

**The Bride Valley News
January 2007**

A Happy New Year to all our readers

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Deadline for February edition: 12th January
(Copy to Village Correspondents by 10th January please)



THE RECTORY,
BURTON BRADSTOCK

From the Clergy



THE RECTORY,
LITTON CHENEY

"Now is the time to say goodbye" sang Dud and Pete at the end of their TV shows last century. So say Anna and I to the people of the Bride Valley today. All of which set me thinking about words of parting and how they can change and evolve over the years. As I understand it, "goodbye" properly expresses the hope that God will be with the other person after the departing. "Farewell" means much the same except that it does not involve God's blessing. "Cheerio" adds joy or cheer to a departing, shortened to "cheers" in anticipation of the departure of a glug of alcoholic beverage down one's throat. "See you" or similar appeared in the national youth vocabulary about 50 years ago if I remember correctly. This avoids the finality of "farewell", and if it is taken seriously, puts a duty on the speaker. But now we have a new expression.

Whereas "goodbye" is a petition to God, and "see you" is an exhortation to yourself (both if properly understood), "take care" is an instruction to the person you are leaving. That it is an instruction can be emphasised by saying "you" before "take care" and even "of yourself" after: "you take care of yourself". Clearly the person saying this is wonderfully concerned for the other's welfare, and is lovingly insistent that the friend keeps his/herself safe and sound. There is a part of me however that is not too happy with all this, as it could be interpreted as wanting the friend to live an utterly self-centred life, ensuring that at all times and in all places there is a minimal risk of harm. How boring! Life is unique and the most wonderful gift of God who, we believe, wills his creation to live life to the full. Our modern "take care" can also be understood as an encouragement to selfishness. "Goodbye", "farewell", "see you" are really kinds of verbal departure signals, but "take care" seems to be more earnest than these, and encourages the other to concentrate on his/herself. How I would love to hear "take care" being replaced by "be caring" for example, which could be taken as being about oneself, but which also carries a hint of selflessness. In living more fully and less selfishly, we are beginning to pay attention to the two great Christian commandments: love God and love each other as ourselves. For me, that's important.

Goodbye then, people of the Bride Valley and all our readers, "God be w' ye". Anna and I thank you profoundly for the privilege of being able to settle amongst and having the responsibility of doing our best to minister the love of God to you. We thank you enormously too for the love and friendship we have received. Please pray for Rector Bob and the whole Bride Valley Ministry Team, be caring always, and may God bless you richly in this New Year and all your days.

Anthony Ashwell

(from 25th January-ish at: Ven Cottage, Five Acres, Higher Sea Lane, Charmouth, DT6 6BE. Tel. 01297560847 anthonyashwell@aol.com)

From the Registers

Funerals and Burials:

Marie Mathilda Elliott. Marie's Funeral was on 28th November 2006 at St. Mary's Church, Puncknowle, and a goodly congregation gathered to say their goodbyes to a remarkable lady, who despite many sadnesses and because of the love and support of her Godfrey, lived to a fine age.

Nancy Lewis. Nancy's Funeral was held at Yeovil in the morning, and her Thanksgiving Service in the afternoon of 1st December 2006 at St. Mary's Church, Litton Cheney. Nancy was the widow of Gwyn, who was Rector of Litton Cheney, Puncknowle and Swyre in the early 80s. We remembered with great thanks and considerable emotion, a most cheerful lady, who gave so much to family and community.

To both families we extend our deepest sympathy.
May Marie and Nancy both rest in peace and rise in glory.

On Saturday 25th November, at St Michael and All Angels, Littlebredy, the funeral took place of the **Revd Canon Cosmo Gabriel Rivers Pouncey**.

Cosmo was ordained before the war, and served as a priest for over 70 years. His last appointment was that of Vicar of Tewkesbury, where he was instrumental in setting up a choir school; a reflection of his lifelong love of music. He continued to be active in his retirement in the Bride Valley, conducting services up until the last few years, when infirmity began to make its mark. Many will remember him as a friend and wise counsellor, possessed of a deep spiritual understanding; one whose certainties were in themselves a strength and encouragement. Even in his latter months, when he was cared for at home, he continued his lifelong habit of devotion in prayer and intercession for us all in the Valley and for many beyond. At his funeral service, his children, David and Elizabeth read lessons, Stephen gave an appreciation of his life, and Chris, himself a priest, gave the address and led the prayers.

A service of committal was held on Monday 27th November, at Weymouth Crematorium. On Friday 15th December, a service of thanksgiving was held at Tewkesbury Abbey, where Cosmo's ashes are interred with those of his late wife, Edith.

THE REV. CANON COSMO PONCEY

Catherine Williams and all her family would like to express their warmest thanks to all those who have sent cards, letters and donations following the death of her father, and to those who attended the funeral service in Littlebredy. Especial thanks to the Rev. Bob Thorn and his team for bringing weekly Communion to Cosmo over the past year, and for taking part in the funeral, and also to those friends who visited him at home so regularly over the years. Many thanks too to Dr. Paul Baird and the team at Portesham Surgery for all their care and support.

Valley Notes



Tiny Tots / Pram Service

Friday 12th January 11.00 a.m.

at St. Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock.

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

Yvette Smith. 898219

Mothers' Union

Thursday 25th January, 2.30 p.m. at St. Catherine's Cross, Shipton Gorge. Will members please bring their £13.00 tributes or alternatively send it to; Mrs. Wyn Smith(423800) BEFORE the meeting. Thank you.

Yvette Smith. 898219

East / West Wednesday House Groups

We meet on the following dates in January:

East 10th venue to be arranged

West 17th at 25 Bindbarrow, Burton Bradstock

East 24th venue to be arranged

West 31st at St Catherine's Cross, Shipton Gorge

to continue our studies in the 10 Commandments

Mike Read/Hugh Lindsay

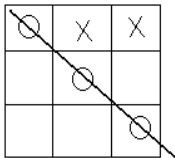
Bible Reading Fellowship Notes

Notes for the daily reading of the Bible (two series – “Guidelines” and “New Daylight”) are produced by the Bible Reading Fellowship. Those interested in receiving these (samples are available) please be in touch with me (tel: 01308-897849).

