

# **Bride Valley News**

## **December 2010**

The background of the cover is a dark blue night sky filled with numerous small, white, out-of-focus stars. A single, exceptionally bright star is positioned in the upper-middle section, emitting a prominent starburst effect with long, thin rays extending outwards. Below the starburst, a thin, vertical white line descends towards the horizon. At the bottom of the image, the silhouette of a town or village is visible, with various buildings and structures rendered in a dark, monochromatic blue tone against the lighter sky.

**The Magazine of the Bride Valley Churches**

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



**HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS  
TO OUR FRIENDS &  
NEIGHBOURS**

**& OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR 2011**

from:

**Geoff & Sandy Adderley**

**Mary Bailey**

**L/ Cpl (retd) David &**

**Lady Otiline Bellows**

**John Bowden**

**Peter & Pat Broomhead**

**David & Yvonne Buckland**

**Betty Champkins**

**Judy & Alan Clarke**

**Tony & Anne Combe**

**Diana & Cecil Clifford**

**Betty Clynes**

**Celia Cummins**

**Steve & Lesley Dove & Family**

**David Edwards & Susan Moores**

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**Shirley Gilbert**

**Margaret & Jim Harding**

**Ian & Mary Ibbotson**

**Barbara M. James**

**Tim, Sue, Dave & Hannah Linford**

**Liz Orza**

**Derek & Val Parsons**

**Deryn & John**

**Pakenham-Walsh**

**Susan Paul**

**Dick & Judy Pearce**

**Anne & Graham Rees**

**Gill & Charles Robertson**

**Ryder & Heather Rogers**

**Jan & Brian Shaw**

**Anne & Mike Southgate**

**Betty Starkey**

**Elaine Tame**

**Bill & Heather Thomson**

**Janet & Steve Tolputt**

**Clare Viney**

**"Walditch" Bob & Linda**

**Norman Webber**

**Bob & Anne White**

**Andrea & Chris Wilkinson**

**Mo & Tony Williams**

**David & Pauline Woodford**

**Sue & Mike Brown**



*in support of the **Bride Valley News**  
& the  
**Disasters Emergency Committee***







**THE STORY** of Christmas is about risk. The story is told so often, year by year, that it can come to us as something inevitable, as if it were bound to happen that way. The characters move from one tableau to another. God shoves them about because he has a plan, and it all works – like clockwork.

But Mary might have said no to the angel, or closed her ears as so many do to the voice of God calling. Or the child might have miscarried, as sadly many do. Or Mary might have died in childbirth as many Mothers did in those days. Or they might have got lost and not arrived in Bethlehem in time. Or the inn might not have been full. Or the shepherds might not have woken. Or any one of a hundred thousand tiny events may or may not have taken place, any one of which might have meant that God's plan, seen years before by the prophets, might not have happened as it was supposed to do.

It is an idle speculation to wonder what would have happened if the smallest thing had gone wrong at the first Christmas time, or indeed at any other time during the life of Jesus Christ, to his death and resurrection. It is idle to play with such ideas, because in the end the wonders happened, and that is that.



The Crib, St. Mary's, Burton Bradstock

But it is not idle to appreciate the risks that God took in playing the whole of his love for the world he had made, and all his heart's adoring of his Son, against the hazard of events. I hope that we would never take such a risk for ourselves and all that is dear to us, because we would be right to think it a horrible wrong for us to do a thing like that. But he did. He is God, and his ways are not our ways.

He did this thing despite the risk. And he still does, when every day he places all his love on you.

*Bob*

## THE NATIVITY ON BBC1 THIS CHRISTMAS



Look out for The Nativity on the BBC this autumn. The script has been written by Tony Jordan, hailed as one of the top television scriptwriters in Britain. His work includes *Boon*, *Minder*, *Eldorado*, *Holby Blue*, and *Hustle*, not to mention 250 episodes of *East Enders*.

This time he is telling the story of the Nativity, over four half-hour episodes on BBC1 on the run-up to Christmas. Jordan says: "I want this film of the nativity to be accessible, all right? I want it to be watched by the people who watch *East Enders*, *Hustle*, everything I do. I want them to watch it, believe it and sob like a child.

"I do have a faith....I believe Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and that he came to take away our sins. So, I have written a version of the nativity that I can believe. The people who watch it who aren't already sold, they can watch it and see that it's truthful and they can say, 'That's really cool.' "It's really helped me, writing it. It's helped me to make sense of the story. It's made sense of the birth of somebody that I believed in. Before, I had nagging doubts. Now, I don't have any doubts."

## SALISBURY VISIT

On 30<sup>th</sup> October, a small group from the Bride Valley went to Salisbury Cathedral for another special event. Four of our young people, Jess and Lucy Haley and Toulia and Nia Kanellaki, joined 63 other candidates who travelled to the Cathedral to declare their faith, some in baptism, and all by being confirmed.

It took three bishops to lay hands on all the candidates - Bp Stephen of Ramsbury, Bp Graham of Sherbourne and Bp John, who will be helping in the diocese when Bp Graham finds himself on his own in the new year.

The service began in the dark as everyone sang *Veni Sancte Spiritus*. Then after a reading from Genesis about creation, the Paschal candle was lit and then gradually the cathedral lights, enabling us to sing the hymn *Thou whose Almighty word chaos & darkness heard*.



Standing in a circle near the west door all 67 were presented and after the affirmation & re-affirmation of baptismal vows, Bp Stephen signed the baptismal candidates with the mark of the cross before leading the whole party to the font.

Later, after collective and personal declarations of faith, those to be baptised had their heads immersed in the water while Bp Stephen slowly pronounced 'I baptise you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.' Each person emerged smiling.

The service was punctuated by short homilies. Everyone then paraded up to the nave to the hymn *O Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end* where the circle was re-formed.

Candidates came forward to stand before the three bishops as they were named by their sponsors (Ann Read for Toula and Nia, and Sue Lindford for Jess and Lucy). The three bishops individually laid hands on the first three people and simultaneously declared, 'Confirm O Lord your servant with your Holy Spirit.' After this prayer everyone was encouraged to give one another a sign of peace.

During the closing hymn, *For all the saints*, candles were lit from the Pascal candle which had proceeded all the people and events, and a light was given to all who had been confirmed. They then carried them head high up the aisle and out through the west door to much applause after the dismissing words 'Go in the light and peace of Christ,' 'Thanks be to God'

Ryder

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**On** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of October at St Mary's Church, Puncknowle, the funeral was held of Doreen Newton, beloved wife of George. He cared for her during the long months of her last illness.

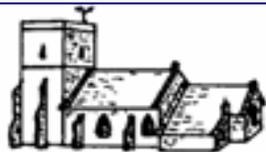
In younger and happier times they had travelled widely following George's work with the Royal Navy, before settling in contented retirement in Dorset, as had long been their wish. Doreen was remembered at the service for her love of animals, especially the many cats for whom she provided help and shelter, and for her part in the village painting group. George was supported during the funeral by their sons, Guy and Adam and their families, who were in turn upheld by their many friends from the village and beyond.

Following the service a cremation ceremony was held at Yeovil crematorium.



## SWYRE

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smarshall@which.net tel: 897318



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SWYRE.

### HISTORIC CHURCHES CYCLE RIDE/WALK.

Many thanks to our 3 intrepid cyclists/walkers who took part. I have sent off a cheque to the Dorset Historic Churches Trust for £131. Half of the monies raised have been returned to us to go to our funds to assist with the improvement projects, so it not only supports the Trust, but also helps your local church.



### CHURCH PROJECTS.

The projects are now complete after many difficulties. We have sufficient power to cope with our new heating system which is working well. Let us hope we can have a warm comfortable Church for this coming winter season.

The tower roof has been tidied up and repairs made and all guttering is now repaired and repainted, so we should be dry and safe for some years to come.

### ADVENT COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

At 10.30am there will be a short service to dedicate the works that have been completed on Swyre Church recently, as well as to celebrate Advent.

This will be followed, from about 10.45-11.00am by a Coffee Morning with Sale of Goods and Raffle. Light Lunches will also be available between 12noon and 1.00pm.

This fund raising event is particularly important to help replenish our finances following the essential works which have cost in the region of £14,000. Grants received from the Erskine Mouton Trust (£5,000) and promised from the Historic Churches Trust (£1,500) still leave us to raise about £7,500. This is a considerable sum for a small Church.

