDPORT NATIVITY

Saturday morning, 19<sup>th</sup> December  
from 11.00am



The Bridport Nativity is once again being planned when the streets of Bridport will become Bethlehem for the morning. We invite everyone to come and see a live outdoor nativity, bringing the true message of Christmas to the streets of Bridport!

Watch Mary and Joseph coming from the west with their donkey (kindly loaned by Freshwater Holiday Park), the Magi coming from the east, the shepherds from the south, and lots of angels!! Tableaux, drama, and songs will take place in Bucky Doo Square and you might even spot the odd llama. Come dressed as shepherds, angels, or any appropriate costume if you wish – but only if you want to! But in any case come and watch.

## GOOD BOOKS

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

Tel: 01308 420483

E-mail: [orders@goodbooksbridport.co.uk](mailto: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 10.00am-12.00noon, and for tea and chat on most Monday and Wednesday afternoons

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

**Good Books now has a wide range of Christmas cards and Advent calendars in stock, as well as the popular Lion Christmas Promotion of children's books at very reasonable prices for presents.**

## VALLEY NOTES

### RURAL DEAN

The Licensing of Bob Thorn as Rural Dean for the Lyme Bay Deanery will take place during Holy Communion in St. Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock, at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December



### MOTHERS' UNION.

The Deanery Carol Service will be at 2.15pm on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Marys' Church, Mosterton. If you need transport please let me know.

*Yvette Smith. 898219.*

### YOUTH ALPHA

is coming to the Bride Valley at the beginning of 2010. It will be for 11-14 year olds. If you have any queries please 'phone Sally 897068 or Dianne 897629. More details to follow, watch this space.....



### BRIDE VALLEY (EASTERN END) CHRISTMAS PARTY

All children aged 0 – 11 years who live in the Eastern End of the Bride Valley are invited to a Christmas Party on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The party will take place in the new community hall in Litton Cheney between 3 and 5.00pm.

The Eastern End Christmas Party is a much loved social event and has taken place on the first weekend in December for around 50 years. Tickets are £1.50 for each child and are available from Thorner's School, contacts in each of the villages and from the numbers below. All pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult and all children must bring a contact number.

To ensure that the tradition of the party continues we would welcome

the help, interest and support of any individual, group or organisation. If you can assist in any way please contact Katharine Jones 898553 or Elizabeth Kingston 482162.



## LAVENDER TRUST

I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported my film evening for Lavender Trust Breast Cancer Care and to the people who kindly helped me at that event. I was able to send the sum of £438.75 to the Trust, so again, thank you. *Mary Rawles*

## BURTON BRADSTOCK WI

It is always strange to wish our members a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year when I write this at the beginning of November, but we do!



Last month we had our Autumn coffee morning to raise funds for our speakers etc. rent of the hall etc. etc. and we raised over £340 - a lot of hard work by some of the members, but the President was sorry not to have seen more at the Coffee morning. The Dorothy Seward cup was won by Gill Redford with her wonderful presentation of animals in stitchwork.

Our Speaker in December will be Mr. Goslin on "A Brief History of Jazz and Dance Bands" - should get our feet tapping. This will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15pm. NOTE WINTER TIME MEETINGS!

New members are very welcome to come along and see if our meetings are for you. We have some of the many groups in December - please check the board for dates of these as they are sometimes changed. The groups are Embroidery, Walking, Mahjong, Creative Writing. The book group does not meet in December as our usual week would be too near Christmas day.

There will be a BV group Carol Service at Portesham Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 2.30pm. All members welcome.

## BRIDE VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

We finished our year in October with a splendid talk from Colin Varndell who showed us pictures of many of the gardens he has been photographing over a number of years for "Dorset Life" together with some lovely close-up shots of some of the more spectacular flowers in the gardens. This was followed by a cheese and mulled wine party and this social event was enjoyed by all.



We are now preparing a new programme for 2010, starting in March, and this will be publicised in the Bride Valley News in the New Year. In the meantime, we wish all our members and the readers of the News a very happy Christmas and a fruitful and productive New Year.

## **JOBS TO DO:**

Pinch out tips of autumn-sown sweet peas. Prune deciduous trees and shrubs and the longer growth on roses to reduce damage from wind rock. Clean seedtrays ready for next spring. Apply a thick layer of mulch to protect borderline-hardy plants.

*Sylvia Delves, Chair. E-mail: sylvia@delvesuk.freeserve.co.uk  
Valerie Cameron, Secretary. E-mail: secretary.bvgc@virgin.net: Tel: 01308 482240*

## **BRIDE VALLEY FLEDGLINGS PLAYGROUP**

A Big Welcome to Isobel Cooper, who has started at Fledglings.

In October we saw "Robin Hood" by the Children's Theatre in school and in November we saw "The Wizard William" too. After seeing Robin Hood, some children made bows from sticks and string.

We have planted Spring bulbs in containers and in our garden and watered them in.

Fiona cooked sausages on her barbecue down in the Discovery Area, and we listened to them sizzle! Then we ate them - after counting them. Later that day we sang the song "8 Fat Sausages sizzling in the pan". We kept safe outside our "Circle of Safety" while the pan was hot.

We have been looking at more shapes in construction and building egg roof shapes and boxes, using the Three Little Pigs story, doing some hammering also. The children have been making Vegetable Soup with Maureen and Carol - again looking at shapes and sizes of vegetables, and reading "The tale of the Turnip" ..

Work by the children was on display at the Autumn Fayre on 14<sup>th</sup> November in PSWB Village Hall, including their cornfield collage and individual printing pictures. We are looking forward to our Christmas Party on 17<sup>th</sup> December, after walking to church for the Church Service in the morning.

More about the Christkindlmarkt next time - a lot of work goes into organising this each year. This will be was the first time in the new LATCH Hall and grounds, with even more stalls than before! Needless to say Father Christmas will be paying an early visit!

## **THORNER'S CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This is one of the nicest times in school, the lead up to Christmas, the excitement, anticipation and special activities it brings. We have already sent in our Operation Christmas Shoeboxes, though I do not know how many we sent as at the time of writing they are only just beginning to arrive in school. Mrs Hooper has set a target of 60 ... I wonder if we will make it?

There will be the usual parties for each class and our 'Helpers' where



we say a huge thank you to all those people who come in during the year to listen to readers, run clubs, cook, sew etc with the children, and also the many people who work behind the scenes ... Governors and TSA's, as well as undertaking the numerous maintenance chores with a smile. Thank you to everyone and I am sure there are many more ways in which many of you help us, you make a great contribution towards the school both in time and effort and it is appreciated by all of us. You help to make the school what it is, I look forward to seeing you there to say a proper thank you.

The children are already getting to grips with our Christmas Concert ... learning words and thinking about costumes. This year we have invited a couple of touring groups to perform 'Robin Hood' and 'Wizard William' for us in the hope that our performance will be inspired by them. Our Drama Club has been running for a few weeks and will help the children appreciate some of the finer points when acting in front of an audience. If you would like to come and watch there will be plenty of space so you are very welcome. The Concert takes place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December in the Hall, starting at 6.30pm.

