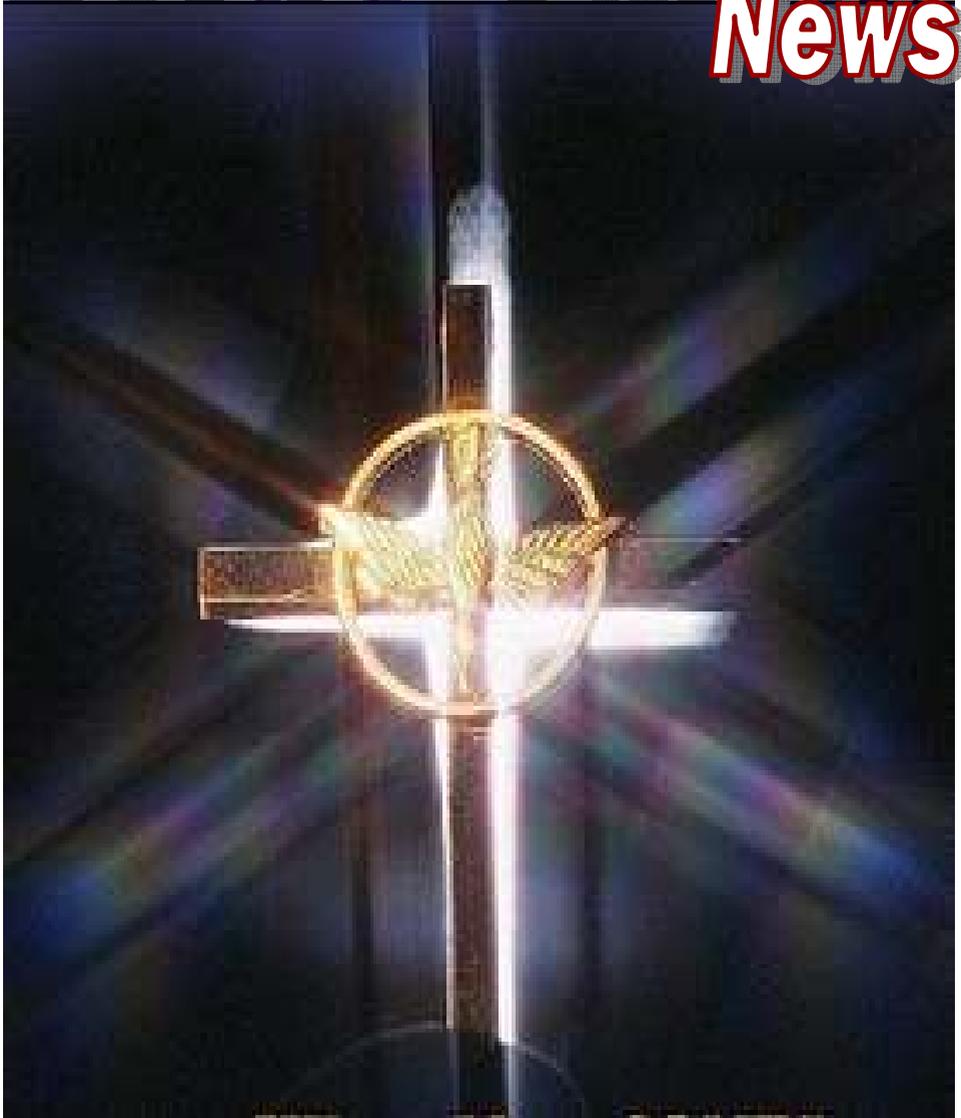


Bride Valley **News**



The Magazine of the Bride Valley Churches
April 2012

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**THE DEADLINE FOR ANY MONTH'S ISSUE IS MID-DAY
OF THE 2ND THURSDAY OF THE PRECEEDING MONTH.**

COPY MUST BE SENT TO VILLAGE CORRESPONDENTS,
(contact details shown at the head of each Village Section)

NO LATER THAN 2 DAYS *PRIOR* TO THE DEADLINE SHOWN ABOVE,
for forwarding to the Editor.

Handwritten or typed copy should be delivered well before the deadline date.

***DON'T FORGET THERE IS A £5 BOUNTY FOR ANY PICTURE PUBLISHED
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*Pictures (not necessarily photographs) for consideration for the front cover, should be
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reflect the views of the people and organisations which fund and support it.*



THE FIRST OF APRIL IS PALM SUNDAY

which is when the disciples cut branches from the trees on the slopes of Mount Olivet to pave the way for Jesus, riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, in what I find myself bound to think of as a parody of a stately procession. There is nothing very stately about the toddling of a little donkey with a whole grown up man sitting on the stern of it. The image is top heavy, the movement is absurd.



And what is more there are no palm trees on the slopes of Olivet. The clue is in the name; Olivet, the mount of Olives. There are olive trees there and in the garden of Gethsemane at the bottom of the slope, before it climbs up again to the temple mount. But no palms for Palm Sunday.

The trick about a palm tree is that it is very bendy. If you tied a rope to the top of one (you would have to climb it first of course) and if you then got your ten best friends to pull on the rope, and hailed a passing tractor to help with the fun, and then weighed down the trunk with some hefty stones you found lying about, you might be able to get the top of the tree to bend right down to the ground.

Now the game is to put something amusing in the top of the tree along the lines of a banner saying "Romans go home" before cutting the rope tying the top of the tree to the ground. As in all good cartoons the top of the tree flies skywards, propelling your banner right over the walls of the Roman fort to their discomfiture and your immense satisfaction. When they send troops to investigate it will be to find the same tree bolt upright again.

The palm tree is a picture of righteousness. It will always go back to being straight and true. It is an image of fruitfulness because dates are so very healthy and sustaining that you can live on them. They are a whole food.

Which is a good reason for spreading palm leaves at the feet of a donkey carrying the son of righteousness, who is the bread of life even when there is no palm tree to be seen.

Every blessing for holy week, and a happy Easter come Sunday.

Bob Thorn.

VALLEY NOTES



TOTS AND PRAMS SERVICE

There will be no Tots and Prams Service in April.

Heather Rogers, tel 897780



BIBLE QUIZZES 2012

We hope to run Bible Quizzes again this autumn, so now is the time to start brushing up on the story of Joseph, from selected chapters of Genesis. Would you like to be part of a Team – Juniors (up to 11) or Seniors (11+), to represent your church, village or community? Would you like to be a quizmaster, score keeper or trainer?

Please let Heather know on 897780 if you would like to participate in any way. If you can watch “*Joseph and the amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*”, so much the better!

ONE WORLD WORSHIP

Celebrate with us at 7.00pm on the first Sunday of every month:

- the Wonders of Creation
- the Common Ground of Humanity
- the Wisdom of Many Spiritual Traditions
- the Longing for Peace month

followed by a simple soup and bread meal

“Simple, informal, moving, authentic... “

Othona is an open Christian community which tries to follow the Way of Jesus without claiming it is the best or the only way. We welcome, involve and learn from people of all faiths and none.

We're on the B3157 between Burton Bradstock and Swyre.

Details: phone 01308 897130: no need to book, just turn up!



Othona
WEST DORSET



Othona
WEST DORSET

Thank you

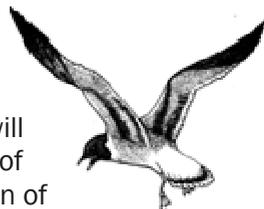


FROM HEATHER ROGERS

Sincere thanks to all who ate pancakes with Heather on Shrove Tuesday to celebrate her 70th birthday. Together with family and friends from further afield this raised £500 to provide 100 mosquito nets, and the necessary training on their use, for a village in India – a wonderful birthday present! As about a million children die each year from malaria, every little we can do to prevent this is very worthwhile.

BURTON BRADSTOCK FESTIVAL

The Jubilee concert on 1st June will launch the 2012 Burton Bradstock Festival.



The Burton Bradstock Festival of Music and Art will run from 19th to 24th August, promising a bumper crop of events to celebrate this jubilee year and the culmination of the Olympics. Tickets go on sale on 25th May in the village hall.

As part of the Festival, David Juritz will lead off the festivities for Burton Bradstock's Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on Friday 1st June with a concert in the village hall. David Juritz (violin) and Caroline O'Dowdle (piano) will play Debussy and Delius and variations on *God Save the King* by Paganini.

Tickets for this concert go on sale on 1st May in the post office or from Gill Redford (01308 897203) at £10, to include a glass of wine or elderflower pressé. The performance will begin at 7.00pm.

Colette Hill

LADYBIRDS OPEN MEETING

There will be a talk by Dave Wheeler, the Swanherd of Abbotsbury Swannery on Wednesday 11th April, 7.30 pm at Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH). This is an open meeting and all are invited along

Dave Wheeler has appeared in many TV programmes including *Coast* and is an engaging and convivial speaker. In a few week's time, the cygnets will be born – the busiest time of year for the Swannery – so do come along and find out all about this unique place on our doorstep.

Admission is £3 for non-members – refreshments included.



BURTON BRADSTOCK W.I.