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

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

Hilary Mousley, BRF Group Secretary, 897849



Quizzes

January sees the start of the training sessions for the inter-church/community quizzes. Senior teams (11-18) from Shipton Gorge and Burton Bradstock are ready to start. Please can we have some more volunteers from the other villages.

Practice sessions for Junior teams (6-11) will commence this month at Thorner's School and hopefully at Burton Bradstock. We have some children (juniors) from Litton Cheney, Long Bredy, Little Bredy, West Bexington, Puncknowle, and Burton Bradstock, but as yet none from Swyre, Shipton Gorge or Chilcombe.

As I write this, early in December, most of the Junior teams are incomplete. So, when all the Christmas chocolates are eaten up and the festivities are over, see if you can be part of a team to represent your village later this year. We have eight volunteers to be trainers and/or quiz masters. We could still use some more. Also, is there a volunteer to make us a quizboard - big, but portable by car?

For more details please contact me on 01308 897780. Thank you.

Heather Rogers

First Steps Toddler Group

First meeting in 2007 - Wednesday 10th January

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

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

Burton Bradstock Playgroup

We are a village playgroup with an emphasis on children enjoying themselves and learning through play. We have strong links with the village - we take the children on regular walks through the village, we visit the Library (by kind permission of the Librarian), we play in the Rectory garden (by kind permission of Bob and Jean). We play in the Playground and we have strong connections with the School.

Last term among other activities we have been cooking, measuring our height and the size of our hands and feet, learning about caring for others and animals (we have been visited by various pets) Drawing, painting, sticking, toys and playdough and much much more!

Our opening times are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30 to 12.00 at the village hall.

We run a lunch club on Monday and Friday from 12.00 to 1.00.

There are still some spare places available at the play group for this term. If you have any queries please contact Anne-Marie on 01305 788221 or Audrey on 01308 897227.

We would like to thank the parents and the Post Office for fund-raising with the Christmas Draw.

On January 31st we will be serving coffee, tea, home made cakes and biscuits from 11.00am until 4.00pm, and, if you come during lunchtime, a cheese or meat roll with your drink. All donations will be for the Burton Bradstock Play Group. Come with your neighbours and friends and enjoy the sea view while you socialise at 'Stonehaven', 25 Bindbarrow, Burton Bradstock.

Fashion Show with Travelling Trends: 23rd March 7.00pm

Tickets cost £5.00, to include a glass of wine. Available from the Post Office or from the playgroup on the opening times, also from Mandy Burwood 01308 423519.



Bride Valley Fledglings News

Happy New Year to all readers! We welcomed Jacob Jobson into playgroup in December, and he is settling in well. He spent time along with the other children on Christmas activities - making decorations, cards, Christingle oranges - learning Christmas songs to sing to parents after their Christmas Party, decorating our Christmas Tree, and enjoying the Christmas play put on by Thorner's school children in the Hall. Father Christmas came to visit with small presents to finish off our party - such excitement! This term our Theme is all about "Our World" - starting with where we live - in the Bride Valley villages.

Our first big Christmas Market in the school - thanks to Mrs J. for letting us use the premises - went really well - a BIG success. It got a write up in the local papers - and we were delighted to have over 250 people come along to shop at the stalls (thank you stall holders), to join in the fun in the Christmas Crafts room, plus face painting, buy raffle tickets, and see our little ones and ex-Fledglings dress up and help sing Carols outside the Nativity Stable. Hope the animals liked it! I was very proud of the children who took part. The weather was kind to us - it stopped raining and blowing a gale so perhaps that was a good omen.

Raffle Winners were:

1st Prize: Linda Parsons (Gallon of Famous Grouse Whisky)

2nd Prize: Kate from Ralph's office (Whole Gammon of Ham)

3rd Prize : Paul Kelly (Hamper)

4th Prize : Jackie Daubeney (River Cottage Cook Book)

and there were more, all safely delivered.

We had lots of marvellous support from local traders and businesses - many thanks to all of them too, and to Billy Bragg for doing the Draw for us. I also want to thank the Committee members who put so much hard work into this event - which raised a grand total of **£1500** for the playgroup funds. WOW!

More fund raising news - our Webshop has raised £129 to date, thanks to online shoppers - so keep it up in this New Year - log on to www.buy.at/bridevalleyfledglings I did and visited ELC, Amazon, M&S, Adams for Kids and John Lewis for presents.

As it is January, there is a new QUIZ out - the theme is "Nursery Rhymes" - only £1 a go, so test your memories - or ask the kids. This quiz is available at all the usual places.

The current number of children registered in playgroup is 9 and as we are registered for up to 20 children, there are places available. Our own dedicated room/s at Thorner's school in Litton Cheney is warm, friendly and full of great resources for children to play and learn - or learn through play! In good weather we have the use of the playground and playing field, or the hall when wet.

We are open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday for morning and afternoon sessions plus Lunch Club from 12.00 - 1.00pm. On Thursday afternoons, younger children can come along to our "Nestlings" sessions. For information, please ring our Chair, Rachel Maltby on 482246, or myself on 897771 or 482410 - or drop in to see us in action and have a chat.

Carol Bennett (Playleader)

Burton Bradstock CE VC School

Just when I had got used to writing '2006' as the date we are already into '2007'. This term we are looking forward to the challenge of another round of the Kenway Cup. Last month we defeated St. Michael's, Lyme Regis 3-0 in the gathering gloom of a winter's late afternoon. The score-line flattered us slightly but much credit must go to some determined defending, polished finishing of the chances we did get, and some stirring support from our home fans.