Early in the term we advertised for a person to help set up and run the Breakfast Club on Mondays and Tuesdays 8.00 to 9.00am. We have received a grant which should last a year until the club is up and running. A number of parents had shown an interest in making use of the extra facility but if no-one is willing to run it, it cannot happen. Is there anyone out there who might be able to offer help? Please get in touch with the school office. (01308 482410)

*Alison Johnstone, Headteacher*

## **100 CLUB**

November Winners:

£15 Sara Griffith

£10 Julie Arak-Newman

## **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 join in the fun.

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

## **BURTON BRADSTOCK CE VC SCHOOL**

We have had a super first half term here at Burton Bradstock School. The weather has been very kind to us, meaning we have had very few of the dreaded wet playtimes! The new reception children have all settled really

well into life at school. The lovely weather has meant that all of our Reception and Year 1 wellie walks have been dry. The children have really enjoyed discovering the local area, learning about the colours and shapes they can spot within the environment. They have also been able to teach me some things on the walks, for example one child was able to point out a tree her Grandfather had planted as a seed when he was a boy! It is lovely to see such a continuity of community in a village school.

Our Harvest Festival held at St Mary's Church was well attended by members of our local community and parents. All of the children took part in our service of thanksgiving. This year we reflected on the desire for world justice as our theme, exploring the need to share all the gifts of God with those less fortunate. We had a good display of harvest gifts that had either been generously donated by the children, or grown ourselves in our school garden. These were then distributed to members of our local community. We were grateful to the members of the church team who provided coffee afterwards.

This half term promises to be a busy and exciting one. We have already begun to think about and prepare for Christmas, not quite beating some of the supermarkets and TV companies but coming close! We shall also be using this half term to continue to look at our curriculum and the values that lay behind it. To that end we hope to have our Burton Bradstock child display put into St Mary's Church very soon.

The other key event from last half term was the appointment of Mrs Claire Staple as the new permanent head teacher of the school. She was appointed after a very rigorous appointment process and I am confident she will be an outstanding leader for the school. She is currently the deputy head teacher of a large local primary school and I know from the meetings I have had with her, Claire is very excited about her new role. I know that she will be in your prayers as we begin the process of induction and handover.

These are exciting times for schools, there have been two major reports published on Primary Education recently looking at the nature of the provision we offer our children as we prepare them for their future. A future in which rapid change will be the norm. For those interested there is a fascinating presentation that can be found on You-Tube that highlights the pace of change in our world called "Shift happens". These reports provide schools with the opportunity to really explore the curriculum we offer children and the purpose behind it. Here at Burton Bradstock we are well placed to meet the challenges the opportunities provide, allowing us to really focus on the needs of children rather than what can sometimes be artificial targets, whilst at all times remembering Burton Bradstock CE VC School's mission statement that we.....

*'... will provide firm foundations for life within an atmosphere that nurtures Christian values and a sense of community.'*

*Daniel Hunwick*



## BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYGROUP

Burton Bradstock Playgroup provides a fun, stimulating and purposeful environment for all children aged between 2 and 4 years. All children are fully supported in their learning, and we strive towards providing better outcomes for them. The opening times for the playgroup are as follows:

Mondays	9.15am till 2.15pm
Wednesday	9.15am till 2.15pm
Friday	9.15am till 2.15pm

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

## WHAT'S NEW

Drop-in at Audrey's for all parents/carers, babies and toddler's.

Every Wednesday 10am till 11.30am

£1.50 per session.

Warm, friendly and homely atmosphere which allows you to relax whilst your children can play.

For new members join us at the village hall at 9.45am and we shall escort you to the new venue.

## AUCTION OF PROMISES

in aid of Burton Bradstock Playgroup

Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm onwards in the Anchor Pub.

Come along and make a bid for wonderful prizes.

Including experiences money just can't buy or last minute Christmas presents.

Come along for a pre-Christmas drink and have some fun.

Anybody wishing to donate a prize or offer a service please contact Becky 01308 897210

## PILATES

Pilates classes are held at the following locations :-

Mondays	Shipton Gorge Village Hall, 2.30pm Improvers
	Litton Cheney Community Hall, 4.00pm Improvers

Tuesdays	Portesham Village Hall, 10.00am Improvers
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Beginners and many other classes in Dorchester both daytime & evenings for all abilities. Call 01305 751984, email [clairefmyers@hotmail.com](mailto:clairefmyers@hotmail.com)



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (BRIDE VALLEY BRANCH)

There will be a social evening at The Three Horseshoes, Burton Bradstock on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm to thank the Poppy Appeal collectors. Please notify Jim Reeves if you are attending.

Just a reminder that details were sent with the AGM notification about the Annual Dinner in February, 2010.

Would you please complete the form with your menu requirements and send this with payment to Jim by the 18<sup>th</sup> December.



## BRIDE VALLEY KNITTERS

The Bride Valley Knitting Group meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, Jan 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>) from 2-4.00pm at Ourganics in Litton Cheney.

Do come along if you are interested in knitting or crocheting, no matter what level or age. A knitting tutor will be available (donations welcome). We are looking forward to seeing you!

For more details or directions ring Doris 07818 490 657 or Pat at Ourganics 01308 482 455.

## BRIDE VALLEY YOUTH CLUB.

Yes! we are still running. If you are between 8 and 17 come along and find out. Youth Club Sessions run 7-8:30pm at Litton Cheney's new hall.

The cost is £1.50 plus Tuck shop money.

Next Sessions are December 1<sup>st</sup>: December 9<sup>th</sup>: DISCO January 5<sup>th</sup> and then fortnightly thereafter.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to Paul Kingston, who for many years ran the Youth Club but lately decided to step down from his role.

## CHRISTMAS DISCO !!!

Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> , 7:00 - 9:00pm.

Cost £2.00 Tuck Shop will be open, fizzy drinks 10p and Hot Dogs £1.00. Come along and celebrate Christmas with your Valley friends.



## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who took part and sold our "Summer Quiz". We made a total of £151.00 after prizes and expenses. The monies will go towards buying a Table Football and Pool table. Please look out for our new quiz on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Sue Talbot 01308 482204

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Baseball is 90% mental, the other half is physical.

*Yogi Berra*

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## SUPPORT DORSET & SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE

Instead of writing individual Christmas Cards send your Greetings to all your friends in the Valley by signing the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Christmas Cards, which will be in The Crown Inn, Puncknowle and The White Horse, Litton Cheney, from 4<sup>th</sup> December and make a donation to a very worthwhile operation. Thank you for your support.