Bright sunshine and colourful primulas on the tables set the scene for the W.I. Spring Lunch last month in the Village Hall. Members were challenged to identify some photos of places in Dorset before sitting down to a gourmet buffet of dishes both savoury and sweet. There was a tricky table quiz on well-known phrases.

After lunch, Marion Dewey had the audience laughing all through her delightful short story of a lady whose scheming was in vain.

The W.I. walkers went to Toller Porcorum, exploring the disused railway line and woods with carpets of snowdrops; afterwards they called in at Spyway for lunch in the pub.

The W.I. AGM takes place on 17th April; refreshments will be served by the committee.

Burton Bradstock WI was formed in 1917, and celebrates its 95th anniversary in November. There is a full programme for the year, with outings and social events as well as the monthly meetings; the WI also runs a book group, walking group, tapestry and craft group, and Mahjong.

Any woman living locally is welcome to come to some meetings before deciding whether to become a member (contact secretary, 898484).

BRIDE VALLEY FILMS THE HELP

'a must see for anyone'

Cert.12, 2hrs.

Thursday. 12th April

The no.1 New York Times bestseller by Kathryn Stockett comes to vivid life through the powerful performances of a splendid cast. Led by Emma Stone, Viola Davis, Oscar and Bafta winner Octavia Spencer and



Bryce Dallas Howard, *The Help* is an inspirational, courageous and empowering story about very different, extraordinary women in the 1960s South, who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project - one that breaks society's rules and puts them all at risk.

Filled with poignancy, humour and hope *The Help* is a timeless, universal and triumphant story about the ability to create change.

Doors Open: 7.30pm, film starts 8.00pm: tickets £5.00 (to include a glass of wine), available in advance from: Sally Dyke 482752, Lois Edwards 482605, Elizabeth Kingston 482162, Bella Spurrier 482367 or on the door if available. (All nos. 01308)

Coming next, Thursday. 10th May: **TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY**, Cert 15 2hrs. 'a gripping and tense acting masterclass'

Details on posters, on the website and in the BVN.

BRIDE VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club is now looking forward to our April meeting about Sowing Seeds and Propagation by Michael Burkes from Castle Garden, which will be an interesting sequel to our March meeting which was on Growing Vegetables.



We are offering a really interesting programme this year to our thriving membership in the Valley of over 80 people and this will include Gardening for Wildlife and a particularly favourite subject - Roses Old and New.

JOBS TO DO

Plant first early, second early and maincrop potatoes. Plant summer flowering bulbs. Feed borders with a general purpose fertiliser. Re-pot house plants or topdress large containers with fresh compost. Prick out seedlings before they get leggy.

Valerie Cameron, Secretary. E-mail: secretary.bvgc@virgin.net tel: 01308 482240



BURTON BRADSTOCK CE VC SCHOOL

Our half term started in February with a visit from Rosie Massingham who attended our whole school assembly to deliver a powerpoint presentation introducing the children to Huay Nam Yen School in Thailand. She took the children of Burton Bradstock School onto a visual journey across the sea to Thailand where they were introduced to some of the children and their teachers and they found out about their daily lives. Rosie ended the assembly by presenting every child and adult with a beautiful friendship bracelet which the children of Huay Nam Yen School had made. There was a buzz of excitement around the school following the assembly and we have plans to develop this link further by setting up penfriends, learning about each other's cultures and also fundraising to help support the children and their village.

Following the visit from Rosie, we had a 'Fairtrade week'. During this week the children investigated what 'Fairtrade' means and what we can do to support it. The children were extremely creative in their learning and produced collage Fairtrade symbols, wrote Fairtrade poems and two children even wrote their own Fairtrade song! The School's Fundraising Group, led by the children, is now busy co-ordinating and producing a Fairtrade Recipe book full of scrumptious recipes that use Fairtrade ingredients. The children are hoping to sell the recipe book and donate all the money to Huay Nam Yen School.

Thank you to everyone who supported the school with our Jumble Sale last month. Our next fundraising event organised by the Friends of Burton Bradstock School is the Annual Duck Race on Sunday 8th April. We are hoping



for a sunny Spring day to draw in the crowds, but not too sunny as we don't want our chocolate goodies to melt!

Claire Staple, Headteacher



THORNER'S CE VA SCHOOL

The children have been busy! Eggardon children made Christingles for the church service at Puncknowle. They had a great time making Christingle oranges and we kept an eye on the sweets!

We celebrated St David's Day on 1st March – we learned a little bit about the food and language of Wales, and Eggardon made Welsh cakes for the whole school. Thank you to all our volunteer helpers.

Each class displayed their learning to parents and friends in our Spring Celebration assemblies. It is wonderful to see the children's confidence – singing, dancing, reading and playing music.



The children had a 'shoebox' assembly. A slide show and presentation showed them how their contributions to 'shoeboxes' (collected at Christmas) are used across the world. The children are raising money for 'Prokick'. Any money raised will go 50-50 to our school and to a school in Africa.

Staff from Monkeyworld came to school to appeal for spare towels, sheets, blankets, duvet covers, pillowcases,- anything that is not stuffed or crocheted – to help keep the monkeys warm!

The Life Education Van visited school; Harold the Giraffe and Jocko the Elephant showed the children how to keep safe and have healthy bodies and minds. The older children were encouraged to think about bullying and friendship. Healthy Ted visited Litton.



Chesil had a great time measuring trees in the Discovery Area!

The children have been learning new ICT skills: Chesil have enjoyed learning how to move and control 'Roamers' - wheeled directional gadgets. Eggardon have been recording 'TV interviews' related to their literacy work and will be making animation movies.

Chesil and Litton had a superb day orienteering and map making with

their visiting tutor from the Weymouth Outdoor Education Centre. Bredy visited the centre for a day of adventure – tunnelling and climbing.

Our netball team came second out of eight schools that took part in the cluster netball tournament at Colfox. The weather was freezing cold but we lost only one match. Our football team won a Kenway Cup match 3-1 against Sticklands Primary School. WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR TEAMS!

Musicians from the Dorset Music Service played a variety of instruments – violin, bass and acoustic guitar, flute, piccolo, trumpet, trombone, hosepipe and watering can (!) - to show the children the fun to be had from music.

At exactly 2.45pm on Wednesday, 8th February, all the children and staff joined the rest of the country in the ‘Sign2Sing’ challenge for the Guinness Book of Records. (Last year 94,489 children and adults helped to teach the world to sing and sign.) The event is promoted by SignHealth, a charity working to support profoundly deaf children, young people and adults throughout the UK, whose first language is not English but British Sign Language.

The Farmhouse Breakfast in LATCH was a huge success. There was a book stall, the school Gardening Club sold plants and trees they had raised and the children provided live music.

The following Monday the whole school had a breakfast of porridge and muesli prepared in school by our parents and helpers – thank you. The children enjoyed it so much they asked for more! And so... the next school breakfast will be on Monday, 23rd April. This being St George’s Day, it will be the full English! Any donations of eggs, bacon, and sausages welcome nearer the time!

Jyotsna Chaffey, Headteacher

DISCOVERY AREA

Thorner's school has a vibrant outside space called the Discovery Area, which was started many years ago and which parents, staff and pupils are working together to develop. In the last 18 months the overgrown brambles and blackthorn have mostly been cleared, we've planted a willow storytelling dome and we have made a start on laying the hedges and weaving a willow bird-watching screen.

With the aid of the Woodland Trust, Dorset Wildlife Trust and Woodmace Civil Engineering of Poole & Bournemouth we have created a new wildlife pond, and planted a small orchard of Dorset varieties thanks to the Dorset AONB sustainability fund.

During their lunch-hours the schools' Gardening Club and Eco club regularly work on projects for the Discovery Area, and other children join in the workparties with their families. The children have made bug-houses and tree decorations, planted their own miniature willow-dens and started to

make musical instruments and a bottle greenhouse.

Our plans are exciting, our enthusiasm infectious, but we are hampered by lack of funds, tools and time. So we would love some input and help from the wider community! If the outdoors, gardening, living history, arts or wildlife are your thing, do give us a call to see if you can help.

We have regular Sunday afternoon work parties (from 12.30pm onwards) and go down at other times during the week and the holidays. Our current projects include making more wildlife habitats, planting up the new pond, more hedge-laying, building a wooden stage (for concerts and as an open-air classroom space), creating a pond-dipping platform for the pond, erecting a bird-feeding station behind the bird-watching screen, developing a "sanctuary" for quiet activities, planting up a bat bog-garden with night-scented plants - and that's just this spring! Longer term we are working on plans to get funding for a living history area which could include an iron-age dwelling, plants to cook and use for dyes, and a science zone.

Ways you can help:

come along to a work party - bring gloves, hand tools and snacks. Or just wander down to see what we are doing and offer your advice!

save 2 litre round plastic drinks bottles (for the greenhouse), wood offcuts (for making signs and bird boxes), fence posts or timber (for making raised beds, planters and pathways), willow cuttings (for weaving the bird-hide, border edges and kids dens) ... we can use pretty much anything!

donate unwanted tools, spare seedlings or plants for planting - woodland and night-scented plants, and vegetable or fruit plants especially welcome.