As I reflect upon the fact that once again we are at the start of a New Year I wonder what lies in store for the months ahead. It's probably better that I don't think too much about it. Nevertheless I suspect that in due course I shall need to utilize my latest Christmas present – Headteacher's survival kit. Apart from the straight jacket and hip flask, this consists of a small library containing a Bible (useful guide and manual for life - to keep a church school head on track); a novel entitled 'Between a Rock and a Hard Place', and an Ofsted joke book. We've all seen the plaques that state "You don't have to be mad to work here but it helps". I suggest that in the present climate such a sentiment has now become an essential attribute for anyone who works in school.

However, I have been enlightened by a fantastic quotation written nearly 2000 years ago that helps to make sense of public-sector reform:

“I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganising; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency, and demoralisation.”

Petronius Arbiter (Roman satirist)

No change there then! I get the distinctly uncomfortable feeling that our so-called modern civilisation hasn't progressed as far as we are led to believe. The rhetoric continues to proclaim that 'Every Child Matters' and the importance of 'Creativity' and 'Work Life Balance' to name but a few. However, the continuing presence and pressure of SATs and league tables has created an illusion of progress whilst producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralisation. Meanwhile rhetoric and reality remain poles apart. My hope for this year is that commonsense will prevail over political point scoring.

Happy New Year.

Mark Stratta

November 100 Club Winners

£20 - Mrs G. Hill

£10 - Mrs Starkey

£5 - Mr & Mrs Percy

Thorner's CE VA Primary School

A New Year yet again, it is hoped that everyone has had a great Christmas with many happy memories to keep them going. A new term to start afresh, making and hopefully keeping those new year resolutions. Back in November we visited Weymouth Pavilion as a whole school and were mesmerized by the production of 'Joseph', all the pupils were thoroughly engaged in the action throughout and nobody, not even the youngest 4-year old, fell asleep much to my amazement. It was a valuable experience for all the children but especially for those who had never watched a live production of this quality before. It was also

fantastic to receive so many compliments from members of the public: how polite and well behaved the children were, how nice to see children being taken to see this marvellous production, how totally engrossed in the action and it was obvious how much each and everyone of them enjoyed the show etc. While on most school trips staff need to be watching carefully the whole time, ensuring correct behaviour, but here in the theatre we were all able to sit back and enjoy the show just as if we were in the audience with our families and friends so can I yet again say to all the pupils how proud I was, and still am of them.

As many of you will already be aware as you read this I will be on long term sickness absence recovering from an operation. Thank you for all your cards, flowers, kind thoughts and prayers, it has helped me to be strong throughout my ordeal I can imagine long playtimes, children playing games all the time while the staff drink lots of tea and coffee ... but no cakes or shortbread! No, I jest, I am sure that everyone from the youngest child through to staff, governors and parents are working together to ensure the school carries on just as if I were there providing the education for each individual child. I am confident that all members of staff will work together as normal, they do make a fantastic team and I shall be missing them. One main incentive for me to get well again is to get back into the school and especially the classroom. A bonus for you is that someone else will be writing these articles for a few months.

Alison Johnstone

100 Club Winners for December:£15 Jane Jackson

£10 Julie Arak-Newman

Getting started with computers and free computer training

As a result of feedback obtained from the Open Evening held in Burton Bradstock Primary School in November, Weymouth College and LymeNet are offering some **free computer training** sessions.

Everyone is being offered the chance to have their computer training needs assessed at an individual level to see which skills they may already have, and what further training may be needed. People who have little or no experience of computers will be given the chance to get started and to have a go by being shown, for example, how to use a mouse and make things happen. During a training session you will be able to obtain an

easy to use e-mail address, and will be given the opportunity to explore the Internet with the support of a friendly tutor. The sessions will be held in Burton Bradstock and will be free of charge. The first session will be on Thursday 18th January from 2.00-4.00pm at the West Dorset Research Centre next to Manor Farm. Another session has been scheduled for Thursday 1st February 2.00-4.00pm. Simply book your place by calling LymeNet on 01297 444570.

Karen Venn

Bride Valley Gardening Club

Monday 8th January: Michael Michaud
7.30p.m. Thorner's School

Monday 12th February: Colin Varndell,
Flowers of Dorset, 7.30p.m. Thorner's School



Our November talk by David Ennals on Cacti was not as well attended as some of the talks but it proved to be a highly amusing and informative evening which had everyone, to their great surprise, becoming enthusiastic and eager to buy the plants which had been brought along for sale.

Jobs To Do:

Dig over vegetable bed. Feed apples and pears by applying sulphate of potash around the trees at recommended rates. Prune climbing roses and late flowering shrubs. Plant spring bedding plants like primulas.

*Valerie Cameron, Club Secretary. e-mail: secretary.bvgc@virgin.net
Dianne Ffoulkes, Chair. tel: 01308 482420*

Village Websites

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

www.burtonbradstockonline.org

www.littoncheney.org.uk

www.shiptongorge.org.uk



Digital Photo Competition Results

At Burton Bradstock ONLINE's Open Meeting on Tuesday 21st November 2006, the judges announced the winners of the Digital Photo Competition which had been running during 2006. The winning photos were:



Adults:
"Come on Grampy"



Under 16s:
"A beach hazard"

261 submissions (including 30 from under 16's) were received from as far away as Tyne & Wear, Warwickshire and London.

The short list - Adults: Phil Bowman, Julie Jinks, Clare Chapman, Chris Crane and Judi Kannellaki.

Under 16s: Elliott Bennett (3 photos), Luke Kirby and Nia Kanellaki.

The Winners: **Adults (£100) : Juki Kanellaki**
Under 16s (£50): Luke Kirby

The runners up in the "Under 16s" category were given special certificates

See separate notice on a new competition for 2007!