*Brenda Oliver*



# Keeeeee dancing

Enjoy an evening of Ballroom - Sequence - Latin American dancing at LATCH, on 12th December 2009 7:30 until 11.00pm, and every second Saturday of the month in 2010. All ages and levels welcome. £3 per person per night. Bring your own refreshments - Tea and coffee available. For more information and tickets in advance

Ring David 01308 482532 John 01308 482170

## FIRST STEPS @ FLEDGLINGS

Tuesday 2.00 – 3.30pm

£1.50 incl refreshments



Open to parents, carers, babies & toddlers

Play with resources & join in the fun

Fledglings Playgroup, Thomers School, Litton Cheney

01308 482410 Fiona Evans/Fledglings

## SHIPTON GORGE

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



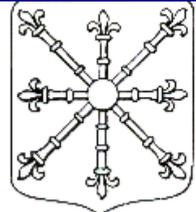
## ST. MARTINS CHURCH

### CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 6.00pm

Our usual Service of Carols and Lessons will be led this year by James Webster. The Service will commence at 6.00pm. Everyone is welcome to our special service.

Mulled Wine and mincepies will be served in the Village Hall after the Service.



### CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 6.30 p.m.

All Carollers please meet at the telephone kiosk at

6.30pm. If you have never joined in before, you are sure of a very warm welcome and lots of fun. Carol Sheets are provided. Please wear warm clothing and bring flashlights.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

This year Bob & Jean will lead us in Holy Communion at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to this special service. It has been decided this year not to serve coffee and biscuits after this service.

### **FAMILY WORSHIP**

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December, 11.00am.

James Webster will be leading this Service. Everyone is welcome.

### **EVENSONG**

Our usual traditional Evensong will take place at the new time of 3.30pm. Again, everyone is assured of a very warm welcome.

**May I** on behalf of the PCC of St. Martin's Church, wish all the villagers of Shipton and all the people of the Bride Valley, a most Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

*Gillian Maxfield - Churchwarden*



### **SHIPTON GORGE VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Congratulations to Nova & Peter Varney on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary – and thank you for letting us share it with you!!

### **COMING ATTRACTIONS:**

Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Shopping trip to Exeter.

Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> – Coffee morning in the village hall with exhibition of archive material – do come along to help us identify people/ places from the past.

*John Kent*

### **SHIPTON GORGE LTD**

Our AGM will take place in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7.30pm. We hope as many of you as possible will come to the meeting, and stay to join us afterwards for a glass of wine and festive nibbles.

*Board of Directors*

### **SHIPTON GORGE VILLAGE HALL**

**100 CLUB,** November draw:

£10	No 23	Betty Darby
£20	No 69	Colin Chambers



We would like to thank you for your support at the recent entertainment by John Follett and Theresa at the Village Hall.

A good time was had by all. A big thank you for all the donated raffle prizes. After all expenses were paid we made a modest profit of £7.10 which has gone to the Air Ambulance, every little helps as they say. Once again thanks from Jill, Den, Kelly and Heather.



Village Hall Trust

# CHRISTMAS BINGO

Shipton Gorge Village Hall  
Monday 7th December  
Seasonal Prizes/Raffle  
Eyes down 7.30 pm  
£5 including refreshments

**Frederick White** (Fred) of Gullivers Orchard, loved husband of Joy, died on 24<sup>th</sup> October in Dorchester Hospital after a short illness. Joy would like to thank everyone for their kindness, cards and the support they have given her at this very sad time.



**Frank Rogers** A big thank you to the kind friends and neighbours who sent me so many cards and letters of condolence. Your support has brought comfort and is much appreciated.

*Doreen Rogers*

## LITTON CHENEY

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



## ST MARY'S CHURCH

Our traditional **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT** will take place at St Mary's at 6.00pm on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December – everyone is most welcome and you are invited to stay afterwards for mulled wine and mince pies.



The **CRIB SERVICE** will be at 4.00pm and **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION** at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve.

To be sure the Church is looking at its best for Christmas we shall have a special housework session starting at 9.30am on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – all on the rota and any other kind volunteers are most welcome – refreshments provided.



## Belated

but grateful thanks to James Prentice for raising the magnificent sum of £333 by cycling to 32 churches on the Dorset Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride in September – the money is divided equally between the Trust and St Mary's (if it hadn't been for a puncture James would have broken the parish record of 38 – another time James?).



## The PCC

will be deliberating this month which tender to accept for the access and reordering work for which Faculty and Planning Permission are now in place; the amount the tendering builders quote will largely dictate the pattern of the work, it may be necessary to do it in stages but a start is anticipated in the New Year. PCC

## LITTON CHENEY SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### The October

**VILLAGE WALK** was again in fine weather with a route across the A35, through the "plantation" and down to Littlebredy. What a variety of wonderful walks we have in and around the valley!



### The December

village walk is disguised as **CAROL SINGING** around the village! This is on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup>. Starting on both evenings at 6.30pm from the Bus Shelter. The collection is for **JULIA'S HOUSE**. The singing, refreshments and generosity were wonderful last year, so do come along.

### The NEW YEAR'S

**DAY WALK** will start from the Bus Shelter at 10.00am. How about starting the year as you mean to go on!

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A GREAT 2010 TO ALL**

Ron Davidson. 482661 LCS

## LITTON AND THORNER'S COMMUNITY HALL



With all the activities going on at the hall, there must be a fair chance that a team from Litton Cheney will feature in the 2012 Olympics. Now all we have to do is convince the Olympic Committee to include Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi, Short Mat Bowls (perhaps they do?) and Calligraphy! If you still have not joined you may wish to know the following:-

Yoga	December 4 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> from 9.45am-11.15am
Tai Chi	December 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Table tennis	December 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm to 5.30pm
Short Mat Bowls	December 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> at 3.45 to 5.15pm
Calligraphy	December 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 1.30pm. Call 482661 for details.

More information on these and other events can be found at [www.littoncheney.org.uk](http://www.littoncheney.org.uk)

**ADVANCE NOTICE** – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January – Village Café run by Thorner's School.

A big Thank You to all who have utilized and supported the Community Hall through its first six months of existence. We clearly have a success on our hands but continued support of the facility remains the key, so if you are thinking of organizing or arranging an event – think LATCH – please.

Call Wendy Taylor on 482532. Happy Christmas everybody!

<p><b>PUNCKNOWLE &amp; WEST BEXINGTON</b> VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: ELIZABETH SLATER 1, LITTON CLOSE, PUNCKNOWLE liz@ruddle.org.uk TEL: 897751</p>	
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## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

### DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the Church with tree and greenery on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am.

Help with this will be more than welcome, and donations of Night Lights would be greatly appreciated.



### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

We will be having carols by candlelight on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm at which we will hear the Christmas Story, sing carols and assemble the crib. Afterwards please stay and enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies. All are most welcome.

### CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

This year we will be singing on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December at the east end of the village and on Tuesday at the west end of the village. Please meet at the Village Hall at 6.00pm with a torch to enjoy a glass of mulled wine.

*Ann Roberts 897716*

## PUNCKNOWLE & SWYRE VILLAGE HALL

### AUTUMN FAYRE

Thank you to all those who helped with the Autumn Faye In November. In spite of the wind and the rain, plenty of people came and over £200 was made.