Church members will be pleased to receive any donations of produce or other items for sale or raffle, or offers of help. Alternatively bring items on the day, if possible between 10.00 and 10.30am.

Most importantly, please bring yourselves and your friends and enjoy the company!

*David Buckland. Churchwarden.*



## CHARITY WHIST DRIVE

To be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010 at 7.30pm prompt, in The Bull Inn, Swyre. Proceeds in aid of Dorset Air Ambulance and IFAW

### PUNCKNOWLE & SWYRE VILLAGE HALL

For bookings, telephone 01308 897724

The hall is available for hire for private functions, charity events. For details and to view/download the booking form and hire conditions, please see the village hall pages on the Puncknowle, Swyre and W. Bexington website [www.puncknowle.net](http://www.puncknowle.net), or telephone the booking secretary.



Reg Charity No. 1105233

### PUNCKNOWLE, SWYRE & W. BEXINGTON LUNCH CLUB

The club will hold its Christmas lunch in the village hall on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

It will start with a celebratory sherry or fruit juice followed by turkey with all the usual trimmings, or salmon tart. Wine will be served and the sweets will be Christmas Pudding or Trifle, followed by mince tarts and tea or coffee with After Eight Mints.

Members who were not at the November lunch should ring 897622 to order their meal.

Many thanks Ken



### OPEN BROADBAND SESSIONS



Due to low take up, these will cease after the session scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>.

In view of the costs involved, the Management Committee has regrettably decided that the broadband connection will be terminated as soon as possible after that date.

Thanks are due to the Connecting Dorset project which provided the equipment and early running costs, and to the Parish Council which has generously funded the majority of the running costs for the last two years.

### BOOK CLUB

We enjoyed our last book by Amy Tan, and also discussed other items oriental.

This month we are reading "Labyrinthe" by popular author and broadcaster, Kate Mosse. It is a very big book so I hope we have all finished it by the time of our next meeting, which is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.



That evening we will also focus on something else with a Christmas theme, and enjoy a glass of wine.

Carol Bennett

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2.30PM.



Father Christmas will be visiting with presents for the children. There will be fun and games for both adults and children, presents to buy for Christmas, cakes, chocolate, mulled wine and refreshments.

Afterwards, everyone is invited to join in the annual Carols by Candlelight in St. Mary's, Puncknowle, which will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine.



### VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

October 2010 Draw winners

£15	May Yeates
£10	Rob Reeks

### VILLAGE SOCIETY

For two years now, the Hall Social Committee (a sub-committee of the Management Committee), has been arranging and managing events in the Hall. They have arranged the highly successful evenings with the London based Vintage Blues Band, Autumn Bazaars, the Chicken Evening, the recent Curry Evening (each with associated quiz), and the forthcoming History Morning and Christmas Fayre. All these events were arranged as social events for the three villages, but with the underlying motive to raise funds for the maintenance and improvement of the Village Hall.

Because of this committee's close association with the Management Committee, it has been restricted in what it can do, by the rules governing the the activities of a Registered Charity. As a result, it has been suggested that a Village Society be formed for the three villages.

The society would be entirely separate from the Village Hall, and would therefore not be constrained by Charities regulations, enabling it to organise functions specifically for the benefit of the three villages or any other purpose (hopefully making use of the Village Hall as much as practical/ appropriate), but free of the aim of raising funds specifically to meet the needs of the Hall. Being an entirely separate entity from the Parish Council, would also allow the committee to access grant and other funds for the benefit of the villages (e.g. for the Playing Field) to which the Parish Council (as a public body) has no access.

There is a down side of course. A new committee means another chair, a bank account, some form of constitution, another secretary, another treasurer and such *active* committee as members may be thought

necessary. If you have any thoughts on the matter and/or would be willing to participate, please contact either Carol Bennett (897771: carol.dorset@btinternet.com) or Mike Brown (897953: mike.brown@hattiemaths.com). If there is sufficient interest a meeting will be arranged for some time in the new year

Mike Brown

## PUNCKNOWLE & W. BEXINGTON

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



## ST MARY'S CHURCH

### DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the church for Christmas at 10.00am on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Help with this will be more than welcome so please come along - coffee and biscuits will be available.



### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

The annual Carols by Candlelight service will be at 5.00pm on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December (immediately after the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall) at which we will hear the Christmas Story, sing carols and assemble the crib. Following the service, mince pies and mulled wine will be served.

### CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> November

Meet at the village hall at 6.00pm. We'll be collecting for a local charity, Charis House, the Alabare Christian Care Centre in Weymouth. We will end the evening in a cozy, warm house with mince pies and mulled wine. Join us for all or part of the evening and spread a little Christmas cheer.



**If the weather is against us on Monday...we'll go for Tuesday!**



## PUNCKNOWLE ART GROUP

Having two workshops in one month has been very enjoyable.

Ronnie Creswell led us in an unusual form of layering and printing with a variety of colourful results. With Annabel Wilson we learnt the process of veiling using watercolour washes and hairdryers.

There is only one meeting in December, our Christmas Quiz and lunch when we will also be celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year.

Sadly we have lost our dear friend Doreen Newton. She was a founder

member of the art group twenty five years ago and recently took a spell as chairman until she felt unable to continue. As a keen artist she worked in many different media and shared her knowledge with everyone at meetings. We will miss her enthusiasm and sense of humour, but we will continue what she began and think of her often.



## END OF AN ERA

Marking "End of Shift" after 30 years, Dave Bird's Beard is coming off!!

Beer, laughs and collecting for **HELP 4 HEROES** from 7.00pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at The Crown Inn, Puncknowle. Sign the sponsor sheet at the pub or donations on the night. See you there!

Thanks, Dave

## VILLAGERS' CHRISTMAS CARD

in aid of

## ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTE.

Send your festive greetings to all your friends in the valley by signing the Christmas Card in the Crown Inn, from 4<sup>th</sup> December, and by donating to a very worthy cause.

*SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.*



## LITTLEBREDY

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT:

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



As "trailed" in the last edition, the next time the Village Hall will be open is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, for the **SOCIAL CLUB'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** at 7.30pm, followed by a Social Evening. The committee hopes that as many members as possible can attend the Meeting and play a part in the future direction of the Club, then of course stay on for the Social. Of course non-members are welcome too, but they will probably find themselves signed up!

The Hall will again be open two days later, on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December, from 10.30am till 1.30pm, for a **COFFEE MORNING**, including mince pies and other seasonal fare, plus a sale of local home made produce (jams, chutneys, cards, etc.). Again it is hoped that this new daytime venture will be attractive to as many villagers as possible and receive good support.

As usual, our **CAROL SERVICE** will be shared with our neighbouring village, and it is their turn to host it this year. It will take place in St. Peter's Church, Long Bredy, at 11.00am on the Sunday before Christmas, the 19<sup>th</sup> December, followed by the usual hospitality we extend to each other on these occasions. (N.B. Please note the change from the "traditional" Monday evening Carol Service.)

Our Service on **CHRISTMAS DAY** itself (a Saturday) will be a Holy Communion at 11.00am, and there will no service here on Boxing Day, although it is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month.

**A VERY HAPPY AND FULFILLING CHRISTMAS SEASON  
TO ALL LITTLEBREDY RESIDENTS, PAST AND PRESENT.**



## SHIPTON GORGE

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



## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

### CAROL SERVICE

*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December*

Our usual Service of Carols and Lessons will be led by James Webster. This Service will commence at 6.30pm and everyone is welcome. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the Village Hall after the service.



### CHRISTMAS DAY

Ryder Rogers will lead us in Holy Communion at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to this special service.

### BOXING DAY

There is no service at St Martin's on Boxing Day, although there is Holy Communion at 8.30am and Evening Prayer at 6.30pm at St Mary's, Burton Bradstock.

### HOLY COMMUNION

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January*

Bob Thorn will lead us in Holy Communion at 11.00am.

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

*Vicky Thomas*

## SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Shipton Gorge Parish Council is hoping to meet on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

## ALLOTMENTS IN SHIPTON GORGE

Are you interested in producing healthy food for you and your family or do you have land that could be leased or bought by an Allotment Society?