Ken Pett 897550



Burton Bradstock ONLINE's Digital Photo Competition for 2007

Based on the active participation & very positive support & feedback we received for the last competition, it has been decided to launch a new one for 2007.

Time scale:

Entries accepted from 1st January to 16th September, 2007 inclusive.

And we are delighted to announce more prizes for 2007!

Adults: Three prizes - £100, £50 and £25

Under 16s: £50, £25 & £15 (must be under 16 at 16th Sept. 2007)

Theme: "Life in Burton Bradstock in 2007".

We want it to focus on *people doing things!* N.B. Although it is about activities in, or related to Burton Bradstock, the competition is open to *anyone*, wherever they live! Competition rules can be found on www.burtonbradstock.org.uk

Ken Pett

Bride Valley Lunch and Supper Clubs – January

Sell-outs all the way and a good mix of people from different Bride Valley and other villages...and a chance when you come to mention any big event in *your* village for which you would like support.

Contrary to previous advice the publicity for the final 20 or so events in the New Inn's launch year (up to end June) will be sent to members by post and email....there is too much information to carry it all here.

Good news for the Supper Club events is that Gary and Sandra have decided to serve *real* coffee in cafetières, which should help sharpen the thinking in the 'Cafetière-time Humorous Quiz'.

Dates for January events are:

Lunch Club 12.30pm Wednesday 10th January.

2 Supper Clubs (min.) at 6.30pm on Thurs Jan 18th and Mon 22nd Jan.

Membership free....membership is now over 120+so why miss out?

To receive mailing with details and booking procedure please phone John Grantham on 01308-897935 now. (Book early to ensure tickets).

JOHN MICHAEL STUART MALLINSON

Justin and Juliana (Judy) wish to convey their deep thanks to all those who conveyed their condolences over the loss of their son JOHN, whether by 'phone call, looking in, card or letter. Also especially by prayer. So many have helped with kindness – to console them.

He was buried in St Mary's cemetery in Hemyock, his Devon village, on 1st December, 2006, aged 61, after a year-long noble and patient fight against cancer.



BREDY

LITTON CHENEY



Village Correspondent: Josie Belasco

11 Manor Farm Close, Litton Cheney

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

Retirement of Revd Anthony Ashwell: Anthony's final service in the Bride Valley will be held at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 7th January, followed by a buffet lunch at Thorner's School. We do hope that lots of you will join us to say farewell to Anthony and Anna.

Wendy Taylor, PCC Secretary, 482532

The House to House collection in Litton Cheney for the British Legion Poppy Appeal totalled £255.28. Many thanks to Virginia McShane and Lyn Lacey for their help and to all who gave so generously.

Kate Williamson

Litton and Thorner's Community Hall – LATCH News



At the time of writing local fundraising has achieved an impressive **£19,000** – Thank you!

Our application for lottery funding now sits at Lottery headquarters waiting for their assessment with an answer expected by April 2007.

The “Litton Cheney Cooks” recipe books and Bride Valley calendars for 2007 were launched at the Christmas Producers’ Market and were very well received. Calendars are rapidly becoming a collector’s item and our stock is diminishing by the minute which is good because we hope to have very few left come 2007. The recipe books which do not have a pre-determined shelf life remain in reasonable supply presently but these too are selling well. If all goes well sales of the two items should produce a profit in the region of £2000. Contact John Firrell (482313) or other members of the LATCH committee for more information and purchase.

John & Cassie at **The White Horse** will be running a themed evening in **February** based on recipes from the “**Litton Cheney Cooks**” book. Although this is technically not a LATCH event there will be the opportunity to purchase recipe books on the night.

LATCH Event Diary – We have a number of events set up for 2007.

There will be a concert on **Saturday 14th April** given by the **Dorset Youth Orchestra** at Herrison Hall (Charlton Down). Full details and how you can get hold of tickets for this very special event will appear in February’s BVN.

During the weekend of **16/17th June** Litton Cheney will be holding an **Open Gardens Weekend**, together with an **Art Exhibition** with works from Bride Valley and local artists. If you are a local artist or art group please watch future BVN for further details and who to contact for more information. There will also be a **Producers’ Market** that weekend so there is little chance for boredom to rear its ugly head. If you are also a frequent or regular visitor to the region or second home owner, it should be a weekend not to be missed.

Other events are in the pipeline so please watch this space. Thank you to all who have supported the community hall project. It really is coming together and we hope that within a couple of years we will have a community building that we can be really proud of, and worthy of everyone’s efforts.

Litton Cheney Social Committee

Thank you to everyone who came to support the Children in Need Evening, and to all the performers who did an excellent job entertaining us. At the last count we had raised almost £500.

Our next event is the Wine and Wisdom evening on **Saturday 3rd February 7.30 at Thorner's School**. Either bring along your team of eight or join a team on the night. Nibbles provided. Any teams from the Bride Valley will be made most welcome. Entrance is £2.50 and there will be a prize for the winners.

Saturday 10th February – Village Walk – meet at the Bus Shelter at 10.00am .

We wish you all a Very Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2007.

Kathy Kourik Secretary 482552

Photography Classes

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

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

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

The cost will be £5 per lesson or £40 for those who wish to pay for the whole course in advance. All proceeds will go to the Litton and Thorner's Community Hall (LATCH) project.

There are only a few places left so if you are interested book soon by contacting Steve on 01308 482552 or skourik@toucansurf.com

Lithe Litton Ladies

A New Year - a new exercise regime! For fun, fitness and flexibility why not come along to the Church Hall on Monday evenings from 6 - 7.30pm .

Still not sure, need persuading, then ring Alison. Tel. 482661

PUNCKNOWLE & WEST BEXINGTON



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

Puncknowle Advent Trail

Many thanks to all in Puncknowle who helped produce the 25 life sized models that appeared around the village on Sunday 3rd December . They had to be well tied down to defy the wind. More than 50 people enjoyed the mince pies and coffee and followed the trail using the clue sheet to identify the biblical characters they represented. The models were constructed to be robust enough to last until after Christmas so there was plenty of opportunity to see them during December.