*For bookings, telephone  
01308 897724*

### BROADBAND ACCESS

Free Broadband Access continues on Wednesdays as before:

1st & 3rd Wednesday 4.00-7.00pm

2nd & 4th Wednesday 3.00-6.00pm



## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December, Father Christmas will be visiting us at 3.00pm with presents for the children. There will be fun and games for both adults and the children, presents to buy for Christmas, cakes and pickles, chocolate, mulled wine and refreshments. There will be a torchlight procession from this event to the Carol Service in the Church at 4.50pm. Do come for a 3-village pre Christmas get together.

## ONLINE SHOPPING

Support Puncknowle & Swyre Village Hall when you shop online this Christmas and we could win £1000!

Beat the traffic, parking and queues and browse over 5 million products at over 150 retailers in our webshop. There's a donation for Puncknowle & Swyre Village Hall every time you make a purchase via our webshop and every purchase could help us to win £1000!

Our most popular retailers include Next, M&S, Amazon, ebay, Sky & Ethical Superstore:

There's free delivery for chocolate lovers. Festive offers at Thorntons include 2 for £5 on lots of Christmas treats and gifts.



## PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE & W. BEXINGTON LUNCH CLUB

The club will be holding its traditional Christmas lunch on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm. It will be a celebration starting with sherry or fruit juice, turkey with all the usual trimmings followed by Christmas pudding and mince pies tea or coffee. Any member who was not at the November lunch should ring 897622 to order their lunch. Anyone wishing to join the club should ring the same number.

## ART CLUB

We all enjoyed finger painting with Peter, so many thanks for an interesting morning which was not as messy as it might sound. Members give a great deal of help to each other and to look at partly finished work was very productive. There is only one meeting in December which is lunch at the Bull on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.



*Christine Molony*

## PUNCKNOWLE & SWYRE PARISH COUNCIL

### MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm.

## PUNCKNOWLE ALLOTMENTS

There may be plots available on the Puncknowle Allotments Site in the near future and the committee would like to open a waiting list. If you are interested in putting your name down for a plot or half-plot please telephone Debbie Legge on 01308 898506.

## THE NAPPER CHARITY TRUST

The Napper Charity Trust is a Charity Fund for the people of Puncknowle. This small fund is available as Grants to Individuals or Groups.

Any person or Group can make an application for a share of these funds by applying in confidence to the Clerk of Puncknowle Parish Council – telephone 01308-897726, or contacting any of the Parish Councillors for further details.

## LONG BREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: CAROLINE MORRISH-BANHAM

TEL: 482757

EMAIL: [mark\\_banham@btinternet.com](mailto:mark_banham@btinternet.com)



## ST PETER'S CHURCH

Our service on **CHRISTMAS DAY** will be a Family Communion celebration at 11.00am.

Our **CAROL SERVICE** is at Littlebredy on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 6.00pm.



**Farewell** to the Maybe family, who are setting off on a five month journey to Australia, New Zealand and Canada. We wish them well on their big adventure.

## Congratulations

to Trevor & Elizabeth Toogood who are pleased to announce the birth of a grand-daughter, Madison Paige. A daughter for their daughter Stephanie and Martin, a sister to Ben.



## Thank you

from Mark Banham, who successfully completed his half marathon on October 11<sup>th</sup> in London. He would like to extend his thanks to all those in the Bride Valley who supported him and helped to raise over £1500 for the Special Care Baby Unit, Dorset County Hospital. Well done Mark!

## SWYRE

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



### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SWYRE

#### SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 3.30PM:

Evening Prayer and lighting of the second Advent candle.



#### SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER 11.00AM:

Holy Communion and lighting of the third Advent candle.

#### SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 11.00AM:

Morning Worship and lighting of the fourth Advent candle.

#### THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER, CHRISTMAS EVE 9.30PM:

Early Midnight Communion when all Advent candles are lit to celebrate His coming.

#### SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER 11.00AM:

Holy Communion by extension.

#### ADVANCE WARNING

Sunday 3rd January 2010 3.30pm: Epiphany Carols of Praise

#### CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING

On Wednesday 23rd December at 10.30 we shall meet to decorate the Church for Christmas. All are welcome to come and help. We shall be using the traditional colours of white, red and gold (not yellow). As usual we shall have tea and biscuits, with much chat and laughter.

*Churchwardens.*

## LITTLEBREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT:  
Email: [pwbridehead@btinternet.com](mailto:pwbridehead@btinternet.com) Tel: 482232



**The Club's** Social Evening in the middle of October was a great success, a real community gathering, with the benefit of many of the village's recent newcomers being there to meet their neighbours and enjoy a relaxing time among them. Many thanks to the organisers and providers of the excellent hospitality.

**Another** very welcome guest was Rohan Bate, on leave from the army, who presumably found the occasion a lot more relaxing than the very responsible military role he is fulfilling at present.

**With not much** local competition this year, the Village's Bonfire Night on the 5<sup>th</sup> November was also really well attended (sorry to all those who missed out on the burgers because of that!), and the fireworks display was a treat. Many people had put much work into making it the success it was, and thanks and congratulations to them. The slight drizzle at the beginning was a pity, but obviously better than a downpour, and maybe the Almighty had chosen to dampen the nearby thatched roofs a bit anyway, to protect them from over-zealous sparks. A great evening all round.

**CHRISTMAS** It is the turn of Littlebredy to host the United Service of Lessons and Carols at the eastern end of the valley this year, and it will be held in Church here on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, starting at 6.00 p.m. We hope for a full congregation, and that everybody will be able to stay on afterwards, for mulled wine and mince pies.

On Christmas Day itself, we also hope for a good congregation at the Family Communion Service, in Church at 11.00am.

## BURTON BRADSTOCK

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS: ?



## BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

For Bookings – Telephone 01308 898222

### 200 CLUB

November 2009 Draw

This month's winners:

1 <sup>st</sup>	£45.20	No 130:	Mrs J. Spencer
2 <sup>nd</sup>	£22.60	No 56:	Mrs Sylvia Lipscombe
3 <sup>rd</sup>	£11.30	No 197:	Mr Keith Delves



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

WDDC Licence no: SL0080

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009 (10.30am - 1.00pm)

Come to Burton Bradstock Village Hall for freshly brewed coffee and pastries and browse around festive stalls. The adult entrance fee, payable at the door, is £2.00, which includes the first cup of coffee and a pastry; children 50p, to include juice and a pastry. Additional coffee and pastries will be on sale. During the morning the results will be announced of all classes of the Burton Bradstock OnLine's Digital Photo Competition and

prizes will be presented. If you would like a stall, the cost will be £5 or if you prefer 10% of any sales, payable on the day. If you are interested in having a stall you should contact Susan Moores on 01308 897673. Look out for posters around the Village.

## CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009 (7.30 pm)

The Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee is putting on its seasonal quiz in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm with a 7.45 prompt start for the quiz. In order to achieve comfortable seating arrangements bring along a team of 8, or join a team on the night. Enjoy not only a fun quiz but also complimentary nibbles and a light supper. There will be prizes for quiz winners, a Raffle and a Bar and, if previous years' Christmas events are anything to go by, a great evening will be had by all. Tickets will be available from Burton Bradstock Post Office, priced £5.00 each, from Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Posters will be put up around the Village advertising the event.



*Susan Moores - 01308 897673*



## ARTSREACH

I hope you all enjoyed "Paper Cinema" on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November!

Our next show at Burton Bradstock Village Hall will be the Mellstock Band with "Leaves of Life" on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. The Mellstock Band will be presenting Christmas music from the English tradition. It will be a costumed performance with traditional instruments, and tales and poems from John Clare, Hardy, Dickens and others. "Christmas isn't Christmas without the Mellstocks"... Riverside Arts Centre. SO DON'T MISS IT!

Tickets when available will be £9 , £6 under 18's £26 family (2adults and two children) *Norman Saunders-White; Artsreach Promoter for Burton Bradstock*

## BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL TRUST

**AGM** – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010

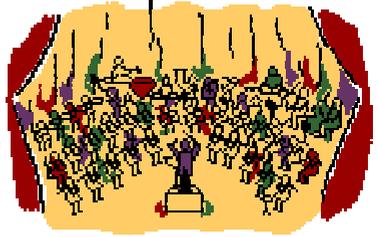
The fifth BBVHT Annual General Meeting will be held in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm. This is a public meeting so please come along, hear all about the Village Hall Trust's past year and plans for the future, and enjoy a glass of wine and some nibbles.

Anyone who is resident in the village and who would like to stand as an Independent Member of the Committee should give their name in writing, along with the names of a Proposer and Seconder, to Audrey Smith before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

*Audrey Smith – Admin Secretary, Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee – 01308 897227*

## BANDMASTER FALLS FROM STAGE DURING CONCERT

“I said this would happen,” says British Legion Spokesperson.



“This all reminds me of an ENSA show in Monte Casino,” said Bride Valley British Legion Branch representative, Lance Corporal of Horse Dave Bellows (late the Royal Bengal Kamikaze Lancers), “there was this Commando Bandmaster – reckoned ‘e was good at rock climbing, ‘e did – jiggling away on the stage we had erected for him and his Band of Brothers: fell straight off when he got to the second eight. I warned him the stage was only trestle tables on a few breeze blocks, but ‘e would ‘ave it that ‘e was, in real life, a gazelle (‘e reckoned...). ‘E was never the same again; ended up in the Caterin’ Corps (which was no good for us, as he ‘ad a passion for Gurkha food and everythink was dressed up in curries and we never knew what we was eatin’). Course, if they’d of had Health and Safety then, there would of been a Risk Assessment and it would never of ‘appened. I blame the Italians, frankly, I see they’ve been playing up in Afghanistan lately.”

Asked if this was relevant to the speculation that the Bandmaster of the St Swithun’s Band would fall from the stage at the British Legion Annual Band Concert at the Village Hall Burton Bradstock, Mr Bellows replied, “Well, actually, yes. A Risk Assessment would, quite properly, of required ‘im to be attached to a safety wire (with harness) for the duration of the concert, as well as a safety net and the local Fire Brigade in hattendance; after all, one can’t rely on a Bandmaster also bein’ a qualified trapeze artist or mountaineer these days; I ‘ad a word with Sarn Major West about just this point, but ‘e demurred. I think ‘e was takin’ a big risk, frankly: well out of order. Bowl means take risks with your own, but it’s not on to imperil those who give so generously of their time for such a good cause.”

Our Bride Valley News reporter has established that, in fact the Bandmaster did *not* fall from the stage, despite a number of anonymous financial incentives to do so - clearly made by those who were involved in the substantial sweepstake on how many minutes into the show it would take for him to step off. It was also announced that such was the interest in this “event within an event” that well over 100 people attended and a handsome £640.50 was raised for this year’s appeal. “This was the finest turn-out we have seen for some time,” said CoH Bellows, “I trust the said Bandmaster can be tempted to try this again – though, in order to stay within the rules, I fear we may ‘ave to erect some kind of blanket, or maybe attach ‘im to some safety helium balloons.”



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

By the time this is printed count down to the festive season will be full steam ahead, a time when cash flies out and out of the window. Purses and bags tend to be bursting so care should be taken not to leave these in cars, prams or back pockets for opportunists to see, jostle or grab.

A green ride-on tractor was stolen near Burton last month; another warning for us to chain mowers, expensive mechanical equipment etc. to something 'solid'. A chain could be cheaper than a loss.

The cold calling ban seems to be working here but now we have the cold phone calls, a nationwide problem. These added to internet spam and the recession retro food revival, makes me think we should be singing a new carol to the tune of 'Jingle Bells' this year "Spam spam spam, Spam spam spam, Spam, spam all the way"!! Remember never give any details of banks or birth dates to any bogie men or women over the phone or internet while multi-tasking - stirring the Christmas pud or pulling a cracker. Do not give any information to anyone you do not know that could be taken advantage of by them.

Any problems just give me or PCs Poppy or Nigel a call. A very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all.

*Ian Pitt-Aikens: 01308-897440*

## HOUSE GROUP

The house group will meet at 7.00pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at Old Walls, Mill Street, Burton Bradstock. All are welcome.

**Rachel's Well** in Allena, near Palakonda, in Andhra Pradesh, India, has been dug and is now in use.

Photographs and further details are on the notice board in St Mary's porch. Thank you very much for your generous sponsorship which raised more than £1000 for R.O.P.E. and £300 for Macmillan Nurses

*Heather Rogers*

**Our beautiful** village is again becoming soiled by the problem of Dog Excrement. It is the responsibility of all dog owners to clear up after their animals. Please make an extra effort to



'Scoop the Poop' and place it in the nearest authorised receptacle. There are a number of these throughout the village, and they are emptied on a regular basis by WDDC.

If you cannot find a receptacle, please take your dog's waste home and dispose of it.

Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

*Fel Moore Clerk to the Council*

Members of Brit Valley Rotary Club

are delighted to announce that they will be escorting



**Father Christmas**

around Burton Bradstock on

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**



## **St James the Least of All**

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

**On how to survive Christmas in the parish**

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I am sorry you will have to take your Christmas Services sporting a black eye, but I have no sympathy. It doesn't matter what competition you are asked to judge - biggest marrow, best decorated shower cap, most beautiful goldfish - the winner should always be the muscular entrant with the steely glint in their eye. The meek may well be destined to inherit the earth, but they will never win the best decorated Christmas cake competition. You should have known that a lady who works at the "Rose and Crown" pulling pints and throwing clients out at closing time is not one to be awarded second prize.