Our next work parties are on Monday 2nd April from 11.00am, and Sunday 22nd April from 12.30pm

Or bring the family to an Easter Egg hunt at the Discovery Area on Sunday 8th April from 12.00noon (straight after the duck race in Litton Cheney).

Contact: Mickey Bonome (482776) or Alison Dunbar (482376) for further details.



FLEDGLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

Lots of activities to report - looking at signs of Spring, and growing seeds for Mothers Day since the start of this half term - reading all about Jack and the Beanstalk. Also reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar book - sequencing the story from the beginning, middle and the end covering the circle of life. Even more exciting - we have got chicken eggs in an incubator which are due to hatch in the week before Easter! It will be lovely for the children to see the chicks hatch out. We are also visiting Kingston Maurward to see new lambs.

During Book Week we will be dressing up as people from different stories, and children will be bringing in their favourite books to talk about at Show and Tell time.

On March 22nd, we will be baking cakes for Sport Relief and selling them to Thorner's school children, as well as dressing in red.

Easter activities will include an egg hunt, bonnet making and other Easter related things - lots of fun.

In the Garden, there is a problem with rabbits digging holes!

A Parents Coffee morning is happening in March, and a big Welcome to a new member of staff - Jacquie Rendell - who has joined the staff to assist on Tuesdays.

Sally Jevons is now teaching music to Fledglings children on Thursdays. The Fledglings Room and cloakroom is being refurbished during the Easter holidays and there are some new round rugs in place - one large rug with a globe on it, and a smaller one with a clock face on it, as well as new containers from Ikea.

Fledglings Pre-School is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays all day, at present - based in its own dedicated room at Thorners School, so if you have a child ready to come along - drop in to see for yourself and meet the staff - contact Fiona Evans, Manager, on 01308 482410.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

ABBOTSBURY & PORTESHAM BRANCH

Shona Marie Smith aged 11 years recently wrote a verse as a school project to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the R.B.L.



"WHY?"

1. Many people have lost their lives in wars that have gone by
I ask you to stop think, wonder, imagine Why?
2. Bow your heads is all I ask, listen to what I'd like to say
I'm going to give you reasons of why it happened this way
3. Freedom is the answer freedom for us all to live
Fighting for their countries many thousands of lives they've had to give
4. Bow your heads and say a prayer for all those that have died
Pray for those still fighting wars to come back with their lives
5. Please make a small donation and a poppy you should wear
If only for 2 minutes to show 'em that you care.
6. Wear your poppy with such pride that's all we do ask
Think of all those special people, now, present, past.

*(You can wear an enamel lapel badge poppy year round -
just ask for one at £1)*

Members are invited to attend the Women's Section meeting at Portesham Village Hall at 7.30pm on 16th April to hear Graeme Gemmill talking about 'Coast Watch'.

National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas 3-Day Tour 28-30th April is fully booked, but we can put you on the waiting list if you wish. (Contact the writer).

'Hats' with Roger Snook on 3rd May starting at 7.30pm in Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury. Roger is the originator and organiser of the Bridport Hat Festival, now entering its fourth year. Displaying gents and ladies wear for every conceivable occasion, his collection will amuse and amaze you! Visitors are welcome to this event (£2 includes a hot drink) when we shall be joined by the Women's Section and Women's Institute members. Items will be available for purchase.

The **RBL National Conference** will be held 19-20th May in Scarborough on the Yorkshire coast. 'Small' branches such as ours are entitled to send one delegate, but the event is open to anyone wishing to attend as an 'observer'.

On Thursday 28th June we shall travel to Poole by coach where we will visit the **Royal National Lifeboat Institution's** National Headquarters for a guided tour. There will then be time for lunch on the Quay before we enjoy a cruise to Wareham via the harbour and the River Frome. An early indication of your interest will help with planning this event.

Des Baker, Branch Entertainments Chairman (01305 267617)

BRIDE VALLEY BRANCH.



The next Social Evening will be on April 23rd at the Three Horseshoes. Please let Jim Reeves or Basil Dent know if you are attending. (897091 or 897125)

ADVANCE NOTICES:-

The Poppy Day Appeal **Band Concert** will be held on Friday 26th October in Burton Bradstock Village Hall

The **Annual Coffee Morning** will be held on Thursday November 8th at 10.30 am in Burton Bradstock Village Hall.

Membership of The Legion is not restricted to ex-Servicemen and women - it is open to all, and you are welcome to join us. Please contact Jim Reeves, or Basil Dent on the above telephone numbers for more details.

Malcolm Lawrence Secretary (898616)

I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them. *E. V. Lucas*

SUPERFAST BROADBAND



The following statement was issued by Ian Doyle, Economic Regeneration Manager at West Dorset District Council:

"I am pleased to be able to tell you that the Superfast Broadband proposal submitted to BDUK (Govt Dept. DCMS) in January has been successfully approved. The bid was submitted on 6th January 2012 and was supported by match funding of £10m by the Dorset Authorities.

The approval of the bid will now attract £9.44m government funding and enable negotiations to take place over the next few months with a commercial provider. We will be looking for the selected company to match in the region of the £19.44m now in place for the project. At a potential total figure of over £38m this represents a significant investment in Dorset and will allow us to start putting in the infrastructure for SFB by early next year.

As many of you have told me the benefits across the community are many fold especially in difficult economic times and with so many parts of the rural community unable to enjoy the benefits of even a reasonable broadband speed.

Plans to recruit a project team to deliver this undertaking are in place and I will keep you informed of progress. I expect the project team to hold local information events locally and they will be liaising with various representative groups over the next few months."

A SMOKE ALARM WITHOUT BATTERIES

Is 'A USELESS PIECE OF PLASTIC.'

That is the message from Station Manager Karen Adams, manager of the Community Safety Task Teams based at Dorset Fire and Rescue Service HQ, Poundbury and Hamworthy fire station.

Karen leads a team of firefighters and officers, who are taking DFRS's safety message out into the community, with a particular focus on educating vulnerable and hard to reach groups.

When someone dies in a fire, as unfortunately happened at the end of February, it is always upsetting. At Dorset Fire and Rescue Service, our aim is to reduce all preventable fire deaths to zero. We want to see every home in Dorset with a smoke alarm and that means testing your smoke alarms every week! With the clock change fast approaching, when you go around your home changing the time on all



your clocks, take the time to test your smoke alarms too!

Karen said: "We provide a free home safety check service to those in our at risk groups. Firefighters and DFRS staff are able to visit residents in their homes and fit or replace smoke alarms, advise on the use of candles, unattended cooking, electric blankets, overloading sockets, chimneys, low energy light bulbs and much more. This is all free of charge with the aim of encouraging people to think about fire safety in the home."

She added: "People need to consider their night-time routine – close doors, keep an escape route clear, and check they know where the door key is so they can let themselves out. Smoke alarms should be tested once a week to make sure they are still working and in good condition.

A smoke alarm without a battery is a useless piece of plastic."

To request a Free Home Safety Check for you, or someone who may be vulnerable and would benefit from a visit, please get their permission and contact us on 01305 252600 or use the new online form found at www.dorsetfire.gov.uk. Just fill out the form with your name and address details and click 'submit'. Our new PinPoint technology will analyse whether or not we can make your home safer and you will either receive a FREE Home Safety Check or Home Safety Information Pack, containing a leaflet on safety and a checklist for the home.



THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

Dorset Police are asking the public to assist in the prevention of theft from motor vehicles that tends to increase as we approach spring:

"Although this type of crime has shown a decrease in recent years it is not a time to be complacent in the current economic climate. Cars are subject to break ins when they are parked in beauty spots, car parks as well as outside the home. There is only one way to prevent property being stolen from your car and that is not to leave it in there if you are not with the car."

Mark Harper, a Dorset Police Crime Prevention and Design advisor, stated: *"We used to suggest that anything of value should be put into the car boot, however with split rear seats, boot release catches in the cockpit as is prevalent in modern cars these days this, can no longer be the advice. The only way to ensure that nothing is stolen from your car is to leave nothing in it; even the modern car is easy to break into. Would you leave several hundred pounds cash in a greenhouse in a car park or outside your home? Leaving a laptop, mobile phone, hand-bag sat-nav etc. is doing just that. Just as you plan a journey by making sure you have enough fuel try and create the habit of planning not to leave items in your car if it is going to be parked and unattended."*

Further tips are:

1. Put a leaflet or card on the dashboard of your car to tell any would-be thief that nothing has been left in the car. (You may be able to get such a leaflet from your local police station.)
2. When parking your car try and park it so it is visible to passers by.
3. If you park your car on a drive at the front of your house consider installing a movement activated light to highlight anyone coming into your drive at night.
4. If you park your car on the road try and park it under a street light.
5. Catalytic converters, lorry batteries, and similar, should be marked with a unique identifying mark, such as SelectaDNA, or other approved asset marking system on www.securedbydesign.com.
6. Consider installing extra security devices on your works vehicle. Tested and approved security items can be found at www.soldsecure.com or www.securedbydesign.com

BRIDE VALLEY CAR SERVICE

This service is part of a scheme, Dorset Country Cars, administered by Dorset County Council, which enables residents in need of transport for essential journeys to call upon the services of volunteer drivers for assistance. The passenger contributes towards the driver's expense, currently at the rate of 30p per mile, and the driver receives a further 15p per mile from the County Council. The scheme is administered in the Bride Valley by a volunteer, Mrs Virginia McShane who can be contacted on 01308 425591.