With the support of the Parish Council, a group of residents is looking at the possibility of allotments in the Shipton Gorge area. For further information please contact Maxine on 01308 897978. *Maxine Gilchrist*

## VILLAGE SOCIETY

The Quiz Night with Stew and Dumplings held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November in the Village Hall was a great success with more than 50 people exercising their brain power. Simon Cleveland set an excellent range of questions from General Knowledge to Government and Politics with something in between for everyone. Special thanks must go to Sally and Liz, with their helpers, who prepared and served an excellent meal which was enjoyed by all. We all hope that there will be a repeat performance in 2011.

## VILLAGE CAROL SINGING

We shall be singing carols around the village on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, so come and join our happy band of carollers in Brook street (by the telephone kiosk) at 6.30pm. Bring your family and friends - human and/or canine!



Carol sheets will be provided, and we shall sing our way to the New Inn by 8pm approx. We look forward to seeing you all!

*Janet Lane*

## NISL

New Inn Support Limited is pleased to announce that two new Directors have been elected to the Board with effect from November 1<sup>st</sup> 2010. They are Hilary Cunningham and Eric Benedict who will join Eddy Buck, Ann Hunt, John Kent and Sally Parker to add broader experience and skills to the Company as the Village Pub starts to look towards the second phase of its new existence.

Hilary (The Old Manor Farm, Shipton) is still serving Queen and Country as a Colonel in the Dental Corps based at Bovington Camp. She has also worked for Eldridge Pope Brewery. Eric (Bonscombe Farm) is Managing Director with AlixPartners and specialises in company turnarounds. We are confident that the Village will benefit from their involvement.

*E Buck for NISL*

## THE ORCHARD

The Shipton Gorge Ltd Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Afterwards we hope that you will stay and join us for a glass of wine and a festive mince pie.

*Barbara Chambers*

## VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

£20	No 28	Ian Daniel
£10	No 90	Ann Jones
£5	No 106	Roger Sorrell

## BURTON BRADSTOCK

VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT: IAN IBBOTSON,  
21 NORBURTON, BURTON BRADSTOCK  
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## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Our Christingle will be on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock. Children will be taking part in this service and everyone is invited to come and celebrate that Christ came to be the light of the world. It will be followed by a party for the children in the Village Hall.



Your support is needed for carol singing around the village for the Society on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Wear warm clothes, bring a torch and meet outside the Church at 6.00pm.

Further details from Pauline Woodford 898327

## BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

*For Bookings – Telephone 01308 898222*

### VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Please note that any bookings for the Village Hall for dates from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 onwards, should be made with the new Bookings Officer – David Edwards. David would like hirers to obtain booking form with terms and conditions and other relevant information via the village web site [www.burtonbradstock.org.uk](http://www.burtonbradstock.org.uk) and use the 'What's On', 'Village Hall Trust' links. He would prefer to be contacted by email on [bbvht.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:bbvht.bookings@gmail.com), however anyone not 'online' can contact David on 01308 897673.



Sessions are still available for booking on Monday (morning and afternoon), Wednesday (morning and evening from 7.45pm) and Friday (morning and afternoon).

## VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS MARKET

Come to Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday, 4th December, from 10.30am to 1.00pm) for freshly brewed coffee and French pastries and browse around festive stalls. The adult entrance fee, payable at the door, is £2.00 which includes the first cup of coffee and a pastry; children 50p to include juice and a pastry. Additional coffee and pastries will be on sale.



## VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS QUIZ

The Burton Bradstock Village Hall Committee is putting on its seasonal quiz in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Saturday 18th December from 7.30pm with a 7.45 prompt start for the quiz. In order to achieve comfortable seating arrangements bring along a team of 8, or join a team on the night. Enjoy not only a fun quiz but also complimentary nibbles and a light supper.

There will be prizes for quiz winners, a Raffle and a Bar and, if previous years' Christmas events are anything to go by, a great evening will be had by all. Tickets are now available from Burton Bradstock Post Office, priced £6.00 each.

## BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL TRUST AGM

The sixth BBVHT Annual General Meeting will be held in Burton Bradstock Village Hall on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at 7.45pm. 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.

*Susan Moores, Chairman Burton Bradstock Village Hall Trust - 01308 897673*

## BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE HALL "200 CLUB"

November 2010 Draw

Congratulations to the winners:

1st	£45.00	no. 79	Mrs Jeanne Hill
2nd	£22.50	no. 207	Mrs J V Suckling
3rd	£11.25	no. 112	Mrs Jan Clark

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

*WDDC Licence no: SL0080*

## ARTSREACH EVENTS

Theatre Mimi are presenting "**PHILEAS P SOUPER**" on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> December at Burton Bradstock Village Hall. But you may have seen this already by the time you get the December B.V.N.!! . If you have I hope that you have enjoyed



the show!

I did give advance information in the November edition of the B.V.N.

On Friday February 18<sup>th</sup> we shall have Tim Dalling of the New Rope String Band who will be presenting his one man show **"THE UNHAPPY PRINCE"** - poems, songs, music, stories and comedy.

And on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March , Publick Transport will present **"DEPARTMENT OF SMELLING PISTAKES"**. More information to follow in the January edition. *Norman Saunders-White, Promoter for Artsreach, 01308 897214*

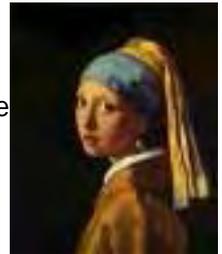
## **BURTON BRADSTOCK VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Some say it is remarkable how many regularly turn out for the Burton Bradstock Village Society talks each month; it's not really, when you consider the high density of cultured inhabitants the Village has.....

At the October meeting, David Hutchinson, a former guide at the New Tate, treated us to a no-nonsense examination of Vermeer's paintings of women. There were not many of them

Having died at the age of 43 years, he is known to have painted between 55 and 60 pictures, of which only 36 survive. Vermeer's leitmotif was the intense detail in every aspect of his work, which was particularly portraiture. There was much audience involvement and a little disagreement at times, which made for a most interesting evening, which far overran: a good sign!

We were encouraged to ask ourselves about what we were viewing: where was the light source? is she pregnant? what is the man doing with his hand? (such a question always lights up a few faces, I regret to report). We ended up feeling quite expert; the gaze of "Girl with the Pearl Earring" left us in no doubt that the link between pearls and eyes was death: easy!



Hutchinson felt that it was Vermeer's almost detached professionalism in the painting of his women that set him apart from others; someone asked, "What about Augustus John?" "Yes," he conceded, "there is a difference." Vermeer's paintings of women are possibly captivating precisely because of his remoteness from his subject.

John Grantham gave his usual articulate and thoughtful summary and a vote of thanks, saying that he would now give much more thought to what he should be doing with his hands and when he should wear a hat (which was asking for it, as he was promptly offered one from the audience).

The December talk will be on Friday 3rd, by Clive Kennedy, and will be topical: "A biologist among the Reindeer in Lapland" – certainly a more

original title than, “I don’t care what you want; get that reindeer of my roof”.

The pre-Christmas meeting is always packed so make sure to put this in your diary.



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Management of St Johns Ambulance sent their apologies to the residents of Burton Bradstock who were upset by the ‘foot in the door’ tactics of collectors in October. They have assured me it will not happen again and that their collecting agency will be investigated.

‘Scams’ seem to be the flavour of the moment. I always feel in the lead up to Christmas things go a bit daft! If you buy goods for sale that are not what is advertised or if you are approached by sales people claiming to be what they are not, then you can contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 or [consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://consumerdirect.gov.uk). This organisation also gives tips about how to order goods as safely as possible via the internet and helps with checking if emails are Scams. Their site is well worth a visit.

Dorset Police have a new page on their website [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk) called ‘Scam Busters’. This gives details of the latest scams and high-pressure cold calling incidents. If you have any non emergency calls with information to help the police then contact them on 01308 222222.

Finally – garden sheds have been broken into again. It seems a good padlock is not enough. I would suggest an alarm, also a sensor light plus a good window lock and curtains could be installed pronto to protect your tools and lawn mower.

Wishing you a happy and peaceful December. Do ring me if you want to. I’m here.