Lady Bartle has won ours every year for the last 50 years - even though we all know that her French pastry chef will have spent the previous month laboriously decorating the thing. Someone once rashly asked her how she came up with such novel ideas every year. Lady B. promptly started to talk about grouse shooting with a look that made it quite clear how she would have dealt with her interrogator had she herself been feathered.

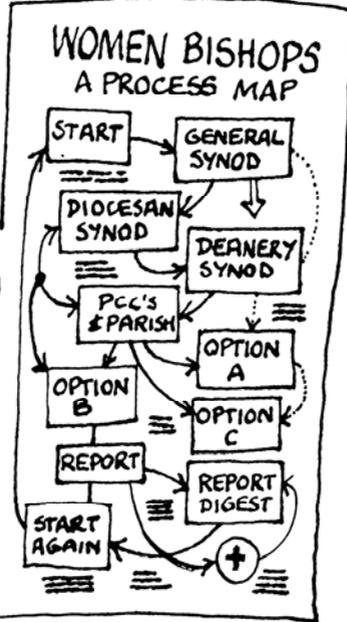
As you are now well on your way to learning, the Christmas Fair presents a minefield of potential disasters. I treasure the look on our Health and Safety officer's face each year, as he sits in a corner, surrounded by fire extinguishers for every possible contingency, concentrating on the one plug

in our church hall providing power for two tea urns, Christmas tree lights, amplifying equipment and mince pie warmer.

You must also make sure you spend absolutely the same sum at every stall. Five pence more on Admiral Thornton's coconut shy than on Mrs Eccles' roll-a-penny will never be forgotten - or forgiven. I sometimes think that Lord Cleethorpe's practice of arriving, dashing round every stall, showering a £5 note at each, with not the slightest interest in what he's buying or entering, then bolting back to his castle for a restorative scotch is the best policy.

The arrival of Father Christmas is always a highlight, although I do feel that your new child protection policy, requiring Father Christmas to be in a locked room at one end of the building and the children communicating with him from one at the other end by internal telephone and video link a little over-cautious.

Our poor verger has played Father Christmas for as long as anyone can remember - until last year, when he executed his escape. He promised every child that they would receive all the gifts they wanted and encouraged them to let their imaginations rip. We had a village of tearful children on



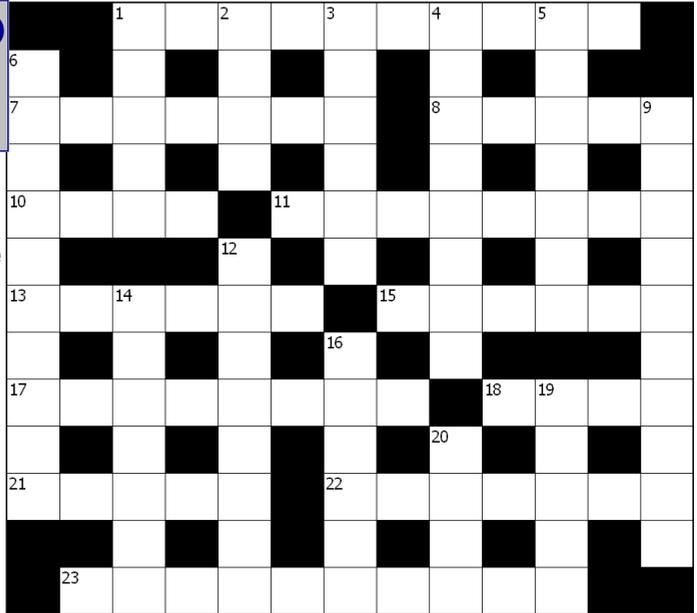
Christmas morning when they discovered they had not received private jet planes, main line railway station or a major football team. The look of joy on the dear man's face when he was told he'd been sacked was quite touching.

So, as you carol your way through the Services, may I suggest you hold them all by candlelight, so your shiner may be a little less obtrusive.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

# CROSSWORD

Use the NIV Bible  
(Solution on p.38)



## ACROSS

- 1 Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (Exodus 25:9) (10)
- 7 David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (2 Samuel 18:14–15) (7)
- 8 They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15th and early 16th centuries (5)
- 10 Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)
- 11 Seized control of (Numbers 21:25) (8)
- 13 Terror (Luke 24:5) (6)
- 15 First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith — (6)
- 17 Stormy (8)
- 18 A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone 'unclean' (Numbers 9:11) (4)
- 21 Arson (anag.) (5)
- 22 How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)
- 23 Habitation (Isaiah 27:10) (10)
- a lion' (Proverbs 28:1) (4)
- 3 One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:25) (6)
- 4 He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (1 Samuel 22:19–20) (8)
- 5 City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)
- 6 'Offer your bodies as living — , holy and pleasing to God' (Romans 12:1) (10)
- 9 Pouches carried by horses (Genesis 49:14) (10)
- 12 One who accepts government by God (8)
- 14 Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (Exodus 30:1) (7)
- 16 He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) (6)
- 19 Are (Romans 13:1) (5)
- 20 'You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will — his people from their sins' (Matthew 1:21) (4)

## DOWN

- 1 ' — and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8) (5)
- 2 'The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as — as

# A reindeer looked over my garden wall

By Merry Scope

“Can you spare me a pound, mate?”

“Why?” I asked the young man whom one would have expected to be selling the *Christmas Big Issue*. There followed the story that he was endeavouring to release himself from Local Authority Housing: if he could produce twenty five pounds, a private landlord would let him have a room and thus he could get a job he was after, the first step to his rehabilitation.

“I can do better than that,” I replied, “here’s twenty five pounds.” The young man wept; I wept. And still weeping (with joy), as I made my way back to work, I thanked God for the privilege of chancing upon that decent chap, whom I had been able to help so much, so easily.

The following Christmas, as I made my way past the same spot, I was reminded of the young man when I heard a voice, his voice: “Can you spare me a couple of quid, mate?” I spun round.

“What do you want it for?” The same story, but the price had gone up. “Look here, you %\*Δ,☼,☐\*☉ you caught me for a pound last year with the same story!”

“Yeah, I may of” (I love that verb, to may of - as you can imagine). “But when I gave you twenty five quid, you burst into tears!”

“Well, I’ve got to put on a bit of a show for the punters, haven’t I?”

Over lunch, I began to tell the story to a friend. “That’s not the one who needed to find a deposit, is it? I gave him twenty five quid.”

I suppose at this time of year, the moral of the story is just to believe the bloke on your roof with the reindeer: he really might there to do you a favour.

It’s hard not to be cynical, but in another world, it “could of” been me.



		8						
			3		7		5	
	2					9		3
				9			6	2
2		4				8		1
6	5			7				
4		9					1	
	1		5		8			
						2		

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Solutions next month

← Intermediate

Easy ↓

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The Devil's Dictionary  
(Ambrose Bierce)

**QUOTIENT, *n.***

A number showing how many times a sum of money belonging to one person is contained in the pocket of another — usually about as many times as it can be got there.