The availability of assistance is primarily at the discretion of the administrator who will require to be assured that the passenger is in need of transport assistance by virtue of inability of the passenger to make other arrangements. Typical journeys will be to the local doctors, opticians and the like but can include other essential journeys and hospital appointments where the use of non emergency hospital transport has not been certified by the passenger's GP or Consultant.

The service very much depends upon the availability of volunteer drivers and following an increased demand for transport to and from Dorchester and Bridport hospitals more volunteer drivers are urgently sought, particularly from the western end of the Valley. Please will you help by joining the existing band of volunteer drivers and so ensure the survival of this most valuable service; it may be your turn one day to be in need of transport!

Prospective passengers making hospital visits are requested to check first with their GP or Consultant if their medical circumstances may qualify them for the provision of non emergency hospital transport before seeking the assistance of the Bride Valley service.

LITTLEBREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT:

email: pwbridehead@btinternet.com

Tel: 482232



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

On **GOOD FRIDAY** (6th April), there will be the customary short (20 minutes or so) and simple Litany Service from the Book of Common Prayer, in the Church at 10.00am.

The rest of the day is available for decorating the Church for Easter, and everybody is welcome to join the team to do so. More detailed timings and arrangements will be circulated in due course. The traditional writing in bunches of primroses on moss along the windowsills needs in excess of 200 bunches of primroses (with about 20 heads per bunch), so many thanks in advance to any youngsters or others who can help pick these and bring them to the Church for bunching if necessary that morning.

The **EASTER DAY** (Sunday 8th April) service is Holy Communion at 11.00am. All are especially welcome to this festival service, especially as (if you have been confirmed but do not regularly attend Church now) you may have forgotten that one of your confirmation commitments was to go to church at Easter... A very warm welcome back if this applies to you!

Easter Day also marks the first opening of the **WALLED GARDENS** area for 2012. The gardens will be open from 2.00 till 6.00pm every Sunday, Wednesday and Bank Holiday Monday afternoon until October. There are also three National Gardens Scheme Open Days in the afternoons of Tuesdays 15th May, 19th June and 3rd July. Liz and her team will gladly welcome visitors and demonstrate what is being achieved there.

It has been a while since the Social Club held an inimitable **QUIZ NIGHT**, but that will be remedied when everyone puts their thinking caps on and racks their brains in the Village Hall on Friday, 20th April, starting at 7.30pm. Teams (or individuals to be formed into teams) are all welcome on the night.

Later in the summer, Littlebredy's plans for celebrating the **DIAMOND JUBILEE** weekend include a shared Village Lunch – we can't call it a street party as there isn't much of a street – on Sunday 3rd June, and a jamboree Jubilee Party on the cricket ground from 4.30pm on Monday 4th June. The latter will welcome all visitors who



want to come, and will involve a vintage car rally, bands, a Bride Valley tug-of-war, a bring and share picnic (though food and drink will also be on sale), and will end with a firework display and the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon.

Further details of both these events will be publicised as they take shape.

SWYRE

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



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

On **Saturday 7th April** from 10.00am we will be decorating our Church for Easter Day. Any flowers, greenery and particularly assistance would be much appreciated.

On **Easter Day** Yvonne will be leading our 11.00am service of Communion by extension. All are welcome to come and meet with our risen Lord!

On **Sunday 15th April** at 12.30pm, following the 11.00am Morning Worship we will hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. All those who live in the parish of Swyre and those others who worship at Holy Trinity are welcome to attend. If you have an interest in the future of your parish church do come along. There will be hot drinks and biscuits before the meeting.

For your diary!

This year, Swyre's Fete will be on Saturday 26th May from 12.00noon. Please keep the day free - more details in next months BVN.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendour,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render.

(John of Damascus)

Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

A very Happy Easter to you all.



OLYMPIC TORCH

The Olympic Torch will be passing through Swyre (in a fleet of cars) on Thursday 12th July.

The Bull in Swyre will be holding a BBQ.

It would be great if as many people as possible could line

the road with flags to wave the flame on its way. More details to follow.
Any ideas please contact debbielegge@hotmail.com.

WHIST DRIVE

A Whist Drive will be held at the Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington Village Hall on 17th April at 7.30pm sharp!
Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Jenny Parr on 897351 for further details.



LITTON CHENEY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: JOHN YATES
2, SUNNYSIDE COTTAGE, LITTON CHENEY
john-and-sandra@hotmail.com Tel: 01308 482585



ST. MARY'S CHURCH

April is going to be a very busy month, so here are some dates for your calendar!

THURSDAY 5TH APRIL, 9.30am: Working party. - jobs inside and outside depending on the weather. Refreshments provided.

GOOD FRIDAY 6TH APRIL, 12.00noon - 3.00pm: Walk from Chilcombe to Litton Cheney with Stations of the Cross led by James Webster and Mike Read - the last three quarters of the last hour in St. Mary's.

WEDNESDAY 18TH APRIL, 7.30pm - Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Church: If you would like to be added to the Church Electoral Roll and so be eligible to vote at this meeting, please contact the PCC Secretary, Wendy Taylor (482532) by 4th April.

MONDAY 23RD APRIL, 6.00pm - In company with many towers across the land, our bells will be ringing out to celebrate St. George's Day, as part of the "Ringing for England" campaign.

LITTON & THORNER'S COMMUNITY HALL

For details of events and happenings at LATCH please visit the village website, www.littoncheney.org.uk



Your Monthly **Village Café** will be held on Saturday 21st April, 10.30pm until 12.30pm. Just to prove its popularity February's VC was the second highest monthly income since the VC's began in the second half of 2009. Come, experience the buzz, chatter and munching of bacon butties – one of the wonders of the Bride Valley. A representative from the Parish Council will be in attendance should you wish to discuss local issues.



ZUMBA

Taking the valley by storm, ZUMBA (exercise in disguise), is a Latin-inspired, easy-to-follow, calorie-burning exercise class for all ages and abilities. Now at LATCH every Thursday from 5:30-6:30pm.

Contact Jane on 897756, or just turn up.

LITTON CHENEY SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The February Village Walk was in glorious sunshine around Littlebredy and through the Valley of the Stones - a really great foretaste of spring.

Talking of which, what is the first great combination of the year? The arrival of Spring and the **DUCK RACE** - Sunday April 8th is the date - Main Street is the place - Noon is the starting time.

Better to get there early to buy your ducks, then follow them bobbing along the stream to the White Horse to collect your winnings, perhaps whilst having a drink and a burger.

An early reminder that the **BRIDE VALLEY NAVIGATIONAL CHALLENGE** is on Friday 25th May ,6.00pm at the White Horse. More next month or visit the village website www.littoncheney.org.uk

Ron Davidson LCSC 482661

THE VILLAGE FETE

Proceeds for the upkeep of St. Mary's Church.

The fete is earlier this year because of the Jubilee, and will be held at LATCH on Saturday 5th May from 2.00pm onwards. All the usual stalls, games and entertainment will be there, plus a few extra surprises!

Cakes: Lots of your beautiful baking, bring on the day please. Also tray bakes, scones and cakes for **Teas**.

House & Garden: please look out any household items, garden tools/ furniture and general tools in working order that could be exactly what someone else is looking for!

Provisions: fresh vegetables and produce on the day, please, as well as preserves, etc.

Plants: Lots needed on the day, labelled please so we know what they are!

Bottle Tombola: Collection round the village from 30th April.

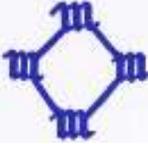
Toys: Clean, complete and in working order, please deliver on the day.

Books, Gifts and Crafts, and items for the White Elephant or House & Garden stalls may be delivered to stall-holders in advance - please contact Freddie Spicer (482617) or David Taylor (482532) for further information or with offers of help.

Looking forward to seeing you on the day - bring all your friends and family for a great afternoon!

PUNCKNOWLE & W. BEXINGTON

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: ELIZABETH SLATER
1, LITTON CLOSE, PUNCKNOWLE



ST MARY'S CHURCH CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 4th April from 2.00pm -4.00pm in the Village Hall Puncknowle. Activities will be based round the Easter Story; Art and Craft, games, Easter Garden and Flowers.

Registration forms can be obtained from the back of the Church or from Sue Brown via email sue.brown@btinternet.com .

*This will be followed at 4.00pm by an **Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic** in the playing field, organised by the Village Hall Social Committee.*

7TH APRIL EASTER SATURDAY: Help decorate the Church from 10.00am.

