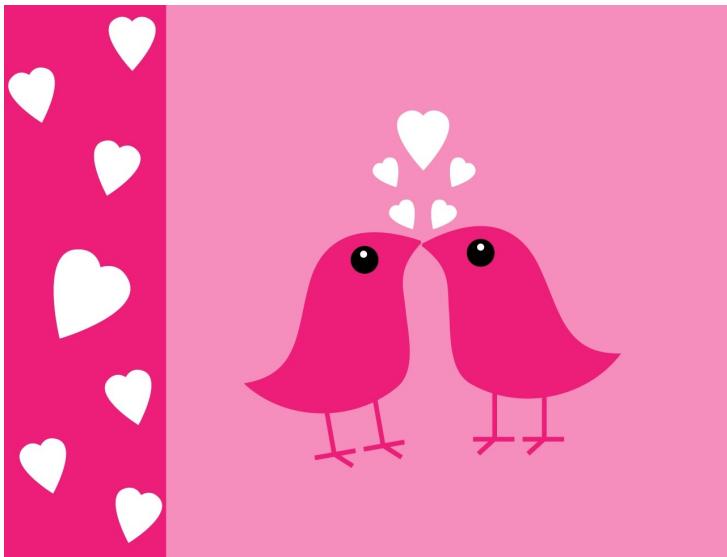


# THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF  
STURMINSTER MARSHALL,  
SHAPWICK, PAMPHILL & COWGROVE



## February 2026

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**The Bridge Magazine is sponsored by  
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## THE BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Bridge Publications is the committee which produces the Bridge Magazine for the communities of Sturminster Marshall, Shapwick, Pamhill and Cowgrove.

It is financially independent of these communities: its revenue comes from advertising fees and fundraising activities. Our Chairman is Barry Johnson, our Editor is Sally Plowright and our Advertising Manager is Liz York.

### Articles

Contributions are welcome from all sectors of the community served by the parishes. Please email your article, which should be prepared on **A5** size pages, in MS Word (.doc or .docx), or it can be a .jpg file or .pdf file, to [bridgemagazinedorset@gmail.com](mailto:bridgemagazinedorset@gmail.com)

You will receive a reply. If you do not receive a reply, please make enquiries.

If you have no email then please print your copy and send it to 7 Parkelea, Sturminster Marshall BH21 4DG, FAO: Editor of The Bridge Magazine.

**The submission deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the month**

### Advertisements

Our advertising fees are as shown on page 3. If you would like to place a commercial advertisement then please submit it by email to [bridgeadvertising@outlook.com](mailto:bridgeadvertising@outlook.com)

**Please do not send any advertisements directly to the Editor.**

If you need help with producing your advert you may contact Liz by post at 7 Parkelea, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4DG (marking the envelope Bridge Advertising) or by phone at **01258 857528**. We will then be in touch. Please call **01258 857528** if you do not get an acknowledgement, and ask for Liz. This is the number for all advertising enquiries.

**The submission deadline for adverts for the next issue is the 12th of the month**

**Inserts:** Your loose leaf inserts or flyers can also be inserted in The Bridge for £20. **Please provide 300 copies of your leaflet, in banded bundles of 25, folded to A5 size** if larger, to tbc, between the **27th and 28th** of the month.

If you follow up any advertisement could you please mention that you saw it in The Bridge.

The Bridge is printed by CMP UK, [www.cmp-uk.com](http://www.cmp-uk.com), tel. 01202 739993

## From the Chair - Bridge Publications

The Bridge Magazine is entirely funded by advertising and generous donations from our sponsors. We are particularly grateful to our main sponsor, the excellent Red Lion pub, who support many other activities in Sturminster Marshall and are truly the centre of our community.

If you run a small business in the village why not consider advertising with us, which could not only bring you customers, but also demonstrate your support for the community. If you enjoy reading The Bridge and would like to support us with a monthly or one-off donation, the amount would be up to you, our bank details are below. In order that we can keep a record we would be grateful if you could send an email confirming your action to [ebarryjohnson@aol.com](mailto:ebarryjohnson@aol.com)

Bank Details: Bridge Publications – Sort Code 209696 - Account 00026530

**Barry Johnson**

## The Bridge Magazine – Collection Points

### **Sturminster Marshall:**

Premier, Spar, The Red Lion, St. Mary's Church, Memorial Hall, Vines Close.