2		3		6				8
	7			5	1	3		
	5	9						
4		2	6	3			5	9
				9				
3	9			1	4	2		6
						4	2	
		1	8	4			3	
7				2		9		5

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### CHRISTMAS CARDS

Time to write the Christmas cards again – what designs have you picked to send this year? Are they religious ones?

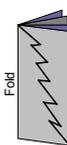
Look in the shops at all the different designs, traditional and modern. Through history the view of Christmas has been the same, usually Mary and the baby Jesus. But what else would you count as religious? Three Kings? The Bible doesn't say they were kings, or that there were 3, just Wise Men but it does tell us about the gifts they bought for the baby Jesus.

Do you know why there are so many robins on Christmas cards? The first postmen in Victorian times wore red and were called robins so robins were shown as delivering cards.

So which cards are religious? Think of what you write inside your Christmas cards... all of them are because of what we write inside them and post them with – love. Our love is a tiny echo of God's love for all the world.

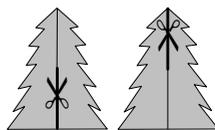
### CARD or DECORATION

Here is a simple 3-D Christmas tree that you can use as a decoration or a card. You will need green card, crayons, glitter or paint, scissors and sellotape.

 Fold a piece of card in half, then cut it in half. Put the 2 pieces together and fold them in half again.

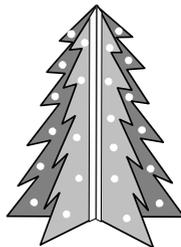
Draw half a Christmas tree opposite the fold. Cut along the line and you will have 2 identical trees. Fold the trees in half, very lightly, hardly creasing the centre line to mark the centre of the tree. Cut a slit along the bottom

half of the centre of one tree and along the top half of the centre of the other



tree. Slip the two trees together along the slits. To help the tree to stand firmly, use sellotape to fasten the parts together where they meet.

Decorate the tree. If you are using it as a card then leave an area free of decorations so that you can write on it.



**What did the werewolf write on his Christmas cards?**

Best vicious of the season.



## Rainbow Rhymes

Poems and Promises to cut out and collect.

### A Shepherd in need of an Angel

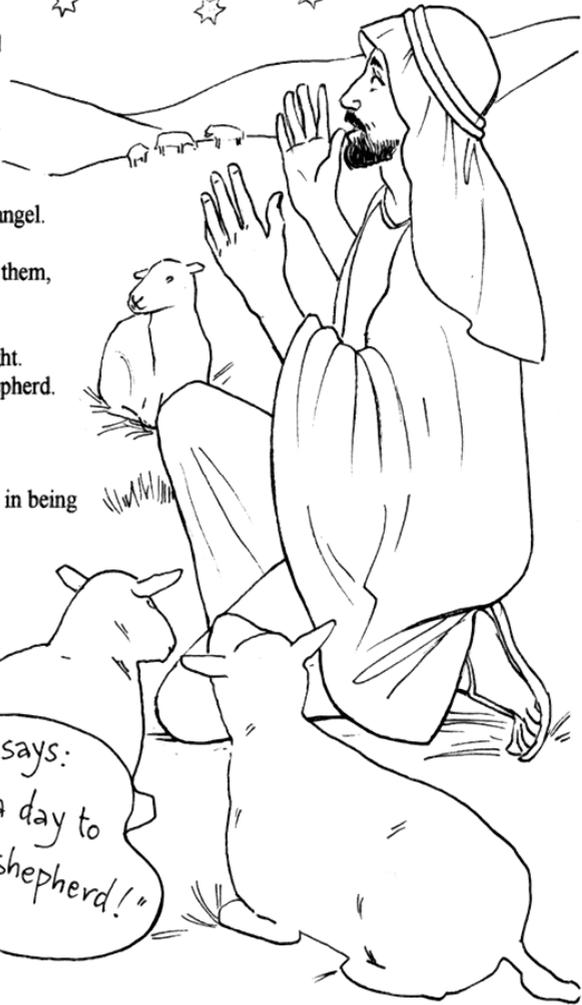
He didn't want to be there,  
He was cold and lonely and sad,  
He hadn't chosen shepherding,  
It was just the job he had.  
He was a shepherd in need of an angel.

But because he was there, he saw them,  
In a sky full of songs and of light,  
Angels, who needed a listener  
To share the good news of the night.  
They were angels in need of a shepherd.

And after he'd been to the stable,  
The reflection of love in his face,  
There was peace and contentment in being  
A shepherd and in the right place.  
A shepherd so glad of the angels.



Sol says:  
"What a day to  
be a shepherd!"



***The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard...***

*(Luke 2:20 NIV)*

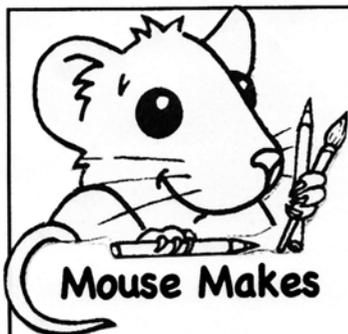
**Poem by Daphne Kitching, Picture by Elaine Hill, Coloured by .....**

# Bible Sketchbook

## Miracle start to an amazing life!

There were miracles before and after Jesus was born... his mother Mary was a virgin... angels told shepherds to go and see him... meeting him changed their lives. Their response? Praising God and telling others! Now it's our turn! Read more in Luke 2: 1-10





## Mouse Makes

Glue this sheet to a piece of thin card and carefully cut out around the stable shape. Colour in and hang on the Christmas tree. Add glitter for extra sparkle

Away in a manger,  
no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus  
laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky  
looked down where he lay  
The little Lord Jesus  
asleep on the hay.