*Ian Pitt-Aikens, 01308-897440*

## BURTON BRADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

The Council meets monthly generally on the first Wednesday at 7.30 pm. Agendas and reports are posted on the Parish Council website [www.burtonbradstockparishcouncil.com](http://www.burtonbradstockparishcouncil.com)

At the next meeting, on 1<sup>st</sup> December, there will be a presentation on the County Council’s road improvements that will be carried out in the Village over the next few months, as well as updates on the leasing of the Library, the Post Office, and planning matters generally. There are always opportunities for members of the public to have their say.

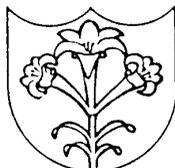
We also have a vacancy on the Council if anyone is interested in getting more involved. For details please contact the Parish Clerk, Fel Moore, on 01308 459001.

# LITTON CHENEY

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



**A very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year  
to everyone in Litton Cheney  
and all who read the Bride Valley News**  
*John and Sandra Yates. Christmas 2010*



## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

We look forward to welcoming you to our Christmas Services:

### CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December, at 6.00pm, followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

### CRIB SERVICE

Christmas Eve - 4.00 p.m.

### MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Eve 11.30pm.

There will be no service here on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December.

### CLEANING WORK PARTY

To make the Church look its best for the Christmas Season, there will be a cleaning work party on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 9.00am. If you can spare a few minutes to help during the morning we should be very pleased to see you. Refreshments provided!

## LITTON & THORNER'S COMMUNITY HALL

### DECEMBER EVENTS

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Film Night "The Young Victoria". Doors open 7.30pm.  
Film starts 8.00 p.m. Bar.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Party for children from the East End of the Bride Valley.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>** - 7.30pm "Keep Dancing"

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** - Family Film Show "Elf". Doors open 4.00pm. Film starts 4.30pm.

### JANUARY EVENTS

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>** - Film Night - details in January BVN

**Saturday 15th** - Village Cafe Farmhouse Breakfast run by, and in aid of Thorners School Association from 10.30am till 12.30pm. Please call Rachel on 482246.

For all other events and leisure activities please visit [www.littoncheney.org.uk](http://www.littoncheney.org.uk) for more details, and see January's BVN for news of New Year (2011) events.



**CONGRATULATIONS** are in order for one of our young scholars-Kieran Mulhall who in his first two months at Sir John Colfox has had many successes. He was named student of the month for his house Hinomaru, student of the month for year 7, second for his performance in an x-factor competition and 7th amongst over 60 competitors in a cross country match. He is also enjoying playing for year 7 rugby team. Very well done Kieran, you have worked very hard and your successes are very well deserved. Keep it up!!!

*June Clewlow*

## BEYOND THE VALLEY

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BRIDPORT & DISTRICT THE BRIDPORT NATIVITY

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

Watch Mary and Joseph coming from the west with their donkey (kindly loaned by Freshwater Holiday Park), the Magi coming from the east, and the shepherds from the south – and, of course, angels!! As always, a real live baby will play baby Jesus.

Tableaux, drama, and songs will take place in Bucky Doo Square – and you might even spot the odd llama.

This will be a signed event for the hard of hearing, and it will all happen on Saturday morning, 18<sup>th</sup> December from 11.00am. Do come and watch, sing and feel the real Christmas begin!



### BRIDPORT CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

at Bridport United Church on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm: with music by Holst, Bush, Rutter, and traditional carols in the special setting of the Christmas Tree Festival

Admission £6 adults, £3.50 children. Contact 01308 898484

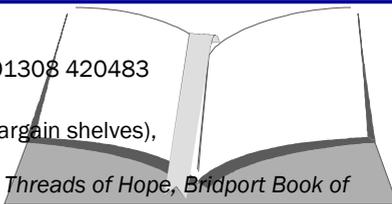
## GOOD BOOKS

St Mary's Old School, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3RL, Tel: 01308 420483  
email: orders@goodbooksbridport.co.uk

Good Books: for Christian books (including 2<sup>nd</sup> hand bargain shelves),  
cards, gifts and church supplies.

Home of *Bridport Good Neighbours/Pathways to Care, Threads of Hope, Bridport Book of Hours.*

Good Books opening hours: Monday-Friday 9.00am-1.00pm, Saturday 10.00am-12.00noon  
AND for tea & chat afternoons by arrangement.



**Santa Claus Open House** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 10.00am-2.00pm

Join us to celebrate **St Nicholas' Day** (December 6<sup>th</sup>) with music, carols and seasonal refreshments. Our **Lion/Candle Christmas Promotion** of children's books has around 38 titles, ranging from small books like *No Tree at Christmas* at £1.25 up to Christmas Jigsaws at £8.99, with all shapes and sizes in between. There are board books for younger readers, stencil/craft/sticker books, Christmas poems and all are available at 3 for the price of 2.

**The Leprosy Mission** catalogue has a wide range of Christmas gifts – borrow one to browse and order your presents through us post free.

**January Open House, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>: NEW YEAR SALE!**

Did you see **The Big Silence** on BBC2 last month? Call in to view **Growing into Silence**, a book of spiritual exercises which accompanied the series, and **Finding Sanctuary** by Christopher Jamison who introduced the programmes.

December sees the cinema release of **The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** - we have a selection of perennially popular Narnia and CS Lewis material available.

## BRIDPORT COMMUNITY LUNCH

1<sup>st</sup> December from 12.30-2.00pm

at Bridport United Church Hall, East Street. Bring-food to share and meet other volunteers from local voluntary and community groups and charities in Bridport and district, to share ideas, expertise and information.

Hosted by Churches Together and the Volunteer Centre West Dorset Branch (for more information contact Jo O'Farrell on 01038 420483, jo@jovian.co.uk or Karen Jones on k.jones@volunteeringdorset.org.uk)

## ARE YOU A PARENT?

Could you help Home-Start West Dorset make a difference to the lives of families who have a child under five years old by helping them to bring back the joy and fun of parenting. Our families need your support as Home-Visiting Volunteers. To help you carry out this role we are running another free Preparation



Home-Start West Dorset

Course starting on Thursday, 27th January in Dorchester which will give you the option of your training being recognised through accreditation with the Open College Network. For this role you will need to undergo a CRB check at enhanced level.

Your life skills could also be used by becoming a Trustee. If you would like to find out more, please contact Helen Horsley on 01305 755603/755608 or visit our website at [www.homestartwestdorset.co.uk](http://www.homestartwestdorset.co.uk).



## SIX NEW GROUPS LAUNCHED BY U3A

Six new groups are being launched by Bridport & District University of the Third Age (U3A). Three of them are arts and crafts: card making, lace making, and knit and natter. The others are: poetry, story telling and advanced Italian. It is also planned to start a second book group because of the long waiting list of people wanting to join.

For more details on the new groups and the other 20 plus groups which are already up and running, contact membership secretary Diana Coleridge on 01308 424431. The new groups were announced at the U3A's October meeting at the Christian Fellowship Hall, Bridport. A collection was taken at the meeting for AIDS charities following a talk by Robin Miller.

Speaker at the December meeting, to be held at the same venue on December 14 at 2.00pm, will be Paul Brickell, who will give a talk entitled 'Memories from 25 years with the Metropolitan Police'. Non members are welcome to attend, but there is a charge of £3.

Bridport & District U3A, which also covers Beaminster, Burton Bradstock and surrounding villages, was relaunched in January and is the fastest growing in the South West with nearly 250 members.

## DORSET BROADCASTING ACTION GROUP

Ofcom are carrying out a survey of Digital TV (Freeview) reception in West Dorset, beginning 15<sup>th</sup> November for a week. They are investigating some of the many complaints received by DorBAG on the quality of digital TV reception in their area. Many stated that their neighbours were also having problems. DorBAG has highlighted the areas most affected to Ofcom who have agreed to carry out a survey. So look out for a van with a TV aerial on a tall mast in your area.



Please approach them if you see the survey vehicle, and you have reception problems. Also, would you please tell your neighbours of this as they may also wish to talk to them.

Even if all is now well, please tell them the detail of the problems you

have encountered. Points to emphasise (if they apply) include having a satisfactory analogue signal before switchover, particular times of day when reception is unsatisfactory, differential loss of programmes, for example loss of BBC but not ITV. We really do need to get Ofcom to understand that something has to be done. The status quo is not acceptable, and cannot be allowed to stand. It would be useful (again if it applies) to emphasise that people have been forced to abandon the terrestrial service, and resort to a satellite solution with the additional costs involved, where this is possible without contravening the provisions of planning regulations.