8TH APRIL EASTER SUNDAY: Family Communion 11.00am.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The APCM will be held on Thursday April 26th At 7.30pm in the Village Hall, followed by cheese and wine. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend



VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT & PICNIC

Parents are invited to join the children in the Playing Fields on Wednesday 4th April, from 4.00pm with a picnic and something to sit on. Contact Debbie Legge for more details.

VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

February Draw.

Carolyn Buckland	£15
David Robbins	£10

BRING AND SHARE 'BEST OF BRITISH' SUPPER.

Following on from last month's Fish and Chip Supper (hugely successful with the Hall absolutely packed), the next event will be a Bring and Share Supper on Saturday 28th April 7.30pm when the theme will be '**BEST OF BRITISH**'.

Bring a dish that celebrates British food at its best – savoury or sweet. On the other hand, if you would prefer to buy a plate of sausage & chips or



mash, please order in advance (£4 adult, £2.50 children includes ice cream afterwards). Contact Debbie Legge or Sue Brown for details before 21st April.

Bring your own drinks, or buy at the bar.

KEEP FIT

Keep fit Continues on Wednesdays from 2.00 to 3.00pm in the Village Hall. Spaces are available for a few more people in this class. Come and improve you general fitness.

PUNCKNOWLE ART GROUP

We would like to thank Sallie for all her hard work in preparing our workshop on 'sepia' and for providing materials. It was great fun.

On 13th April we have 'hints and tips' and on 27th a watercolour workshop with Annabell Wilson. On 6th May we hope to hold an Exhibition and Plant Sale at Patria, West Bexington. More details next month.

Christine Molony

ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

The Annual Village meeting for residents of Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington will be held on Tuesday 24th April 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall in Puncknowle. Everyone is welcome to attend & raise any local issues/ comments. There will be reports from many local clubs and groups and refreshments will be served.

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

It is hoped to have a Big Lunch on Sunday 3rd June on Hoopers Lane, all are invited. In the evening it is hoped to have another fish and chip supper in the village hall and playing field if the weather is fine.

Anyone who would like to help me organise this event can you contact me on debbielegge@hotmail.com.

CAROL BENNETT AND FAMILY would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, prayers, offers of help, kind words, or for popping in to visit us - for



all the support and affection shown by so many people in the Bride Valley during John's illness and afterwards. His funeral and Celebration of Life Party went so well, just as he planned it all.

Fifteen years ago, when we found Mrs Hopkin's bungalow for sale in Looke Lane, we were stunned by the views and went full steam ahead to buy it. It was not somewhere I ever imagined that John would settle as he was a real townie, previously - but he did, and often said that he had never felt so at home or content as in Puncknowle.

LONG BREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: CAROLINE MORRISH-BANHAM

TEL: 482757

EMAIL: mark_banham@btinternet.com



100 CLUB

FEBRUARY 2012

£25	no. 82	Robert Maltby
£15	no. 16	Percy Bastable
£ 5	no. 30	Barbara Bastable

WELCOME to the Stewart family, who have come to Honeylands. **KELLY & ROSS** and children **JOHN, JAMIE, JENSON** and baby **JOE** plus dogs.

We hope they enjoy living in Long Bredy.



MARGARET AND RICHARD COOK would like to thank the Reverend Bob Thorn for the lovely service and thank everybody that came to Johns funeral.

There were 106 people in the Church and £555.50 has been sent to the Chalbury Unit, where John spent the last nine months being looked after very well. Thank you.

LONG BREDY VILLAGE HALL

To hire our historic, traditional and atmospheric village hall with large dance floor and well appointed kitchen at modest rates please contact Sara Winter on s.winter922@btinternet.com.

SHIPTON GORGE

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: BARBARA CHAMBERS

WEST COURT, BROOK STREET, SHIPTON GORGE

bjc39@btinternet.com TEL: 01308 897482



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

HOLY COMMUNION

At the Holy Communion Service on 4th March, we were honoured to welcome Graham, Bishop of Sherborne, to lead our worship together with Bob. The service was most enjoyable.

Thank you to all who helped to prepare the church, to the bell-ringers and to those who served coffee after the service.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 25th April at 7.30pm for the election of church officials. Light refreshments will be provided. Linda Buck holds the electoral roll – please contact her if you would like your name added to or deleted from this list.

EASTER SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY 6TH APRIL – Litany, 10.00am.

EASTER SUNDAY 8TH APRIL – Holy Communion, 9.30am.

Vicky Thomas

SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL

SHIPTON SPRING CLEAN

The Parish Council is this year taking part in West Dorset's Spring Clean Campaign and is organising a tidy and clean up of the village on Saturday 21st April. This is part of "The Big Tidy Up" organised by "Keep Britain Tidy" and gives us an opportunity to all get together and make the village spick and span before the summer. We will mainly be simply picking up litter around the village, and rubbish bags, gloves and hi-viz tabards will be provided for all those taking part.

We will be meeting at 10.00am in the New Inn car park and hope that as many people as possible will come along and help in this task. As "many hands make light work" we hope that if enough villagers come to lend a hand, this shouldn't take more than an hour. We look forward to seeing you !

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

A reminder that the Parish Council still has two vacancies that can be filled by co-option and would be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the council and helping in its work. If you feel you would like to get involved as a councillor for the village, then please contact either the Parish Clerk, Paula Biss, on 898088 or the Chairman, Mary Boughton, on 897958 for further details.

SHIPTON GORGE VILLAGE SOCIETY (SGVS)

The following is advance notice of three events which are planned for May.

A TWO PART 'TALK AND SLIDE SHOW'

by local nature expert and photographer - **Colin Varndell**. He will be focusing on subjects from your own garden including plants, wild flowers, insects, birds and mammals. The two part show will be divided by a supper consisting of a sausage casserole.

Wednesday 2nd May, Village Hall 7.00pm: tickets from Sally Parker (897168) @ £6.50 each.

QUIZ NIGHT AND SUPPER.

The quiz will be set and run by Simon Cleveland in his very own 'unique' style. The content of the supper is yet to be finalised.

Saturday, 19th May Village Hall 7.00pm: tickets again from Sally Parker (897168) @ £6.50 each.

GARDEN PARTY AND PLANT SWAP. The SGVS Marquee will be erected at the rear of the car park where teas/coffees and cakes etc..will be served. Tables/Chairs will be provided. We will have use of the Garden and the Pub will be open for the duration of the Event. Please come along and participate and meet our new Landlady Marilyn, and view her new interior design - if you haven't already.

Saturday, 26th May The New Inn from 2.00pm

Terry Diver - Chairman

VILLAGE HALL TRUST 100 CLUB

£20	Ticket 110	Phyl Webster
£10	Ticket 83	Doreen Rogers
£ 5	Ticket 105	Jan Sorrell

<p>BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: IAN IBBOTSON, 21 NORBURTON, BURTON BRADSTOCK ian.ibbotson@btconnect.com Tel: 01308 898484</p>	
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BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 18th May 2012, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Burton Bradstock. All Members are cordially invited to attend.

In accordance with the Rules, nominations for the Committee must be received by the Hon. Secretary on or before the 14th May 2012. The present Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer are all willing to continue to serve, if re-elected, and there is one vacancy on the Committee. We are also seeking someone to coordinate volunteers for serving refreshments (tea, coffee and biscuits) at our monthly meetings, which can be done without joining the Committee. We really would appreciate some new people and ideas to keep our Society fresh. If you are interested, could you please contact me on 897365. At the end of the AGM, there will be wine and light refreshments.

As you will see in your Programme card, our Coffee Morning and sale of cakes and plants takes place the next day, Saturday 19th May, from

10.15am to 12noon, again in the Village Hall. Could I ask, please, for your usual generosity in donating cakes and plants to help raise funds for our Annual Flower & Produce Show in July. Please contact any Committee Member or bring along your contributions on the morning. Many thanks in advance.

Carol Lumley, Honorary Secretary

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

1st to 7th June

The provisional Programme was given in some detail last month and the final Programme will appear as an insert in the May BVN.



All Burton Bradstock villagers are invited to the 'Big Lunch' Street Party on Sunday 3rd June from 1.00pm to 3.00pm as long as you register for a ticket. Details about how to do this will come to every house in the Village during April. At this party a Jubilee Commemorative Mug will be given to the children.

A number of people have volunteered to take photographs throughout the celebrations as a record of the events and parents/guardians should be aware of this. Photographs will be displayed on the village website and in other publications as a record of the event. By attending, you are giving permission for any photographs in which you (or your family) are included to be published in this way. Please note however, in any publicised photographs, no names will be mentioned unless permission is specifically requested and granted.

In addition, the Diamond Jubilee Committee hopes to put a Commemorative Plaque (Village Centre Map) on a stone plinth on the Village Green.

If anyone has anything that they wish to discuss with regard to the celebrations would they please contact Susan Moores on 01308 897673 (Chairman - Diamond Jubilee Committee).

BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE SOCIETY

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

We were pleased to welcome back Richard Edmonds, the Dorset County Council Earth Science Manager, who told us about recent fossil introductions into our local museums and how this has been made possible. Richard is happy to be called "a modern day Mary Anning" as a native of Lyme Regis and an avid fossil collector whose passion has become his profession.