Ann Roberts, Sue Brown

Recreational Facilities Open Day

On Sunday 28th January from 12 noon to 3pm there will be an open day for all those interested in developing recreational activities in Puncknowle, especially in the playing field and the hall. There will be entertainment, including face painting, and free refreshments. This will be a chance for everyone – children and adults, to see what the possibilities are and to have their say, so please do come and let us know what you want.

*Liz Slater Chair Puncknowle Playing Field Committee,
Puncknowle and Swyre Parish Council*

Social Evening

To be held on Thursday 25th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
Bob Ayres will give us 2000 years history of London in 60 minutes.
Don't miss this interesting evening. There will be tea, coffee and
biscuits and a collection to cover expenses.

Ann Roberts

Puncknowle Art Group

It is always cheering on a wet winter's morning to sit in The Crown and
be shown a colourful collection of paintings by a local artist. So it was
with Bronwen Coe who was kind enough to bring her work along to show
us and to talk to us about her sources of inspiration.

Dates for January: Friday 5th AGM, Friday 19th.,
and February: Friday 2nd.

Christine Molony

SWYRE



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

Holy Trinity Church, Swyre

There will be **no** service at our church on January 7th, as the valley will be
joining together to bid Anthony and Anna farewell. We extend our best
wishes to them both for much pleasure as they move on to the next phase
of their lives, with more time to "just be"! We wish you all a very Happy
and Healthy New Year!

Coffee Morning

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that the sum of £340.00 was raised at the Coffee Morning on the 2nd December. This will be used to help fund the alterations that we hope to make at the rear of the Church.

We are very grateful to all those friends who helped to make the morning such a success by either purchasing or providing cakes and fancy goods, or just having a coffee and a chat.

Thank you all very much.

Madeline Marshall, Treasurer, Holy Trinity Church, Swyre.

Monday 22nd January, 7.30pm in Puncknowle and Swyre Village Hall, there will be the initial meeting to discuss our big fundraising and community event for this year, which is to be held on the weekend of 2nd and 3rd June (**Trinity Sunday**), in and around **Holy Trinity Church, Swyre. Everyone** is warmly invited to come along to find out what is planned, to contribute ideas and suggestions, and to offer their services in the preparations for the event, which is for the whole community. Don't miss out on this exciting venture!

*Yvonne Buckland and Vera Hirst
Church Wardens.*

Puncknowle and Swyre Parish Council

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

A Huge Thank You to All Father Christmas's Helpers

What a fantastic day this was, with the weather staying bright and fine for us. An excited crowd gathered at West Bexington beach on Saturday 9th December to greet Father Christmas as he started his sleigh procession to Puncknowle. With festive music, bells and horns sounding out his progress, he made his way to Holy Trinity, Swyre for a blessing from Revd Bob Thorn and then onto St. Mary's, Puncknowle where, led by the children of Thorner's School and accompanied on the guitar by Bob and by Joy Laver, we all assembled to sing carols around the lych-gate, before moving on to his grotto in the grounds of The Crown public house.

And what a grotto it was! The Yellow Brick Road led through a twinkling jewelled archway of winter greenery into Santa's grotto – the only one we know made from a Mongolian yurt. Unsurprisingly, the children visiting Santa were absolutely mesmerised even before they got to him, indeed many of us adults were every bit as bedazzled. A massive vote of thanks from all of us associated with putting this event together to the sheer artistry (and endeavour) of Rebecca and Steve Crabtree.

It can be said that, with all his patience and attentiveness (not least his undoubted physical qualities for the role), our Father Christmas is **the definitive one!** I think in these pages we can be forgiven for naming and expressing our thanks to Sid Marshall – not least for braving that coldish sleigh ride.

There are just too many people to single out for thanks who made the day a resounding success – all those who attended the planning meetings, set up the stalls, organised and ran them – and most of all cleared away afterwards. I must, however, make one very special mention of our gratitude to Keith Perham, who stood in at short notice to sort out the lighting and electrical supply. Well done, mate, we would otherwise have had the most invisible Santa ever.

We measure the success of this event by how many people attend and are 'wowed' by it – and we had lots of very warm comments on the day – many people saying they now see this event as the start to their enjoyment of the Christmas season_.....**but we did raise some money** also.

At the time of going to press, final figures are not ready, but it is believed to be **around £1000** – more than twice last year's return - which is being donated to the very worthy cause of **Julia's House Dorset Children's Hospice**.

And finally, all the helpers join me in thanking Andy Marshall for bringing together all the right people in the villages to make this event a firm favourite for our community. Same again next year, please, Andy!

Anthony Edwards

SHIPTON GORGE



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

barcol@bchambers.wanadoo.co.uk

Christingle Service

This will take place in St Martin's Church on Sunday 28th January at 4pm , and everyone is invited to celebrate and rejoice in the Light of Christ. During the service christingles will be distributed to children and young people, and the collection will be in aid of the Children's Society.

Flower Arrangers

If anyone would like to help with arranging flowers in the church would they please contact Gillian Maxfield on 01308 897346.

Tower News

The Dorset County Association will be holding their AGM in the Village Hall on Saturday 20th January 2007 . There will be ringing in the church from 3-4 p.m. prior to a service and tea. There may also be ringing after the meeting.

Christine Green

Shipton Gorge Community Land

Many of you will already know that a group of people in Shipton Gorge got together at the end of the Summer to buy the plot of land between St Martin 's Church and Brook Street when it came onto the market. This was because many people had felt for a long time that if it were possible for the village to own this piece of land it should be bought, thus keeping it as an open space, preserving the lovely views up to the church, and removing the risk that it might be built on.