May we remind you that this is a technical survey. Ofcom have been warned of the fury of those being served by relays over the comparative paucity of programmes, and, especially, the loss of ITV 3 and 4 after the national retune. It will do no harm to mention it if you so wish, but this team has no influence on which programmes are transmitted on which multiplex. Be assured that we have the people who are responsible in our sights as well.

## VALLEY NOTES

### VALLEY HOMEGROUP MEETINGS

The East End of the Valley Homegroup meet very Wednesday during term time from 7.30-9.00pm to study the bible and pray together. If you are interested in coming along please phone Sally 897068 or Dianne 897629 to find out venue.

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRIDE VALLEY BRANCH.

**SOCIAL EVENING** on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at The Three Horseshoes, Burton Bradstock. 7.30pm, when we shall be entertaining the Poppy Appeal Collectors.

**ANNUAL DINNER** on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at The Bridport and West Dorset Golf Clubhouse 6.30 for 7.00pm. Please return your application forms, money and choice of Menu to Jim Reeves by 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Ewell Court, Shipton Lane, Burton Bradstock, Dorset DT6 4NQ  
Tel 01308 897440



### ABBOTSBURY & PORTESHAM BRANCH

During the past year our organisation has helped 10,000 beneficiaries by putting £25m in their pockets or through reduction of debt. We helped 3,500 homeless or vulnerable veterans and supported 5000 elderly on low incomes. Our Poppy Appeal collections in the last year, from all sources, raised over £3040, an increase of £900 over the previous year.

The Branch has enjoyed holidays, day-trips, quality speakers, social events, comradeship and working together for the common cause. Isn't it about time you joined us? We welcome our newest member, Keith Hatter and hope he will have a long and happy association with the branch and its 95 members.

Our December meeting is a 2-course '**HOT SUPPER**' at £7.50 a head (non members welcome - add £2.50). Meeting at 7.00pm for 7.30pm at Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December the event also includes a large raffle, for which prizes would be appreciated.

Beyond the festive season there is the **RBL DORSET COUNTY CONFERENCE** at the Corn Exchange Blandford on 9<sup>th</sup> January. Those wishing to travel should contact the writer to share transport.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm is the time the **BRANCH v. WOMEN'S SECTION** get down to the urgent business of a **SKITTLES MATCH** at the Swan Inn, Abbotsbury. A light supper is available at £3.50 a head. Bookings would be appreciated, but not essential.

The **BRANCH QUARTERLY COMMITTEE MEETING** is at 7.30pm on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> January in Portesham Methodist Hall.

Coming up: **DAY TRIP TO ARUNDEL**, Sussex in April; **RBL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**, Telford 21/22<sup>nd</sup> April; Des & Jean Baker's charity fund raising **TOUR OF SOUTHERN NORWAY** 4<sup>th</sup> June.

For further details of any of the above events contact Des Baker Entertainments Chairman (01305 267617)

## ARTSREACH

### "The Wolves of Willoughby Chase"

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February at Litton & Thorner's Community Hall.

After last year's sell-out show, we're delighted to welcome back Forest Forge with their new winter production set in an alternative history of England, where wolves roam wild. It is a story of friendship, loyalty and adventure, brimming with unforgettable characters. *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* will be a beautiful and mad-cap winter storytelling performance featuring live music and animation, based on the classic children's novel. The show is recommended for children age 6+ and their families.

Box Office opens on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011.



## BURTON BRADSTOCK CE VC SCHOOL

We have had a super first half term here at Burton Bradstock School. Our Harvest Festival, held at St Mary's Church was well attended by members of our local community and parents/carers. All of the children took part in our service of thanksgiving and we had a good display of harvest gifts

that had either been generously donated by the children or grown ourselves in our school allotment. These were distributed to members of our local community. We were grateful to the members of the church team who provided refreshments afterwards.

We ended the first half term in October by focussing on Health and Safety for the week. This involved the children taking part in different activities on the theme of 'Be Healthy, Keep Safe'. The school welcomed a number of visitors including the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service to discuss fire safety, PC Grey to inform the children on Internet Safety and Recycler the Robot to talk about waste management. We also had a special assembly with Jan Hankin who told the children all about the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Within the classrooms the children started the day with daily aerobic dances and some children also made fresh fruit salads which they shared with their parents/carers. The school council representatives also walked around the school as 'Health and Safety Officers' identifying possible risks and suggesting actions to be taken to reduce the risks! Please check out our website for photographs [www.burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk)

This half term promises to be a busy and exciting one. We have already begun to think about and prepare for Christmas and when you read this we will be well into the swing of the festive season! Some of the events we have planned for December include the Christingle Service at St Mary's Church on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm, our Christmas Fair at the school on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10am - 1pm, Nativity at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm and at 6.00pm and finally our Carols Around the Tree on the last day, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, at 9.15am. We hope that you will be able to join us for some of our events.

Finally, at our recent Parents and Teachers Association Annual General Meeting an amendment was made to the constitution resulting in a change in the Association's name. The PTA has now become 'Friends of Burton Bradstock Primary School' which means that the membership is not exclusive to parents and teachers, but can include anyone who has an interest in supporting the school and a desire to help with fundraising. The Friends of the School meet regularly and new members are most welcome. If you would like to get involved, or find out more, please get in touch with the school office.

The staff and children of the school wish you a very peaceful festive season.

*Claire Staple, Headteacher*

## **BRIDE VALLEY FLEDGLINGS**

A BIG Welcome to new children - Saffi from West Bexington, William from Long Bredy, Imogen from Litton Cheney, plus Ella B. and Ella S. - yes two Ellas. They have all settled in well, and there are now 12 children here in the



group.

So far in November, we have made a highly colourful bonfire picture, and tried out flick pics to make firework pictures. We played in our "Dark Room" with torches to learn about light and dark (as the clocks went back) and celebrated Divali. Outside in the garden, we planted up some spring bulbs in 2 big pots.

Some children also had fun just digging in the garden, and finding worms was a huge hit. They were studied closely!

We had our Parents Cafe Morning on 9<sup>th</sup> November, when lots of Mums and Dads came along and were served drinks and cakes by the children, learned about the Early Years Curriculum, and were able to ask questions with Fiona. There was another Clothes Swap evening at Diana's house and a meeting held by the new Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

I expect you have all seen the adverts for the "**AUCTION OF PROMISES**" fund-raiser on 4<sup>th</sup> December - the promises look interesting: and the new hall is booked for our **CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Monday afternoon, 13<sup>th</sup> December.

For any information re Fledglings at Thorners School - places are available - please ring Fiona Evans on 01308 482410.

## THORNER'S CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

At the beginning of November a group of pupils took part in the Cluster Fun Run. The photograph shows them waiting before walking up to the start.

This race has been taking place for the last 10 years and I am glad to say that this year the weather was kind to everyone: it was one of those lovely crisp mornings, ideal for cross country running. The race was set up to give primary school children the opportunity to experience cross country running before they



moved on to secondary schools and what an experience it is! The children who take part are very enthusiastic each with their own goals; to be first home for the school, or to be in front of their friend. We congratulate all of you on running the 2 mile course.

During this week parents have joined us for our celebration



assemblies, where each class has shown the variety of work which takes place in school. It makes me so proud when I see each member of each class take on a role. Sometimes this can be what seems so simple to us but to them is quite a challenge - like standing up and showing a picture or singing with their friends. As the children get older they take on increased responsibility for the choice of organisation and composition, leading more and more.

The youngest children in Chesil used the theme of Fireworks to share their poetry, dance and artistic talents, while Bredy based all their items on Ancient Egypt; telling a story with drama, informing us in detail through a wrap, about mummification. The eldest children in Eggardon shared some of their Design and Technology slippers, landscape paintings, stories which were inspired by 'Hodgeheg' and some digital art created from photographs they had taken and then manipulated on the computer.

In each of the classes you can see how different each of the children are; how individuals have different needs and strengths. Thank you to all the parents, governors and friends who made the effort to join us on those mornings. Without you there would be a very limited audience.

At the end of term we are looking forward to our Christmas Production on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 6.30pm in the Hall, so if you would like to come and join us and watch all the Key Stage 2 children take part in 'One Bright Star' and the Key Stage 1 children in a Nativity Play.