### **Shapwick:**

St. Bartholomew's Church, The Anchor.

### **Pamphill and Cowgrove:**

St. Stephen's Church, Pamphill Dairy.

## Bridge Magazine advertising fees

<b>Duration</b>	<b>full page</b>	<b>1/2 page</b>	<b>1/4 page</b>	<b>1/8 page</b>
12 months	£220	£120	£65	£35
6 months	£120	£65	£35	£30
3 months	£60	£30	£20	£15
1 month	£20	£15		

## From The Church

My name is David. You'll be seeing me around the Red Post churches over the next few months. I've joined you for a short placement, serving alongside Jane as Curate to help me better understand rural ministry.

I am probably not the sort of person you would have expected to become a vicar. As a child, I was the noisy oik disrupting services — running around the pews, tripping people up, and even sneaking under the altar to light matches.



As a teenager, I gave my mum no end of grief for dragging me to church, making sure everyone noticed the scowl on my face as I played my Gameboy with my knees propped on the pew in front. By the time I was a young adult, I was a perfectly convinced atheist: a lost cause.

When my wife and I decided to get married, we chose a church as a beautiful venue that would keep our parents happy. Faith wasn't part of the plan. All this is to say, until the age of 26, I had given every churchgoer I'd ever met good reason to feel cynical about visitors.

What changed? To prepare for our wedding, we took a marriage course with an older couple from the church. They were generous with their time, honest about their own lives, and quietly wise. On our wedding day, the vicar who married us spoke with a visible sense of joy and hope for our future. And at our reception in Morden Village Hall, all my mum's church friends turned up to serve the buffet and wash up mugs.

Standing at the top table and looking out at these people, something clicked. This is "grace". Simple, unearned, undeserved kindness that can't be repaid. In that moment, I realised I wanted this thing called grace to shape my own life. This is what led me to Jesus.

That's my story — but it's also a story about the people we're likely to meet in church every week. The noisy children who seem to be taking nothing in. The guests who come for a baptism and never return. The people with folded arms, scowls, or polite disinterest. If Jesus can make himself known in my life, I believe he can do it for anyone. Never underestimate the quiet power of a faithful welcome — you never know whose life God is changing through it.

Come and meet me between now and Easter! I'd love to hear your story too.

David

Revd David Reed  
Assistant Curate



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## St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

### January Draw

#### Main draw

£50	57	David and Lindy Whitmarsh
£30	53	Heather Trenchard
£20	32	Maurice and Carol Kershaw

Congratulations to this month's winners.

And thank you to everyone who has bought NUMBER(S) for 2026. It's not too late to join — please contact one of the committee members below. NUMBERS cost just £2 per month.

Liz Jones: 49 Railway Drive, Sturminster Marshall. (01258 857076)

Karen Royles: Parkfield, Newton Road, Sturminster Marshall. (07761 867738)

Sonia Cade: Bailie View, 24 Dullar Lane, Sturminster Marshall (07717 614270)

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### **FEBRUARY FILMS**

Please check all start times

9th - 12th      Nuremberg  
14th              Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour 2026  
16h - 18th       Fackham Hall

### **FEBRUARY SHOWS**

1st              Geoff Norcott: Basic Bloke 2: There's No Bloke Without Fire  
4th              Justin Hawkins Rides Again ...Again  
5th              Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years  
6th              Showaddywaddy in Concert  
11th              The Irish House Party  
13th              Luther UK: the ultimate Luther Vandross experience  
19th - 21st      Von Ribbentrop's Watch  
                    Wimborne Drama Productions  
24th              Simon Evans: Staring at the Sun  
25th              Coleen Nolan: This Is Me  
26th              The Wonder of Stevie  
27th              From Gold To Rio  
28th              Brave Rival 2026 Tour

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But above all, we are a friendly club with a great spirit and a warm welcome to new members. If you would like to learn more about us, please contact John Lewis on 01929 459357 or by email at [dilyn76@hotmail.com](mailto:dilyn76@hotmail.com)

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## **February Activities at The Old School**