On two previous occasions when this piece of land had come up for sale the village had tried to buy it, but both times it was sold from under its nose; this time we were determined that this should not happen. The only way to make sure was to raise enough money to buy it and keep our intentions quiet. We made the decision to buy it very quickly, and raised the money required in just three days through donations and loans from people in the village. Unfortunately there were legal delays, and the purchase was not finalised until November, meaning that we were unable to tell everyone what was happening until recently.

It has always been the intention that this land should **belong to the village** and be run by a committee of people **elected** by the villagers at a public meeting, in a similar way that the Village Hall Trust is run. The company Shipton Gorge Ltd was formed so that when the land was bought it could be transferred into it, and at present we are busy getting this registered as a Charitable Trust. The Trust will **own, manage and protect areas of land or any other assets that are of common interest to the village, so that they will remain in the ownership, under the control of and for the benefit of residents both now and in the future.**

This new charity will therefore be able to look after the village's interests and ensure that any land it owns is protected from any use that is not supported by the majority of the community.

In order to secure the purchase there had to be named directors of Shipton Gorge Ltd, but it is certainly not the intention that those named at present will have any more say in the running of the Trust than anyone else in the village. It is important that the whole village feels that it is their charity, and so early in the New Year a public meeting will be held so that everybody can come along to discuss the best way to manage the land and **elect** a committee of residents.

As you will all appreciate further donations of money are needed to cover the purchase price and repay the loans, with further money needed to go towards the cost of maintaining the land in the future. Offers of help to clear the land would also be most welcome. The idea eventually is to build reserves so that if the village wanted to purchase any other pieces of land in the future it would be able to do so quite quickly.

Any donations by cheque should be made payable to **Shipton Gorge Ltd**, and can be sent to Mary Boughton at Gullivers, Shipton Gorge. For anyone who might feel able to make a regular contribution, however small, Standing Order forms are available. If you would like to know more about this project or have any questions please contact any of the following – Charles Errington (07766 760 587); Mary Boughton (897958); Pam Graham (897499) or Robert Langran (897207).

Thank you to everybody who has been involved in this land purchase which will benefit both present and future generations in Shipton Gorge, and we look forward to seeing as many Shipton residents as possible at the public meeting in January.

Mary Boughton

Parish Council Matters

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 10th January 2007 commencing at 7.30pm

Ernie Thomas, Parish Clerk

**GARY, SANDRA and the TEAM AT THE NEW INN WISH
ALL THEIR CUSTOMERS A VERY HAPPY
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

BURTON BRADSTOCK



Village Correspondent for February edition is John Grantham .
Any 'Burton Bradstock' inputs to him please by 10pm on January 10th .
Tel: 01308-897935. In *next* month's BVN we will give details of the
new BB Village Correspondent.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall (BBVH)

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

1st Prize:	No. 52	Mrs Shirley Parker	£75.60
2nd Prize:	No. 173	Mrs Audrey Smith	£37.80
3rd Prize:	No. 186	Mrs Ruth Alvin	£18.90

Anyone wanting to become a member in time for the **January** draw should telephone Alan Clarke on 01308 897051 and let him have £12. The Village Hall Trust is a trust registered with the local authority, the West Dorset District Council. Lotteries Licence No. LA005.

Burton Bradstock Village Hall Trust (BBVHT) AGM

Friday 19th January

The second BBVHT Annual General Meeting will be held in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Friday 19th January at 7.30 pm. This is a public meeting so please come along, hear all about the Village Hall Trust's past year and plans for the future and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles.

Barn Dance – Saturday 27th January

David Powell & The Bride Valley Band will be returning to Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 27th January at 7.30 pm. Come along and enjoy what has become a fun experience and see your friends attempt to keep up with David's calling! Tickets will cost - £5.50 Adult, £2.50 U15 and will be available from Burton Bradstock Post Office from Friday 5th January. You will need to move quickly to buy your tickets – last year's event was an early sell out.

Artsreach

There was a full house for "Appalachian Roots" on November 18th when a Village Hall audience enjoyed a brilliant performance of music (fiddles and banjo), songs, tap and clog dances from the Appalachian Mountains presented by Ira Bernstein and Ryan Baugus. Ira's dazzling footwork was quite unbelievable, and Ryan's singing and banjo playing was superb. It was a wonderful evening.

The next Artsreach event in Burton Bradstock Village Hall will be on **Friday 16th February** when a Scottish company "Plutot La Vie", with a family show called "A Clean Sweep", has been booked. More details will follow. This will be followed by an event featuring Wheatley's Arcadians ("Things Ain't What They Used to Be") on **Saturday 24th March** .

Many thanks to those volunteers who help with the organisation of the Artsreach events, before, during and after the performances. Without them, it would be very difficult to put on these first class, wide ranging and professional events in the Village Hall which are proving to be so successful.

Norman Saunders-White - Promoter for Artsreach - 01308 897214

Quiz Night – Saturday 31st March

There will be a Quiz Night in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 31st March. Bring your friends to make up a team of 6 - 8 people and enjoy a Fish and Chip Supper. Ticket cost will include the supper and more details will follow next month.

Susan Moores - Secretary, BBVH Committee , 01308 897673.

Moviola

The first film shown at Burton Bradstock Village Hall through Moviola (Memoirs of a Geisha) attracted an audience of 50 and feedback afterwards indicated that it was enjoyed by many and the quality of presentation was excellent. However, the time needed to promote, administer and run the event on the day is at present beyond the Committee's resources as it is at full stretch managing and maintaining the Hall and running other events. Thus, the Committee is asking for a volunteer(s) to come forward who would be willing to organise future Moviola films in liaison with the Committee.