*Alison Johnston. Headteacher*

## 100 CLUB WINNERS

with apologies for lateness:

<b>September</b>	£15	Miss Sheldrick
	£10	Mrs Shepherd
<b>October</b>	£15	Mrs Barnes
	£10	Mrs Harp
<b>November</b>	£15	Mrs Neill
	£10	Ms Legge

## BRIDE VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

We finished our Club gardening year with a most interesting talk from Dr. Sue Eden on our indigenous dormice which are probably far more numerous than previously believed and can often be found hidden in our gardens. Sue showed us lovely images of these endearing creatures, many of them pictured tightly curled up. Their hibernation can last from September to April, otherwise they tend to be nocturnal. The talk was followed by a cheese and wine party.



We are now preparing our programme for 2011 one of the highlights being a talk from Anna Pavord in April. Full details of this and other events next year will be publicised early in the New Year.

The Bride Valley Gardening Club sends all our members and the readers of the Bride Valley News its best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a fruitful and productive New Year.

### **JOBS TO DO:**

Support Brussel sprouts. Sow seeds of alpines now as they benefit from a cold period. Pelargonium seeds can also be sown now. Check petals of house plants, such as cyclamen, for early stages of botrytis and remove affected flowers. Make sure there is clean water available at all times for garden birds.



### **KEEPING WARM WILL HELP YOU TO KEEP WELL.**

Make sure your house (or at least the room you use) is heated to around 70F (21C), wear several thin layers instead of one thick one and don't forget a hat, gloves and scarf if you go out. Have warm meals and drinks and keep moving if only a little.

For more information on keeping well during the winter visit the NHS Dorset website [www.dorset-pct.nhs.uk](http://www.dorset-pct.nhs.uk) or phone NHS Direct on 0845 4647.

## **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS**

### **BRIDPORT RURAL EAST TEAM**

As the dark evenings are upon us, can I remind everyone to be vigilant and report any suspicious circumstances, including vehicles and people to Dorset Police on 01305/01202 222222 if not an emergency. As always 999 should be used in an emergency.



We have recently had some thefts including shed breaks where garden machinery was stolen and also vehicle breaks, including vehicles that have been parked at Eggardon Hill. There was also a large fire at Swyre where around £20000 worth of hay was destroyed with the investigation continuing into the cause of the fire.

A worthwhile product that has been brought onto the market is a property marking system called SELECTA DNA. The kit costs around £20 and for that you get a bottle of unique solution and a lifetime registration onto SELECTA DNA's database.

The solution contains unique microdots that can be applied to valuables, machinery and equipment, and becomes visible when an ultra violet light is passed over the solution. Any recovered items by the Police are checked for ultraviolet markings and hopefully can then be reunited with their owners.

Further details can be found at [www.selectamark.co.uk](http://www.selectamark.co.uk) and kits can be purchased from [www.streetwise.org.uk](http://www.streetwise.org.uk) Further crime prevention accessories are also available from their online store.

If anyone would like any further information please contact myself or PCSO Andy Burdess 5419 on 01305 226930.



*Lavender Trust*  
*Breast Cancer Care*

## **“A Treasury of Christmas” Flower Arranging Demonstration**

**By Andrea Wilkinson**

**In the Village Hall, Burton Bradstock  
On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December,  
2.30pm - 5.00pm**

**Tickets £6.00 to include refreshments  
available from Burton Bradstock Post Office.**

**BRIDE VALLEY FLEDGLINGS CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER**

## **AUCTION OF PROMISES**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT LITTON CHENEY VILLAGE HALL.**

Lots to be auctioned include a family day out at Farmer Palmers, an evening's deer stalking, many local meals out and some great treats ready for Christmas.

**Doors open at 7.30 pm and the auction starts at 9.00.**

**Tickets £8.00 each or £15.00 per couple  
from The White Horse in Litton Cheney, Thorners School**

**VILLAGE WEBSITES,** *giving details of events, news, history, photographs*



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

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

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

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

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

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

## BRIDE VALLEY FILMS

This month we are showing a mainstream film and a Christmas film for all ages.

### THE YOUNG VICTORIA

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. 'A beautiful story'. Cert.PG 1½ hrs.

From Academy Award winners Graham King and Martin Scorsese and written by Julian Fellowes, comes the story of Queen Victoria's early rise to power. From an object of a royal power-struggle into her romantic courtship and legendary marriage to Prince Albert, Emily Blunt gives a stunning performance as the young Victoria. Winner of the Academy Award for Best Costume Design.



Doors Open: 7.30pm: film starts 8.00 p.m. Tickets: £5.00 (to include a glass of wine)

### ELF

Sunday, 12th December. 'A brilliant Christmas film'. Cert.PG 1½ hrs.



After inadvertently wreaking havoc on the elf community due to his ungainly size, a man raised as an elf at the North Pole (Will Ferrell) is sent to the U.S. in search of his true identity. This charming fantasy is packed full of hysterically funny moments and is destined to be a future classic!

Doors Open: 4.00pm: film starts 4.30 p.m. Tickets £3.00; Twelve and under £2.50

Tickets in advance from: Sally Dyke 482752, Lois Edwards 482605, Elizabeth Kingston 482162, Bella Spurrier 482367 or on the door if available. (All nos. 01308)

### PLANS FOR 2011

The first three dates for our New Year Season are Thursday 13th January, Wednesday 16th February, Thursday 17th March. We are leaving final film choices until a bit nearer the time in the hope of finding out a bit more about Christmas TV schedules, so please look out for details in the BVN, on posters and on the website.

# ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

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

## On the perils of brides in churches

The Rectory  
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Our final wedding of the year was perhaps a little more memorable than any of us had anticipated. It was a charming scene, with everywhere covered in snow - although a good job the bride had a bouquet of red roses, otherwise no one would have been able to find her.

As the photographer, bridesmaids and I stood at the lych gate, the bridal car arrived, braked - and carried on, sliding down the lane sideways and into the neighbouring farmyard. Fortunately, Mr Jones was there to use his tractor to pull it out of the mud.

Our verger, having attended the diocesan verger's guild Christmas party the night before, arrived late and did not have time to clear the church path. The path, being on an incline and bridal pumps not being equal to the task, the bride made a dramatic entrance into church backwards and on her bottom, demolishing the flower pedestal by the door in the process. Fortunately the petals stuck to the large patch of mud on her behind, making the congregation speculate throughout the service why she had a large floral cushion attached to her dress.

Our organist did not please the bride's mother by changing the wedding march to the skater's waltz as her daughter reeled up the aisle. He is still under a cloud from last week's funeral for our local butcher, when he played at the end of the service Bach's: "Sheep may safely graze".

At St James the Least, the best man stands over a large heating grid. The poor soul, unaccustomed to our ecclesiastical arctic climate, was shivering so violently,

he dropped the rings down the grid. There had to be a half-hour pause while the grating was removed and the groom, holding the best man's legs, lowered him into the hole to fish for them, lost among choirmen's peppermints and the organ tuner's cigarette ends.

In future, I have decided that wedding rehearsals should be full dress rehearsals. The bride, in a hooped dress, was 4 feet wide; the vestry door is 3 feet wide. Getting in to sign the registers was fairly easy, as the bride, a game girl, took a run up along the chancel and so built up enough momentum. Her exit was more difficult, but with the combined pushing of groom and bridesmaids, she re-emerged into church like a cork out of a bottle - thus demolishing the second pedestal of flowers in the chancel.

Married life, they say, is not always a bed of roses, but hers has certainly begun that way.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



## FROM THE EDITOR

### CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

Please note that as of now, the email address for copy, and any other messages, for the Editor is

**[valleynews@btinternet.com](mailto:valleynews@btinternet.com).**

The old address will be valid for some time yet, but delivery may well be delayed.

The telephone number and postal address remain as before.

**[PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR JANUARY EDITION IS 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER](#)**



**Happy Christmas  
and Good Health in the New Year**

to all our readers and contributors, with special thanks to the Village Correspondents, (and their occasional stand-ins) without whom this job would be impossible.