+++++

**Discovery Café - Saturday 7th February at 2.30pm**

**“The Rise and Fall of Captain Jack”**

***A dramatic flight through the first half of the 20th-century***

***An illustrated talk by Adrian Holden***

+++++

**Film Society - Thursday 12th February at 7.30pm**

**By special request:**

**“Dr Zhivago” (1965), dir. David Lean**

+++++

**Mackrell Lecture - Saturday 14th February at 2.30pm**

**“Art in 19th-century Venice”**

***Poets, Painters and Private Lives***

***An illustrated talk by Douglas Skeggs***

+++++

**Bridge group continues on Thursday mornings at 10am**

**for more info contact Katy Norman on 01258 857081**

**or [katy.norman1@btinternet.com](mailto:katy.norman1@btinternet.com)**

+++++

***See our website and separate posters in the Bridge  
for details of all our activities.***

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# Art in 19th Century Venice

Poets, Painters & Private Lives



an illustrated talk by Douglas Skeggs

at The Old School, Sturminster Marshall  
**Saturday 14th February 2026**

2.30pm  
Tickets on the door: £10  
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Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2.30 pm

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## Thank You from the Social Lunch Club

Heather, Gladys and the team would like to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has joined us since the club's relaunch after the Covid pandemic.

It was so nice to see so many familiar faces gathered together at our Christmas meal. This event was especially meaningful, as it marked our final gathering for the time being. Although this chapter is ending for us now, we remain hopeful that a new team will come forward and carry on the Social Lunch Club tradition in 2026.

Thanks to your generosity, funds raised by the raffle have enabled us to make a donation to the Wimborne Food Bank.

### The Court Henbury 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award

To commemorate its 150 years association with Sturminster Marshall, Court 'Henbury', the local Foresters Friendly Society branch, is making a grant of £250 each year in March to help a young person in their education, vocation or hobby.

To be eligible, you must be aged 11-19 on 1 March of the award year and either live in or have a connection with Sturminster Marshall, Shapwick, Pamphill, Wimborne or Corfe Mullen or be a Court Henbury member.

To apply, simply write a recital of no more than 500 words about the activity you wish to pursue and how the grant would help you towards your goal. You can send it by post to: **The Court Secretary, 7 Gledelands Way, Broadstone BH18 9JB** or by email to: [court5779@forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk](mailto:court5779@forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk).

The closing date for applications for the next Award is 1 March 2025. The winner will be decided at the Court's March 2025 meeting.

Please note: the successful applicant may be asked to be photographed for publicity purposes.



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Foresters Friendly Society is the trading name of The Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society Limited which is an Incorporated Friendly Society (Registration No. 511F) and is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (Registration No. 110029).

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These are designed for you to appoint attorneys to make a range of decisions including the buying and selling of your house and other assets, dealing with your tax affairs, operating bank and building society accounts and claiming benefits on your behalf. These can be used at your direction whilst you are still mentally capable and also by the Attorneys if you lack mental capacity to make these decisions.

### **Health & Welfare LPA**

Attorneys appointed under this document can make decisions relating to your living accommodation and care, consenting to or refusing medical treatment on your behalf, and on day-to-day matters such as diet and dress. This LPA can only be used if you have lost the mental capacity to make decisions for yourself.

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## SPONSOR A CHAIR IN ST MARY'S

Major changes will be taking place in St Mary's, Sturminster Marshall over the next few months.

An arch will be created in the west wall to access the old shed and boiler room which will be renovated to create a fully accessible WC; a kitchen servery within oak units will be installed along the north wall and the pews in the north aisle will be removed. The church path will be resurfaced in fully accessible bound gravel.

Work started on 5th January so there may be some disruption and the church could be closed at times during the week. Please bear with us while the work is taking place. Fundraising activities will continue and all events will be advertised here in the Bridge magazine, on the website ([redpostbenefice.com](http://redpostbenefice.com)) and in the weekly Red Post newsletter. Do come and support them when you can.

The redundant pews are for sale and if you are interested in buying one, please contact Katy or Carol. These will be replaced by stackable chairs and tables making the church a more flexible and comfortable space enabling a wider variety of services and activities, as well as the creation of a community space.



If you would like to help us achieve this objective by making a donation of £168 (£140 +VAT) for each chair, we shall place a plaque on a chair in your name or in memory of a loved one. You are of course welcome to sponsor more than one chair.

Donation forms are available in church but if you would like more information, please speak to Katy (07815 610595) or Carol (07400 356901) or email us at [nhaswell@stmarysprojectwelcome.org.uk](mailto:nhaswell@stmarysprojectwelcome.org.uk)

With every blessing,

The Reverend Jane Williams

# **English Usage: a personal view by Michael Evans**

## **Word Games**

Scrabble is one of the most popular word games, played in dozens of languages. I enjoy tackling one friend in the UK and two in France. I sometimes win in the French one, but not often. As in cricket, one game can last for days!