He reminded us of the world significance of the Jurassic Coast which we are so fortunate to enjoy on our doorstep.

He explained that collectors of fossils are now encouraged especially

on the sea shore where the fossils will ultimately be destroyed by the tides. This has led to a number, particularly of professional, fossil collectors making very significant finds. They then expertly free the fossils from the surrounding rock and are able to present the specimens most effectively. This painstaking work is very dusty as was evidenced with photographs of Richard himself looking extremely dirty!!

He has been responsible for raising and spending money on the purchase of some exceptional fossils which have been displayed in Bridport, Lyme Regis and Dorchester museums.

It was interesting to note that the prices paid for archaeological finds has been very high for many years but only now are similar sums being paid for geological finds especially fossils. Richard felt that this was only fair as archaeology only involves the thin upper layer of the earth's surface whereas geology runs much deeper. Furthermore, the efforts needed to expose fossils are often much greater and some of the finds are very much rarer.

It is ironic that coastal erosion is responsible for the exposure of many fossils but this process is threatening the very future of the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. It is hoped by Richard and his fellow fossil collectors that, as and when the sea wins, it may be replaced by a much larger building further inland capable of exhibiting many more important finds.

Richard was fulsomely thanked for his talk by Derek Parsons who described himself as Burton's oldest living fossil!!

BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

For Bookings – Telephone 01308 897673

Burton Bradstock Village Hall Trust (BBVHT)

"200 CLUB" (WDDC Licence no: SL0080)

Congratulations to the winners of the March

2012 Draw

1 st	£41.20	No 113:	Mrs Elaine Tame
2 nd	£20.60	No 197:	Mr K. Butcher
3 rd	£10.30	No 176:	Mrs Maureen Miller

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the April-December draws should telephone Alan Clarke on 01308 897051 and let him have £9 – one pound for each of the remaining 9 draws in the year. There are double prizes in the December draw.

QUIZ NIGHT WITH FISH AND CHIP SUPPER



There will be a Quiz Night in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 21st April. Either bring along a team of 8, or join a team on the night and enjoy not only a fun quiz but also a Fish and Chip Supper. Ticket cost of £7.00 will



include the supper and tickets will be available from Burton Bradstock Post Office from Saturday 31st March until midday Friday 20th April. There will be a cash bar and doors will open at 7.00pm for prompt 7.30pm Quiz start. Those who have a team of eight can identify a team leader and give their name to Susan Moores (01308 897673) who will then reserve a table for that team.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Village Hall Committee is presently looking for at least two new Committee Members. If you think you would like to join the Committee and help run events to maintain the Village Hall please contact Susan Moores (01308 897673).

AN EVENING WITH LES STOCKER MBE – “LIFE AT TIGGYWINKLES”

Les Stocker is the founder of the famous St TiggYWinkles Wildlife Hospital. He has recently bought a home in Burton Bradstock and now divides his time between his new home and the hospital. Les will be the first person to give a presentation under the heading of *BurtonLive!* a series of shows which will take place at Burton Bradstock village hall over the next 12 months. All bar profits will go to help further village hall improvements and all profits from the show to TiggYWinkles. The show, on



April 27th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, promises to be an interesting mix of the highs and lows of running the wildlife hospital over the years. Les has most recently been seen on BBC's "One Show" and CBBC's "Blue Peter".

Tickets are £5 and available from Burton Bradstock Post Office, at burtonlive@allelectricproductions.co.uk, and by phoning 07796302539

BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS' ALI BABA



A big thank you to all who took part, helped back stage and most of all, came to watch this fun pantomime at the end of February.

We have a lot of fun, while working hard to create something for other people to enjoy. The camaraderie is infectious, with many friends made. Sharing trials and jokes along the way is what putting on a production is all about. We take it seriously, and do our best, so thank you audience, for all your positive comments.

Like all activities in the valley we are only able to function and create shows and plays if people are willing to take an active part in all aspects of stage productions.

If you would like further information, see photos of past productions, and make contact please look at our web site: www.burtonbradstock.org.uk or ring Daphne Ekins, 01308 897415.

BURTON BRADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council on behalf of the parishioners of Burton Bradstock would like to express their thanks to the newly formed Burton Bradstock Volunteer Group who have already made such a difference to the areas around the bus shelter in the High Street, Mill Street near the Post Office and in Grove Road. Other projects are being looked at, such as work in the Play area and tidying up the verges between Cliff Road and Beach Road.

The group meets on the 3rd Tuesday in the month at 9.00am in the Reading Room.

If you are interested in coming along any time you will be most welcome, for further information please contact the Parish Clerk on 01308 459001.

BBVH - VILLAGE FAYRE

The Burton Bradstock Village Fayre will once again be held in the Rectory Gardens on Bank Holiday Monday 4th June at 2.00pm this year as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Your support in previous years has made this event a great success with the money raised contributing towards the preservation project which the Village Hall Committee continues to undertake.

There will be many stalls and games with plenty for children to do and again they can test their speed and agility over a fun Obstacle Course.

In order to make this event a success we need volunteers to help with the stalls and games and we need donations for the stalls, the General Raffle and Bottle Tombola. If you can help in any way please contact Graham Moody Tel: 01308 898548. More details will appear in the May edition of the BVN.

People who reach the top of the tree are only those who haven't got the qualifications to detain them at the bottom.

Contrary to general belief, I do not believe that friends are necessarily the people you like best, they are merely the people who got there first.

Peter Ustinov (1921 - 2004), "Dear Me" (1977)

BEYOND THE VALLEY

GOOD BOOKS

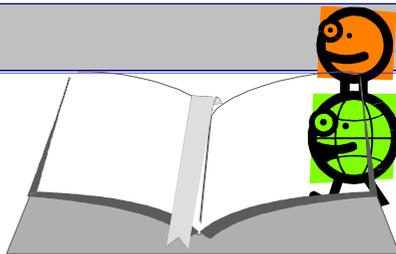
St Mary's Old School, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3RL,
Tel: 01308 420483

E-mail: orders@goodbooksbridport.co.uk

Website: www.goodbooksbridport.co.uk

Home of: Bridport Book of Hours, Threads of Hope,
Pathways to Care (Bridport & District Good Neighbours & Hopeful Hampers).

Opening hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 9.00am-1.00pm, Wed & Fri 9.00am-3.00pm,



BRIDPORT MUSIC-ATHON

Saturday 9 June 2012' Bridport United Church, East Street, 9.00am-5.00pm

Calling solo singers & musicians, church & community choirs and music groups, school choirs and bands, music teachers and pupils! Sponsor forms are ready for Bridport's 4th MusicAthon, raising money this year for Bridport Young Performers Scholarship, helping young people with costs of singing/dancing/acting locally and at performing arts schools and West Dorset Home Start, giving practical support to young families in our area in need of help.

Contact for more details and forms: jo@jovian.co.uk or 01308 427851, or collect from Good Books in Gundry Lane.

ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

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

On the perils of the church picnic

*The Rectory
St. James the Least*

My dear Nephew Darren

A Spring parish picnic is always a good idea - although you must bear some details in mind. First, whatever date you choose will turn out be the wettest of the year. English picnics are invariably eaten under umbrellas while wearing Wellingtons and the sort of determinedly cheerful look that defies anyone to admit they would rather be home in front of the fire.

Second, no matter how early in the year, wasps will emerge from hibernation in huge numbers, and terrorise Mrs Hornby with the picnic baskets. And

thirdly, someone will bring along their (hungry) dog. Last time Colonel Psmith's spaniel outdid herself: she leapt up, head butted a piece of Madeira cake out of Mrs Horngirdle's hand - and ate the lot - before even a crumb could touch the ground. A good piece of field work, that.

Half way through the afternoon, some over-excited member of the party will decide to arrange a game of rounders. (Mr Poppinjay tried this once one year, as in his youth he had been athletic. Fortunately, the ambulance got there quickly, and the ankle healed well.)

Then the mothers who join in will completely ignore the ball sailing past them, while they discuss some burning topic of Mother's Union gossip. In the meantime, the young choir members, who were the reason for arranging the game in the first place, will have drifted off to the lake to throw stones at the ducks while no one is looking.

For our annual picnic, I use my own car, making sure it is so full of clerical robes and church magazines that no one else can fit in. Throughout the day, I keep returning to it to make sure no one has broken in to steal the Communion wine - and taking the opportunity to catch up on the cricket scores. By the middle of the afternoon, I usually remember that some urgent duty, such as blessing a traction engine, demands my departure.

The rest of the party, by now soaked, cold and, knowing the coach to take them home is still several hours off, only wish they had such demanding work to tear them away.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

SUDOKU

Solutions on page 38

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BEEKEEPING MONTH BY MONTH

Over the next months, Ruth and Ian Homer of Bride Valley Apiaries, Litton Cheney, are giving us an insight into the world of Bee-Keeping.