## BITS & PIECES

### OUT OF ORDER!

I loved the cartoon in a recent BVN: tellin' the story of David an' Golieth in pictures. Great stuff, but I don't remember David usin' a catapult, as illustrated, 'e 'ad a sling as I recall: well-out-of-order! But it got me thinkin'. It's a nice up datin' of the story and much easier to re-enact. Charlton Heston as Golieth and maybe William Hague as little Dave. Then we could have Samson and the Hairdresser; quite fective, usin' the facilities of Salon on the Square at Beminster. Deililar could maybe Lady Gaga; she could wear all that parma ham and stuff that has made 'er famous.

The one that really grabs me is Moses an' the helicopter: as it lands, the water is parted so that Moses can swoop off in the chopper, leavin' the rest to their chances. All this is well-out-of-order on my part and is not acceptable – I've been in enough trouble with the Legion (British Legion, that is, not Foreign Legion - which I got on quite well with). So must try to keep off the BVN stuff or I shall find me self with my arm in a sling....or maybe a catapult.

I 'ope that anyone who sent in stuff for the BVN to my e mail (below) was satisfactrily dealt with. Thankfully Ibsen will be back from 'is skiin' holiday by next month, then I can get on with my real vacation, deallin' with things that are out-of-order in the village. I have received a number of issues this month:

One: it 'as come to my ears that PC Pitts Aching is now thretning to put his dog on the trail of cold callers. Take this serious! I 'ave 'ad a number of encounters wittth said Bazil the Dog: 'e is not to be meddled with! I 'ear that PC Aching has a number of leads though I guess he could be barking up the wrong tree (ha ha!). I spose I shall 'ave to lock up my helium bottle this Christmas if there nickin' gas from the caravans and garden sheds now; actually, I'll just move back into the shed.

Two: it is well-out-of-order that there is no second chance to get in on the Pop Up Restrront scam. They tell me the waitresses was a "spectacle to behold..."

Three (quite serius): I 'ear someone has been beefin' about,

havin' to pay a fiver on top of bringin' a dish, to the Harvest Supper. Bearin' in mind that this is the best blow out of the Church year, forgive me if I observe that I don't see many attendees that only eat as much as they bring! What about all the extras? And I happen to know that any left overs (cash that is!) goes to charity. It would be good to remember that Harvest Supper is a great do but it ain't the feedin' of the five thousand! Well-out-of-order!

L/Cpl Dave Bellows (ret'd)  
Little Breeding; Well-out-of-order@hotmail.co.uk

## OVER THE SWANNERY WALL

by Perry Scope

Morrison's is always a wonderful source of material. Looking at a display of bright clematis, I couldn't help wincing when I saw the label: "Wall Climbers". Aaaarrghh!! I nearly became one, as I do whenever I see those other let's-smash-our-beautiful-language monsters - the yellow signs on every approach to Abbotsbury - "Baby Swans". This latter has become my release curse for such occasions. As I muttered those two expletives in exasperation, two ladies nearby laughed and actually repeated it in chorus, clearly of the same opinion. Why do they dumb down everything? Well, of course, they don't; they just don't know any better. Actually, who are *they*? There is not one of us who has not been taught (and remembers with great pride) the correct name for a baby swan - and I'm *not* going to say the word! And we all know what a *clematis* is!

The Times recently bore a full page advertisement by Marks and Sparks, promoting, amongst other wares: "Brazilian - £9.50" (Calm down gents!) I confess, I thought this was a bargain! £9.50 is a lot less than we paid our last *au pair*. Still, maybe that's per hour. By chance, finding myself in M and S last week, I investigated this phenomenon. Of course, I had misread this piece of excitement: it was not a Brazilian I was about to purchase; it was, in fact, a pair of fancy pants! Now, how on earth did a *pair* of pants get to be called a Brazilian? Clearly, this is in case we do not understand the English way with plurals. Looking round the store, I felt a "*baby swans*" moment coming on (again). There was a stand of packets, each labelled "Long Pant" and nearby, another with the

banner, "Long trouser". Then there was a package described as "5 Bikinis" - Mrs S bought one for the forthcoming winter holiday. (I must say I was delighted when she opened what she had bought - in fact, I confess, I was seized with a wave of nostalgia for the holidays we had when we first met. The 5 "bikinis" turned out to be what we once called "monokinis" [you, know, just the one half!]). But, of course, they had sold her 5 pairs of pants: or should that be 5 pants, there being nothing these days that can be called a pair if it is be less than two items: "knickers" would suffer the same fate. So, a bikini is a pair of pants; a pair of socks is still OK; so is a pair of stockings; *pair* of trousers? Not any longer; ditto, a *pair* of tights? I assume that these things are now called tight (singular), but shouldn't it have a question mark? It's all so much easier isn't it? AAaaaarrngghh!!! Baby swans!!!

*Editor's note: I was going to illustrate this rant, but after having looked at the "Brazilian" on the M&S website, I thought my motives might be (at best) misconstrued.*

## “BVN: A Site to Behold!”

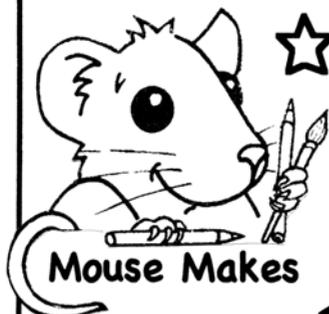
On behalf of all our contributors, Dave and Otty Bellows would like to pay tribute to our Editor this Christmas, for keepin' it all together once again (well twelve times actually) every month,  
A Briwl Yent Magazine! Well done Mike!

## SOLUTIONS TO THIS MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

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

# FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE



There were shepherds that night in the fields taking care of their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared and said  
*"Don't be afraid, I am here with good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today a saviour has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord".*

from Luke 2:11-12.

Read The Christmas story in Luke 2:1-20.



glue

To make this Christmas decoration:

- Carefully cut out around the edge then colour in
- Curl around and glue into a cone shape



- Tie a length of ribbon through each
- Fill with sweets and hang on the tree!



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
from all over the world!

**JOYEUX NOEL**

(French)

**GOD JUL**

(Swedish)

**BOUN NATALE**

(Italian)

**FELIZ NAVIDAD**

(Spanish)

Dec10



## Rainbow Rhymes

Poems and Promises to cut out and collect.

### Back to Front Christmas

There's something odd about Christmas,  
In a back to front sort of way,  
I can't help thinking that Christmas  
Is a back to front sort of day.

We give presents to all of our family,  
And people give presents to us,  
But what have we done to deserve it  
And why do we need such a fuss?

It's strange that the person whose birthday  
Is the cause of this annual rave  
Is often ignored, and not mentioned  
On the cards and the presents we gave.

He's left out of his very own party,  
No presents for Jesus today,  
In the rush of our back to front Christmas  
His presents are hidden away.

A thank you would be a good present  
For the treasure the poor shepherds found,  
Just a moment to think about Jesus  
Turns our back to front Christmas back round.



"Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." Luke 2:14 (NLT)

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



## A LIGHT TO WELCOME

Just 30 years ago all people had were decorated trees and a few paper-chains at Christmas, but now we have wreaths on the front door, outdoor lights in gardens; and the most recent addition, those arched candle-sticks with 7 or more electric candles to stand on windowsills.

This custom came to us from Scandinavia. The story is that in weeks before Christmas, like that first Christmas nearly 2,000 years ago, Mary and Joseph wander the world looking for a place where they will be safe. They look

for a welcome light in the window. And that is why we put the lights in our window: to invite the Holy Family into our homes at the darkest and coldest

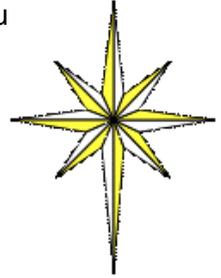
part of the year. The candles say that Christ is welcome in our homes, to be born in our hearts and that we invite him to stay with us - not just for Christmas but for all time.



## SKY LIGHTS

Stars are another source of light and the wise men and shepherds followed a star to the baby Jesus.

The answers to this quiz all start with the letters STAR so can you say which Star.



1. is the right-hand side of a ship?
2. is a bird?
3. is used to stiffen things?
4. is to look with wide open eyes?
5. is the US flag?
6. is someone who sets a race off?
7. is suddenly surprised?



### What carol is heard in the desert?

Camel ye faithful.