Burton Bradstock Village Diary 2007

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

Burton Bradstock Village Society

November 17th Talk: Communications. We take for granted today that with our mobile phone we can speak to anyone in the world. A little bit different from the systems used in the Crimean and World War One. The speaker, Cliff Walters, Retired Royal Signals Colonel and currently Director of the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford covered two tables with equipment, which was heavy and cumbersome. He explained how the Royal Signals was formed after World War One. The early equipment was not reliable and was often used incorrectly. One major drawback was that cables had to be laid, and were vulnerable to being severed by shells. Mr Walters explained in detail all the items he had brought along. Of course, Morse Code was used, but runners still played a major role in communications. In World War I pigeons were used and at the end of the War there were 2,000 in service. All in all more messages were sent by pigeons, runners and despatch riders than by any electronic means. He stated that the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford has up-to-date interactive, hands-on and virtual activities.

December 8th Talk: My Life at the BBC. Over 100 people were treated to an hilarious evening of clips from BBC comedy shows on which David Taylor, our speaker, had worked during his career with the BBC - it was the ideal evening for this pre-Christmas occasion where hot glasses of punch and mince pies also featured strongly. Fuller report in next BVN. David is booked in for same date next year.

Next talk: Don't miss John and Barbara Ivall's talk on 'The Spirit Within' and 'Our Life in Canada' at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 12th January.

BURTON BRADSTOCK PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT IN THE VILLAGE HALL

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

*A Musical Play Adapted by Paul Bexon and Martin Gorst
Jasper Publishing Ltd*

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

*DIRECTED BY
Barbara Powell & Chris Knight*



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

Playground – Burton Bradstock

There have been some complaints regarding *older children* misusing the new playground. This super facility has been acquired with a lot of hard work and money, and should be looked after by all.

Parish Clerk, Burton Bradstock Parish Council

Burton Bradstock Bridge Group

Meet on Tuesdays (excl. 9th Jan.) in the Village Hall at 2.00pm.

New members welcome (a little experience necessary).

Further information from Chris Clarke. Tel 01308-898117.

Burton Bradstock WI

In December we heard a talk on the "Yetties", for those of us who can remember with pleasure the fun we had listening to these in days gone by. A Christmas lunch was held at the Golf Club and was enjoyed by all - nobody disgraced themselves!! A small contingent enjoyed a Carol Service in the beautiful Sherborne Abbey - what a wonderful start to the real celebration of Christmas. The intrepid Walkers were marched up North Hill on a morning of gales and rain to walk to West Bay (some of us met them at the top of this hill). We then enjoyed a festive pub lunch and this time cheated and got lifts back.

Our next Meeting is on Tuesday 9th January at 2.15p.m. when Daphne Ekins will be speaking on "Bridport Bag Ladies" - sounds intriguing.



Christmas Greetings Donations



Very many thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Greetings page in the December issue of the Bride Valley News last month. Your generosity helped raise a new record of £1,022 which has been divided equally between the BVN, and the Joseph Weld & Trimar Hospice & CancerCare Dorset (the Joseph Weld Hospice & the Trimar Hospice merged last year). Once again, our very grateful thanks.

Ken Pett

St Mary's Mission Partners, Andy and Suzie Hart in Tanzania

Readers may remember that Andy (a vet) had a difficult situation in a village greatly influenced by witch doctors who declared that the presence of white people was the cause of lack of rain. So it was a challenge, needing much courage, for the Church to enter that area. Some of the congregation were persuaded to target deliberately those people with the Solar Water Purification project and ask them to welcome the next group of visitors to climb the mountain behind the village, a tourist attraction, bringing in finance to help with development projects in the village. The outcome was amazing; the callers with the water purifying equipment were warmly received and there was dancing in the street to welcome visitors to the mountain.

In 2006 Neema Crafts celebrated three years of existence, beginning with three young deaf people and Susie, and now having over sixty people in training and being given employment through the centre.

Praise be to God for what is happening in this part of Tanzania!

This report is much condensed – please read the exciting Link Letter in the folder on the south-aisle table in the church.

Home Watch – Beware 2 scams & please advise neighbours.....

A) Bank Account Scam: If you are offered ‘great telephone bill savings’ if you switch to another company...or ‘great savings’ on other utilities you could be asked for (incredibly) date of birth, mother’s maiden name, bank account number and even pin number. The Police strongly recommend that you don’t let them get this far...if you receive unsolicited or suspicious incoming calls in this vein:

- 1) Be polite but say you do **not** wish to continue with the conversation and **PUT THE PHONE DOWN RIGHT AWAY.**
- 2) **NEVER** give any bank account or pin no. information.
- 3) **NEVER** give any personal information.

If you want to lower utilities bills then the Police suggest you undertake your *own* search into this separately, and in your own good time.

B) Postcard Scam: Also, look out for *this* ...: A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number).

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will **already** have been billed £15 for the phone call! If you *do* receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 0207 2396655 (and let me know please). Thanks.

Happy New Year. John Grantham

Let's Support our Post Office!

Jerry and Margaret are now well established in the Post Office, coping with the Christmas rush as this is being printed. However the Post Office needs to be supported *all year round*. In the months ahead please use our Post Office, as many post offices are under threat of closure.

Services in fact include *all these*:

- * **Gift Vouchers for stores such as House of Fraser,**
- * **Debenhams, Comet, Thomas Cook, Habitat,**
- * **Mothercare, Woolworth and many more.**
- * **Bill payments**
- * **Foreign currency/Travellers' cheques**
- * **Travel insurance**
- * **Books, greetings cards and stationery**
- * **Gifts for all occasions**
- * **Cash-back facility**
- * **Personal banking**
- * **Photo-copying**
- * **Prescription collection**
- * **And much more**



Do please use this essential facility and its full range of services.

Parish Council

LITTLEBREDY Notes



Our newest neighbour is young Jaego Schofield, who was born to Jonathan and Amy, of Winterbourne Lodge, on November 3rd. All is going well, and we trust that their family life together will be long and happy for them all.