April 2012

Why Bees Swarm

With all of the species of bees which we play host to in the UK, individual queens will set up a new home and start to produce eggs which will develop into new members of that species. In the case of solitary bees (the sort you see nesting in brick walls or in sandy banks), the female lays a small number (up to 60) of eggs each of which develops into another adult which carries on their solitary habits. In the case of bumble bees, the queen lays eggs which develop into members of a small community of 40 to 200 members who survive that summer when the colony dies out and new queens go into hibernation, ready to start the process again. But honeybees are very, very different



Firstly, honeybees are different because they live in large colonies made up of anything up to 60,000 individuals and are referred to as social insects. Secondly, they are different because, although the queen lays eggs and produces new members of the colony in the same way as other species, in the case of honeybees, we also have a phenomenon known as colony reproduction. This is a where one large colony is able to divide into two more or less equal colonies, one headed by the old queen (and mother of all of the bees present) and one headed by a new queen – a daughter of the queen heading the other colony. This colony reproduction process will probably be already known to you as Swarming and, strangely, it is the time when the members of the swarm are the least interested in you, as their prime objective during this period is to get to a new prospective home. Before swarming, they always fill up with honey stores to tide them over and this makes for a very mellow temperament.

Swarming is not a spontaneous activity. The bees (and the beekeeper if he bothers to look) will know several weeks before it happens that they are intending to divide into two colonies. In general, it is the old queen, accompanied by a large number of flying bees which makes up the swarm, with her daughter taking over the “old” family home. Whilst this process is

not without risk, it gives both new colonies the maximum chance of survival. The “old” colony, headed by the new queen, has an established location together with stores but, often, the new queen has still to mate and so there will be an interruption in egg laying. The “new” colony, headed by the old queen, has much to do in that it has to find a permanent home and has to draw comb before the old queen can start to lay eggs. And this all takes place in typical English late spring or early summer weather.

Initially a swarm will travel only a couple of hundred metres at most from its original home where it will settle at a temporary location (a fence post, a tree or sometimes in a hedge) and once there, scout bees will search the area for a more permanent home (a chimney, a hollow tree stump or maybe an abandoned bee hive). Progressively, these “scout” bees will return from their various adventures and demonstrate to the other bees the virtues of the site they have chosen, using the dance language usually reserved for demonstrating the location of a good source of stores. Eventually, after further investigation of the competing sites, an agreement will be reached on a single site and all of the bees will then take off for this new home.

So you may say, why do beekeepers let it happen and lose valuable honey bees? A famous researcher, Mark Winston, called swarming ‘a multifactoral threshold controlled concept’, which means that many factors coincide. An observant beekeeper will be aware of this and make preparations to artificially swarm their colony, enabling the bees to think that they have swarmed but keeping them all in the apiary. This is a manipulation which new beekeepers learn on their beginners course. Sometimes, the bees still get away and we are called to take a swarm when it lands in a garden. As long as we can reach it safely we can collect the swarm in a skep or box and rehome it back in the apiary. Swarms from an unknown source may carry disease and it is best for these to be rehomed away from existing bees until a health inspection can be carried out.

And so to the old saying –

A swarm of bees in May

Is worth a load of hay;

A swarm of bees in June

Is worth a silver spoon;

A swarm of bees in July

Is not worth a fly.

As with so much of folk lore it contains some obvious truths – an early swarm is often indicative of a long and productive summer whereas a late swarm (eg July) will generally be too late to benefit from the summer crop.

Watch out for this years first swarm and see if the folklore is true!

Ruth & Ian Homer



EASTER EGGS

Easter eggs have been in the shops since just after Christmas but they are not a new idea. The egg has been used as a symbol of rebirth and new life since before Christian times.

The English name for Easter is said to come from Eostre, a northern goddess of spring. The rebirth of growing things in the spring, after the long dark days of winter, was a time of rejoicing in the pagan world and many of their rites and symbols have been carried over into our Christian festival of Easter.

In pagan times they celebrated the return of light and warmth to the world but our Easter celebrates so much more. We celebrate the fact that Jesus died for us and yet is not dead. We celebrate because Jesus overcame death.

And if all those brightly wrapped chocolate eggs in the shops help us to remember that Easter means new life, new life in Jesus, then good – I'll have lots!



BEAUTIFUL EGGS

Chocolate eggs are a new idea; the traditional Easter egg is a decorated hen's egg. Why not make some as special gifts to share the good news of Easter?



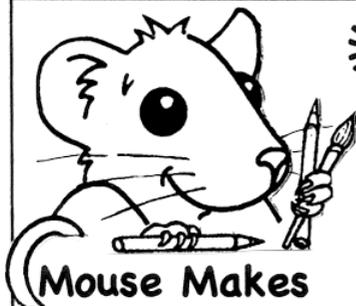
You can decorate them in the traditional method of wrapping eggs in onion skins and then boiling them. This gives a mottled, golden look to the egg (or try a couple of slices of beetroot for a different effect).

If you are not going to eat the egg afterwards you can decorate it with paint or felt tip pens. Painted eggs can look very special if, when the paint is dry, you stick on sequins and small beads. Rather than waste a perfectly good egg find out how to 'blow' the egg out of the shell – then you can eat the egg as well as having a perfect empty shell to decorate.



Why did the egg go into the jungle?

Because he wanted to be an eggs-plorer.



Jesus Christ is risen today!
our triumphant holy day,
who did once upon the cross
suffer to redeem our loss.

Sing we to our God above
praise eternal as his love,
for the Lord from death is raised
Father, Spirit, Son be praised!
ALLELUIA!



Into Jerusalem
Luke 19:28-48

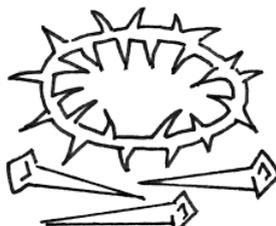


The Last Supper
Luke 22:7-38

glue to 'Betrayed'



Betrayed
Luke 22:1-3, 39-53

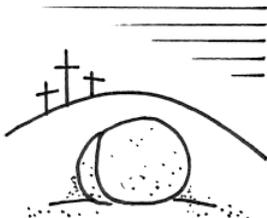


Condemned
Luke 22:54-23:25



Crucified
Luke 23:26-49

glue to 'Buried'



Buried
Luke 23:50-56



Risen
Luke 24:1-12



Jesus is Alive!
Luke 24:13-53

Make a mini Easter book: Cut out the strips, glue them together then zig-zag fold along the dotted lines.



Apr12

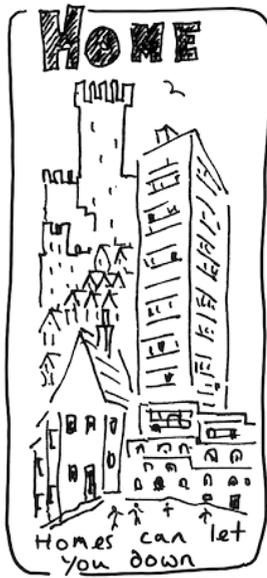
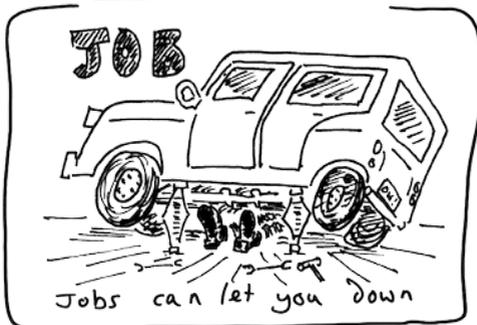
I'll never let you down!

Let down by
 Your job?
 By your parents?
 Your home?
 Your bank?
 Your health?
 Can you have confidence
 In anything today?
 But Jesus died
 and rose again
 So you won't feel
 let down ever.
 The world
 will change
 But believing
 In Jesus
 Means you
 Are saved
 From the world,
 The devil and sin...
 If you believe,
 God says:
 "You're OK
 and I'll never
 let you down!"
 This is the gospel,
 The GOOD NEWS!!
 Don't be ashamed:
 Have confidence
 in it!

Sound good to you?

Read more in
 Romans 1:16ff

Bible Sketchbook



William Mather ©

Jesus rose for me

Bible story: Matthew 28:1-10

Activity: An Easter basket

You will need:

- One paper plate per child
- Coloured crayons or felt-tipped pens
- Scissors
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Wool
- Sticky tape
- Coloured card in an assortment of colours
- Craft sticks

Other ideas

- Make flowers out of tissue paper and glue on to the craft sticks.
- Draw and decorate paper Easter eggs to glue on to the sticks.

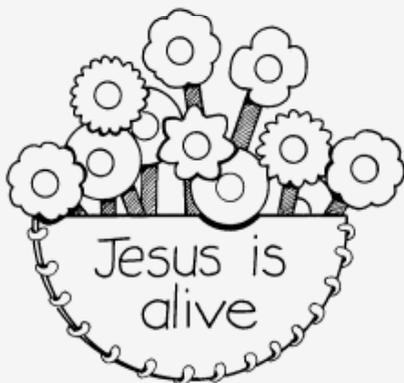
Instructions

Cut off the outer rim of the paper plate. Cut the inner circle in half. On the outside of one half plate, write 'Jesus is alive'. Use crayons or felt-tipped pens to add flowers around the words.