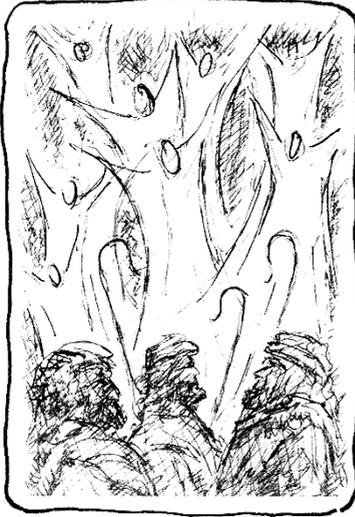


### What's impossible to overtake at Christmas?

The three wide men.



Answers: 1 starboard 2 starling 3 starch 4 stare  
5 Stars & Stripes  
6 starter 7 startled



**We may  
feel  
'ordinary'  
but we  
can  
all be  
extraordinary**

Ordinary people  
in a field.  
Farmers looking after  
their sheep.  
Ordinary people  
Going to the  
Tax Office;  
but nowhere to stay.  
everything booked.  
Have to stay in  
the simplest place:  
a shed behind the pub.  
Ordinary but  
extraordinary.  
Signs in the sky;  
angels singing;  
amazing moments.  
A baby born in that shed.  
but his mother a virgin.  
Angels come  
to her too.  
All of us are ordinary;  
but with Jesus all is  
*extraordinary.*

**Read more in Luke 1 & 2**



William Mather ©

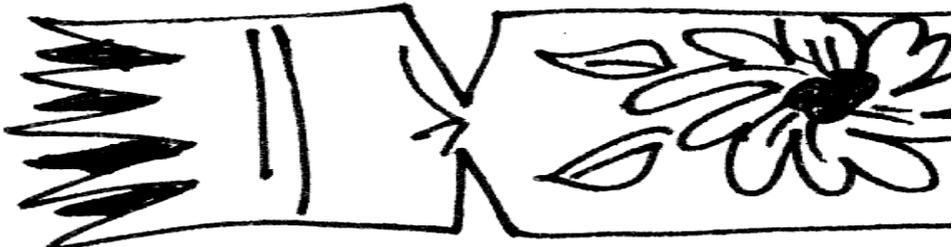


# SUNDAY and CELEBRATIONS

## IN THE BRIDE VALE PARISH

### DECEMBER

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 5 December 2 Advent</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 12 December 3 Advent</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 19 December 4 Advent</b>
<b>Burton Bradstock</b>	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Songs of Praise 6.00 Evening Prayer	9.30 Family Service 11.00 Holy Communion 6.30 Evening prayer	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Family Service 11.00 Holy Communion (by extension) 6.30 Carol Service
<b>Shipton Gorge</b>	11.00 Holy Communion	9.30 Morning Prayer	6.30 Carol Service
<b>Swyre</b>	3.30 Evening Prayer	11.00 Holy Communion (by extension)	11.00 Morning Worship
<b>Puncknowle</b>	9.30 Holy Communion (by extension)	5.00 Carol Service	8.00 Holy Communion
<b>Litton Cheney</b>	11.00 Family Service	9.30 Holy Communion	6.00 Carol Service
<b>Long Bredy</b>	11.00 Holy Communion		11.00 Carol Service
<b>Littlebredy</b>		11.00am Family Communion (by extension)	



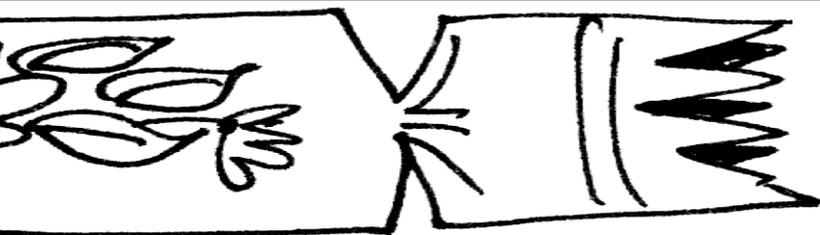
# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

## VALLEY CHURCHES

### DECEMBER 2010



Day Month Time	Friday <b>Christmas Eve</b>	Saturday <b>Christmas Day</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday <b>26 December St John</b>
Communion Service Communion (extension) Service	11.30 Holy Communion  5.30 Crib Service	8.00 Holy Communion 11.00am Christmas Service	9.30am Family Holy Communion  6.30 Evening Prayer
Service		9.30 Family Holy Communion	
Worship	9.30pm Holy Communion		
Communion		11.00 Family Holy Communion	
Service	4.00 Crib Service 11.30pm Holy Communion		
Service			
		11.00 Holy Communion	



# S U D D O K U

*Solutions  
on p. 35*

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

*Easy*  
←

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

*Intermediate*  
←

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# DIARY OF EVENTS: DECEMBER 2010

Wed	1	12.30pm	Bridport Community Lunch	Bridport United Church
		3.00pm	Open Broadband Session	PSWB Village Hall
		7.30pm	Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/897629
		7.30pm	Book Club	Village Hall, Puncknowle
			Artsreach "Phileas P Souper	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
		7.30pm	Burton Bradstock Parish Council Mtg	Burton Bradstock Reading Room
Thu	2	2.30pm	Treasury Of Christmas (Lavender Trust)	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
		7.30pm	Film "Young Victoria"	LATCH
		9.00am	Church Cleaning	St Mary, Litton Cheney
Fri	3	10.00am	Santa Claus Open Day	Good Books, Bridport
		7.30pm	Dave Bird's Beard (H4H)	The Crown, Puncknowle
			BBVS Talk by Clive Kennedy	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Sat	4	10.30am	Dedication of Works	Holy Trinity, Swyre
		10.30am	Christmas Market	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
		11.00am	Coffee Morning	Holy Trinity, Swyre
		7.30pm	Bridport Choral Society Christmas Concert	Bridport United Church
Sun	5	3.00pm	Eastern Valley Christmas Party	LATCH
		7.00pm	One World Worship	Othona Community
Mon	6	7.30pm	RBL(BV) Social Evening	3 Horseshoes, B Bradstock
Tue	7	2.00pm	Bride Valley Knitting Group	Ourganics, Litton Cheney
		7.00pm	Bride Valley Youth Club	LATCH
		7.30pm	Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council	PSWB Village Hall
Wed	8	7.30pm	Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/629
Thu	9	2.30pm	BV Guild of Health Meditation	Othona Community
		7.00pm	RBL (A&P) Hot Supper	Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury
Fri	10	3.30pm	Christingle Service	St Mary, Burton Bradstock
		7.30pm	Social Club AGM & Social Eve	Littlebredy Village Hall
Sat	11	11.00am	Carol Service	St Peter, Long Bredy
		7.30pm	Keeeeeep Dancing	LATCH
		10.30am	Coffee Morning	Littlebredy Village Hall
Sun	12	3.30pm	Christmas Fayre	Village Hall, Puncknowle
		4.00pm	Film "Elf"	LATCH
		5.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St Mary, Puncknowle
Mon	13	6.00pm	Carol Service	St Mary, Burton Bradstock
Tue	14	2.00pm	U3A Talk by Paul Brickell	Christian F'ship Hall, B'port
Wed	15	3.00pm	Open Broadband Session	PSWB Village Hall
		7.00pm	Shipton Gorge Ltd AGM	Shipton Gorge Village Hall
		7.30pm	Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/629
Thu	16	7.30pm	British Heart Foundation Meeting	Bridport Christian F'ship Hall
Sat	18	11.00pm	Bridport Nativity	Bucky Doo Sq., Bridport
		7.30pm	Christmas Quiz	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Sun	19	6.00pm	Carol Service	St Mary, Litton Cheney
		6.30pm	Carol Service	St Martin, Shipton Gorge
		7.45pm	BBVHT AGM	Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Mon	20	6.00pm	Carol Singing around Puncknowle	Meet in Village Hall yard, Pknowle
Tue	21	12.30pm	Puncknowle & Swyre Lunch Club	PSWB Village Hall
		2.00pm	Bride Valley Knitting Group	Ourganics, Litton Cheney
		6.30pm	Carol Singing around Shipton Gorge	Meet at Telephone Kiosk
		7.30pm	Charity Whist Drive	The Bull, Swyre
Wed	22	7.30pm	Eastern Valley Home Group	phone 897068/629
Thu	23	2.30pm	BV Guild of Health Meditation	Othona Community