Read the Christmas  
story in **Matthew**  
1:18-25 and  
**Luke**  
1:26-2:20



Dec09

## DIARY OF EVENTS: DECEMBER 2009

Tue	1	3.45pm Short Mat Bowls 7.00pm RBL(A&P) Pie & Mash Supper 7.30pm Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council Mtg	LATCH Portesham Village Hall PSWB Village Hall
Wed	2	2.00pm Tai Chi 3.00pm Public Computer/Broadband Access 3.30pm Table Tennis 7.00pm Bride Valley Youth Club	LATCH PSWB Village Hall LATCH LATCH
Thu	3	1.30pm Calligraphy 2.30pm BV Guild of Health Meditation 2.30pm WI BV Group Carol Service 7.30pm RBL(A&P) Branch Meeting	LATCH Othona Community St Nicholas, Portesham Portesham Methodist Hall
Fri	4	2.15pm MU Deanery Carol Service 9.30am Yoga	St Mary's, Mosterton LATCH
Sat	5	10.30am Christmas Market Coffee Morning	BB Village Hall Shipton Gorge Village Hall
Sun	6	3.00pm Eastern End Christmas Party 7.00pm One World Worship	LATCH Othona Community
Mon	7	2.00pm Bride Valley Knitting Group 2.30pm Pilates 4.00pm Pilates 7.00pm RBL(BV) Social Evening	Ourganics, Litton Chehey Shipton Gorge Village Hall LATCH Three Horseshoes, BB
Tue	8	10.00am National Trust "Drop-in Surgery" 10.00am Pilates 2.15pm WI "Brief History of Jazz & Dance Bands" 3.45pm Short Mat Bowls	Hive Cafe Portesham Village Hall BB Village Hall LATCH
Wed	9	2.00pm Tai Chi 3.00pm Public Computer/Broadband Access 3.30pm Table Tennis 7.00pm Bride Valley Youth Club Disco 7.00pm House Froup 7.30pm Shipton Gorge Ltd, AGM	LATCH PSWB Village Hall LATCH LATCH Old Wall, Mill St. BB Shipton Gorge Village Hall
Fri	11	9.30am Yoga Puncknowle Art Club Mellstock Band "Leaves of Life"	LATCH The Bull, Swyre BB Village Hall
Sat	12	10.00am Decorating Church for Christmas 7.30pm Keeeeeep Dancing 7.30pm BB Playgroup Auction of Promises	St Mary's, Puncknowle LATCH Anchor Inn, BB
Sun	13	3.00pm Christmas Fayre, followed by procession to 5.00pm Carol Service	PSWB Village Hall St Mary's, Puncknowle
Mon	14	2.30pm Pilates	Shipton Gorge Village Hall
Tue	15	10.00am Pilates 12.30pm PSWB Lunch Club Christmas Lunch 3.45pm Short Mat Bowls 4.00pm Pilates	Portesham Village Hall PSWB Village Hall LATCH LATCH

Wed	16	2.00pm Tai Chi	LATCH
		3.00pm Public Computer/Broadband Access	PSWB Village Hall
		3.30pm Table Tennis	LATCH
		7.30pm Book Club	PSWB Village Hall
Thu	17	2.30pm BV Guild of Health Meditation	Othona Community
	17/18	6.30pm Carol Singing around the Village	Litton Cheney
Sat	19	11.00am Bridport Nativity	Bucky-Doo Sq. Bridport
		7.30pm Christmas Quiz	BB Village Hall
Sun	20	6.00pm Carol Service	St Mary's, Litton Cheney
Mon	21	2.30pm Pilates	Shipton Gorge Village Hall
		6.00pm Carol Service	St Peter's, Long Bredy
	21/22	6.00pm Carols around the Village	PSWB Village Hall
Tue	22	2.00pm Bride Valley Knitting Group	Ourganics, Litton Chehey
		3.45m Short Mat Bowls	LATCH
		4.00pm Pilates	LATCH
		6.30pm Carols around the Village	Telephone Kiosk, SG
Tue	23	10.00am Pilates	Portesham Village Hall
		10.30am Decorating Church for Christmas	Holy Trinity, Swyre
		3.00pm Public Computer/Broadband Access	PSWB Village Hall
Mon	28	2.30pm Pilates	Shipton Gorge Village Hall
Tue	29	4.00pm Pilates	LATCH
Tue	30	10.00am Pilates	Portesham Village Hall



LC: Litton Cheney, SG: Shipton Gorge, BB: Burton Bradstock, LB: Long Bredy, Lb: Littlebredy  
 PSWB: Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington, BV: Bride Valley

<b>NORMAL DAY</b>	<b>REARRANGED DAY</b>	<b>WEST DORSET            DISTRICT COUNCIL            REFUSE AND            KERBSIDE            RECYCLING            COLLECTION            ARRANGEMENTS            FOR            CHRISTMAS AND            NEW YEAR 2009/10</b>  <b>Normal collections            resume on Monday            18<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>
Friday, 25 December	Tuesday, 29 December	
Monday, 28 December	Wednesday, 30 December	
Tuesday, 29 December	Thursday, 31 December	
Wednesday, 30 December	Saturday, 2 January	
Thursday, 31 December	Monday, 4 January	
Friday, 1 January	Tuesday, 5 January	
Monday, 4 January	Wednesday, 6 January	
Tuesday, 5 January	Thursday, 7 January	
Wednesday, 6 January	Friday, 8 January	
Thursday, 7 January	Saturday, 9 January	
Friday, 8 January	Monday, 11 January	
Monday, 11 January	Tuesday, 12 January	
Tuesday, 12 January	Wednesday, 13 January	
Wednesday, 13 January	Thursday, 14 January	
Thursday, 14 January	Friday, 15 January	
Friday, 15 January	Saturday, 16 January	

## WEEKDAY SERVICES, DECEMBER 2009

Wed	2	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thu	3	9.00am	Swyre
Fri	4	9.00am	Shipton Gorge
Mon	7	9.00am	Littlebredy
Wed	9	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thu	10	9.00am	Puncknowle
Fri	11	9.00am	Litton Cheney
		3.30pm	Burton Bradstock Christingle Service
Mon	14	9.00am	Long Bredy
		6.00pm	Burton Bradstock carols around the village
Wed	16	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thu	17	9.00am	Swyre
Fri	18	9.00am	Shipton Gorge
			Burton Bradstock School Christmas Service
Sat	19	9.30am	Burton Bradstock Rectory Quiet Day - <i>"The Road to Bethlehem"</i>
Mon	21	9.00am	Littlebredy
			Littlebredy Carol Service
Wed	23	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
THU	24	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	
		4.00pm	Litton Cheney Crib Service
		5.30pm	Burton Bradstock Crib Service
		9.30pm	Swyre Holy Communion
		11.30pm	Litton Cheney Holy Communion
		11.30pm	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
FRI	25	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
		8.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
		9.30am	Shipton Gorge Holy Communion
		11.00am	Burton Bradstock Christmas Service
		11.00am	Puncknowle Holy Communion
		11.00am	Long Bredy Holy Communion
		11.00am	Littlebredy Holy Communion
Mon	28	9.00am	Long Bredy
Wed	30	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thu	31	9.00am	Swyre



# SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE BRIDE VALLEY CHURCHES

December 2009

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 4<sup>th</sup> of Advent</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec St. John</b>
<b>Burton Bradstock</b>	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 Carol Service	9.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Prayer 6.30 Evening Prayer
<b>Shipton Gorge</b>	11.00 Holy Communion	9.30 Morning Prayer	6.00 Carol Service	11.00 Family Service 3.30 Evening Prayer
<b>Chilcombe</b>				
<b>Swyre</b>	3.30 Evening Prayer	11.00 Holy Communion	11.00 Morning Worship	11.00 HolyCommunion
<b>Puncknowle</b>	9.30 Holy Communion	5.00 Carol Service	8.00 Holy Communion	11.00 Family Service
<b>Litton Cheney</b>	11.00 Family Service	9.30 Holy Communion	6.00 Carol Service	9.30 Holy Communion (By extension)
<b>Long Bredy</b>	11.00 Holy Communion		11.00 Morning Worship	
<b>Littlebredy</b>		11.00 Family Service		11.00 Holy Communion