Draw flowers on the outside of the other half plate. Hold the plates together and punch holes 2.5cm apart around the round edges.

Cut pieces of wool 50cm in length. Knot one end of the wool and tape the other to serve as a needle. Lace the wool around the plates.

Cut paper flowers out of card and glue them to the craft sticks. Put the card flowers in the Easter basket.



SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

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

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



The passenger tapped the cab driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the pavement, and stopped inches from a department store window. For a second everything went quiet in the cab, then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared me half to death!" The passenger apologized and said he didn't realize that a little tap

could scare him so much.

The driver replied, "You're right. I'm sorry. Really, it's not your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years."

DIARY OF EVENTS: APRIL 2012

Sun	1	7.00pm One World Worship	Othona Community
Mon	2	9.30am Water colour class	LATCH
		11.00am Thorner's Discovery Area Work Party	Thorner's School
		2.00pm Craft Session	LATCH
		4.00pm Pilates	LATCH
		7.15pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		8.30pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle
Tue	3	2.00pm Bride Valley Knitting Group	Ourganics, Litton Cheney
		7.00pm Bride Valley Youth Club	LATCH
		7.30pm Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council	Village Hall, Puncknowle
Wed	4	2.00pm Puncknowle Keep Fit	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		2.00pm Children's Easter Workshop	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		4.00pm Easter Egg Hunt	Puncknowle Playing Field
		7.30pm Book Club	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		7.30pm Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/629
Thu	5	9.30am Church Working Party	St Mary's, Litton Cheney
		2.30pm BV Guild of Health Meditation	Othona Community
		5.30pm Zumba	LATCH
Sat	7	10.00am Church Decorating for Easter	Holy Trinity, Swyre
		10.00am Church Decorating for Easter	St Mary's, Puncknowle
Sun	8	12.00noon Annual Duck Race	Main Street, Litton Cheney
		2.00pm Opening of Walled Garden	Littlebredy
Mon	9	9.30am Water colour class	LATCH
		4.00pm Pilates	LATCH
		7.15pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		8.30pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle
Wed	11	2.00pm Puncknowle Keep Fit	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		7.30pm Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/629
		7.30pm Ladybirds "Abbotsbury Swannery"	LATCH
Thu	12	5.30pm Yoga	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		5.30pm Zumba	LATCH
		7.30pm BV Films "The Help"	LATCH
Fri	13	9.45am Yoga	LATCH
		10.15am Puncknowle Art Club	Village Hall, Puncknowle
Sat	14	7.30pm Keeeeeep Dancing	LATCH
Sun	15	12.30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Holy Trinity, Swyre
Mon	16	9.30am Water colour class	LATCH
		2.00pm Craft Session	LATCH
		4.00pm Pilates	LATCH
		7.30pm BVGC - Sowing Seeds & Propagation	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		7.30pm RBL(Ab) Talk "Coast Watch"	Portesham Village Hall

Tue	17	9.00am Burton Bradstock Volunteer Group 12.30pm Puncknowle & Swyre Lunch Club 2.00pm Bride Valley Knitting Group 7.00pm Bride Valley Youth Club 7.30pm Whist Drive Women's Institute AGM	Reading Room, B. Bradstock Village Hall, Puncknowle Ourganics, Litton Cheney LATCH Village Hall, Puncknowle Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Wed	18	2.00pm Puncknowle Keep Fit 7.30pm Eastern Valley Home Group 7.30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Village Hall, Puncknowle phone 897068/629 St Mary's, Litton Cheney
Thu	19	2.30pm BV Guild of Health Meditation 5.30pm Yoga 5.30pm Zumba	Othona Community Village Hall, Puncknowle LATCH
Fri	20	9.45am Yoga 7.30pm Quiz Evening	LATCH Littlebredy Village Hall
Sat	21	9.30am "The Well" Quiet Day 10.00am Annual Village Spring Clean 10.30am Village Café 7.00pm Quiz + Fish & Chip Supper	The Rectory, Burton Bradstock New Inn, Shipton Gorge LATCH Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Sun	22	12.30pm Thorner's Discovery Area Work Party	Thorner's School
Mon	23	9.30am Water colour class Thorner's School Breakfast 4.00pm Pilates 7.15pm Zumba 8.30pm Zumba RBL(BV) Social Evening	LATCH LATCH LATCH Village Hall, Puncknowle Village Hall, Puncknowle Three Horseshoes
Tue	24	7.30pm Annual Parish Assembly	Village Hall, Puncknowle
Wed	25	2.00pm Puncknowle Keep Fit 7.30pm Eastern Valley Home Group 7.30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Village Hall, Puncknowle phone 897068/629 St Martin's, Shipton Gorge
Thu	26	5.30pm Yoga 5.30pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle LATCH
Fri	27	9.45am Yoga 10.15am Puncknowle Art Club 7.30pm An Evening with Les Stocker	LATCH Village Hall, Puncknowle Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Sat	28	7.30pm Best of British Bring & Share Supper 9.30am Water colour class 4.00pm Pilates 7.15pm Zumba 8.30pm Zumba	Village Hall, Puncknowle LATCH LATCH Village Hall, Puncknowle Village Hall, Puncknowle

BRIDPORT MOBILE LIBRARY, 2012-2013

Route B1 - Fortnightly on Tuesdays
 Route B3 - Fortnightly on Thursdays
 Tel 01308 422778

Route

Puncknowle	B1	St Mary's Church	9.20 - 9.40am
		Napier Close	9.45 - 10.20am
Swyre	B1	Manor Farm	10.25 - 10.40am
WestBexington	B1	Telephone Box	10.50 - 11.25am
Long Bredy	B3	Telephone Box	2.25 - 3.10pm
Litton Cheney	B3	Bus Shelter	3.20 - 4.15pm

Route B1

Apr	10,24
May	8,22
Jun	19
Jul	3,17,31
Aug	14,28
Sep	11,25
Oct	9,23
Nov	6,20
Dec	4,18
Jan	15,29
Feb	12,26
Mar	12,26

Route B3

Apr	12,26
May	10,24
Jun	7,21
Jul	5,19
Aug	2,16,30
Sep	13,27
Oct	11,25
Nov	8,22
Dec	6,20
Jan	3,17,31
Feb	14,28
Mar	14,28

WEEKDAY SERVICES, APRIL 2012 (SEE ALSO EASTER WEEK SERVICES ON PAGE 3)

Monday	2 nd	9.00am	Long Bredy
Wednesday	4 th	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thursday	5 th	9.00am	Swyre
Monday	9 th	9.00am	Littlebredy
Wednesday	11 th	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thursday	12 th	9.00am	Puncknowle
Friday	13 th	9.00am	Litton Cheney
Monday	16 th	9.00am	Long Bredy
Wednesday	18 th	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thursday	19 th	9.00am	Swyre
Friday	20 th	9.00am	Shipton Gorge
Monday	23 rd	9.00am	Littlebredy
Wednesday	25 th	9.30am	Burton Bradstock
		10.00am	Burton Bradstock Holy Communion
Thursday	26 th	9.00am	Puncknowle
Friday	27 th	9.00am	Litton Cheney
Monday	30 th	9.00am	Long Bredy



SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE BRIDE VALLEY CHURCHES: April 2012

	1st Sunday 1 April Palm Sunday	Good Friday 6 April	2nd Sunday 8 April Easter Day	3rd Sunday 15 April Easter 2	4th Sunday 22 April Easter 3	5th Sunday 29 April Easter 4
Burton Bradstock	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Songs of Praise 6.30 Evening Prayer	12.00 – 3.00 DEVOTION	11.00 HOLY COMMUNION 6.30 EVENING PRAYER	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Holy Communion (By Extension)	9.30 Family Communion 11.00 Morning Prayer 6.30 Evening Prayer	8.00 Holy Communion
Shipton Gorge	11.00 Holy Communion	10.00 LITANY	9.30 HOLY COMMUNION (by Extension)	9.30 Holy Communion	11.00 Family Service 6.30 Evening Prayer	
Chilcombe			8.00 HOLY COMMUNION	6.30 Evening Prayer		
Swyre	6.30 Evening Prayer		11.00 HOLY COMMUNION (by Extension)	11.00 Morning Worship	11.00 Holy Communion	
Puncknowle	9.30 Holy Communion		6.00 HOLY COMMUNION <i>CHAPEL IN THE WOODS</i> 11.00 FAMILY COMMUNION	8.00 Holy Communion	11.00 Family Service	
Litton Cheney	9.30 Morning Worship		9.30 HOLY COMMUNION	9.30 Morning Prayer	9.30 Holy Communion (by Extension)	8.00 Holy Communion
Long Bredy	11.00 Holy Communion		9.30 HOLY COMMUNION	11.00 Morning Worship		11.00 United Service
Littlebredy		10.00 LITANY	11.00 HOLY COMMUNION		11.00 Holy Communion (by Extension)	