At the other end of life, Canon Cosmo Pouncey died peacefully at Bridehead on the 18th November. He and Edith moved to the village in 1990, and he stayed on at Church Walk for a while after her sudden death in 2000, until he became too frail for it to be safe for him to live alone. For as long as he could, he continued to take services up and down the valley as required, and a full Church at his funeral service attested to the impression he has left with so many. His ashes have been buried at his beloved Tewkesbury Abbey, where he was Vicar from 1966 to 1981. May he rest in peace.

It is too early – this is being written on the 7th December - to comment on any of the Christmas festivities in the village later this month, including the Social Club's party on the 22nd December, but the Club committee has decided that there will be no Club event in the Village Hall in January.

Those who study the centrefold – ever-hopefully, no doubt – of this magazine may notice that our services from January onwards will still be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, but will all be at 11.00 a.m., rather than the 4th Sunday's 9.30 a.m. as hitherto.

**A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE,
OR CONNECTED WITH IT IN ANY WAY – as well as everyone else,
of course!**

LONG BREDY



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

Parochial Church Council

After many years of excellent work on our behalf, our PCC Treasurer Mike Shepherd is stepping down from this post in March.

It is not necessary for his replacement to attend Church regularly, so we are hoping that someone in the village area will come forward to fill this post. Anyone who is interested should contact Mike on 482250 to find out what is involved.

Rachel Maltby, the current PCC Secretary is also leaving and a replacement to take her place is also required.

Congratulations to Robert Horsley, who has graduated in Engineering at Bristol.

Our Poppy Appeal collection raised the wonderful amount of £141.80. Thank you all very much.

Village Websites

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

www.burtonbradstockonline.org

www.littoncheney.org.uk

www.shiptongorge.org.uk

SCRIPTURE CAKE

*You are invited to make this cake and bring it along to the **LITTON CHURCH FETE**, which is held on the last Bank Holiday Monday in May (Whit Bank Holiday). There will be a Cake-Tasting competition and a prize awarded to the winner. There's plenty of time to practice!*

- a. 8oz / 224g Judges 5, xxv, last clause
- b. 8oz / 224g Jeremiah 6, xx
- c. 1 tbsp 1 Samuel 14, xxv
- d. 4 x Jeremiah 17, xi
- e. 8oz / 224g 1 Samuel 30, xii, second item
- f. 8oz / 224g Nahum 3, xii, chopped
- g. 2oz / 56g Numbers 17, viii, blanched and chopped
- h. 1lb / 454g 1 Kings 4, xxii, season to taste with
- i. 1 tsp Chronicles 9, ix
- j. A pinch of Leviticus 2, xiii
- k. 1 tsp Amos 4, v
- l. 2 tbsp Judges 4, xix

Heat the oven to 160° C / 325° F / Gas Mark 3 Beat a, b and c to a cream Add d, one at a time, beating continuously, then e, f, and g, and beat again.

Mix together h, i, j, and k and add them to the main mixture. Finally add l.

Bake for about 1¹/₂ hours until cooked. Cooking time may be a little less.

Gwen Kinghorn

(Reproduced from 'Litton Cheney Cooks' available price £5 in aid of LATCH)



Time to move on

We are sorry that some people were offended by the content of the December issue.

As “The BVN Team” rather than “editors” we were grateful to receive many articles of a secular nature. However, we are not qualified to make theological editorial decisions as to whether such items should be included in a magazine for the whole community. We now feel that such decisions must in future be taken by those who can make an informed choice in an editorial role, if the magazine is to fulfil the Church’s expectations.

For this reason we shall be standing down with effect from the end of January 2007.

To maintain continuity for our advertisers, we are prepared to produce one more edition before handing over to a new team in February.

We volunteered to produce the BVN when no one else was willing to do so. Now we hope that those who are dissatisfied with what we have done will feel able to come forward and take over the job.

Your 2006 BVN Team

CARPE DIEM

The branches on the Christmas tree
Now arching to the ground
A covering of needles
Where presents had been found



It's nice to think we start again
With New Year's resolutions
Another chance to make amends
And find the right solutions

The cold dark days of wintertime
Give little motivation
We crave the sun – its warmth and shine
To give us inspiration



We make a list of things to do
And start with good intentions
We clean the house and garden too
And dream up new inventions

To stay on course is our main aim
As we pack the tree away
Christmas will soon be here again !
So we need to '*SEIZE THE DAY*'

Claire

Kids Bible Wordsearch

Animals in the Bible

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Puzzle #1



BEAR
CAMEL
DONKEY
GAZELLE
GOAT
HART
HORSE
IBEX
JACKAL



LEOPARD
LION
MOLE
MOUSE
NIGHTHAWK
OSTRICH
SHEEP
UNICORN
WOLF



<http://biblewordgames.com>

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The Othona Community

Burton Bradstock, Dorset

Rooted in the Christian heritage...

...open to the wider future

Life-changing job opportunities in a community / retreat centre on the Dorset coast. Hospitality and spirituality are our business. Are you ready for a new challenge? Do any of these sound like you?

- a Deputy Warden who can organise an office (and people) .
- a Caterer who likes to cook with fresh food (and with love)
- a Facilities Co-ordinator who isn't afraid of a bit of DIY
- a short term Core Member who's ready for anything!

Our small resident core group welcomes up to 35 visitors at a time. After a decade of rapid growth we need pioneers for a new stage in the life of this inclusive community, open to all faiths and none. Individuals who will

- show competence, self-awareness and integrity
- work hard on varied tasks in a small flexible team
- offer genuine caring hospitality to a wide range of people
- commit to the shared life of an open Christian community
- relish cultivating a spirituality for 21st century grown-ups
- enjoy a simple lifestyle and modest pay in gorgeous surroundings
- not take themselves too seriously!

Interested? Visit www.othona-bb.org.uk/recruiter.htm or contact Monica King on bbrecruitment@othona.org or 0117 989 2599.

Closing Date: 18 Jan. 2007

Selection: Feb/March

Vacancies from March/April

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