Playing Scrabble is not a good way to learn a language, as you do not need to know the meaning of all the words you create. To score well, you can use some words you have never heard of, such as qi, zo, ka.

I don't go in for Scrabble competitions, and I play the game only for fun. It has been said that it can appeal positively to something in our brains. I can't explain that, except to say that it's a pleasant way to keep in touch with distant friends.

### **Last month's anagrams**

SORT A FEW - SOFTWARE  
CLAIMED - MEDICAL

### **This month's anagrams**

PIG REASON - Eastern city state (one word)  
REDUNDANT SIGN - sympathetic awareness (one word)

### **Lys de Bray Blonstein**

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Lys de Bray FRHS, peacefully in her sleep on the last day of 2025. She was a world-renowned author of a dozen books and a gold medal RHS botanical artist. She was a regular contributor to this magazine.

## Church Services in February

### **Sunday 1st: 4th Sunday of Epiphany**

9.15pm Sung Eucharist with choir at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Sunday 8th: 2nd Sunday before Lent**

9.15am Sung Eucharist at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

9.15am Holy Communion at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

### **Sunday 15th: Next Sunday before Lent**

9.15am Holy Communion at St. Bartholomew's, Shapwick

9.15am Café Church at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Wednesday 18th: ASH WEDNESDAY**

9.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Sunday 22nd: 1st Sunday of Lent**

9.15am Family Service at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

9.15am Family Communion at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Weekday Services**

Wednesdays at 9am: Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

Wednesdays at 11am: Midweek Communion, Wimborne Minster

**All services and times are correct at date of going to press**



## A Message of Thanks from Revd Bill French

Dear Friends

Many of you will know of the sudden death of my daughter, Becky, just before Christmas 2025 in a car collision.

The manner of her passing was deeply shocking to myself and her siblings so it is with much gratitude that I can say that your prayers, cards and messages gave us great comfort; also our heavenly Father has poured his love and grace upon us, giving to us his Peace for the now and much, much hope for the future.

With God's blessings to you all, and our heartfelt thanks.

Revd. Bill French

## Thank You

Vicky Wood would like to thank all the people who knitted and stitched, and purchased items from my stall for my charity.

Donations amounted to £520.00, which I handed to Poole Hospital for the Ladybird Breast Care Unit before Christmas.

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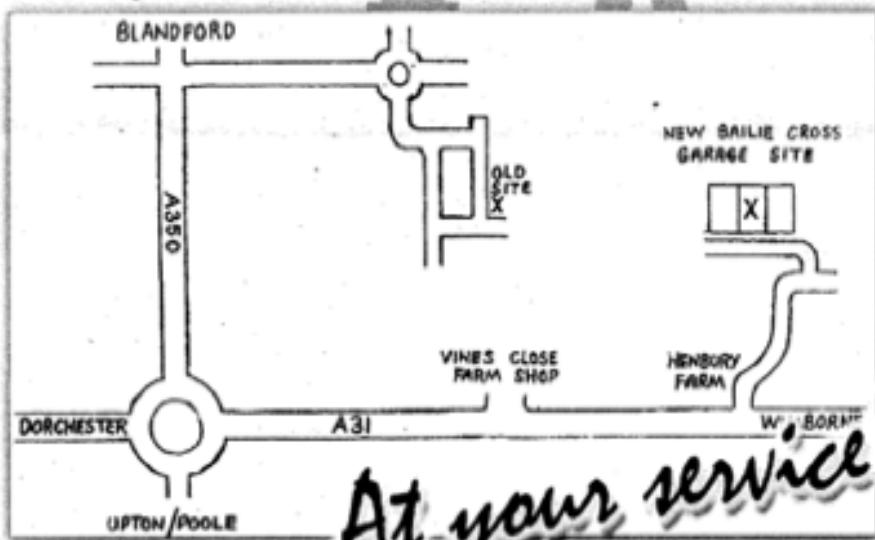
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## **STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS**

**[www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk)**

At the moment the weather is mixed, one day grey with heavy rain, then the next day frost and clear skies. We were lucky during the recent storm to only suffer rain and high winds and not the heavy snow they experienced up north.

The Annual Litter Pick will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and we will meet as usual at the Memorial Hall at 2.00pm. Equipment will be provided along with refreshments afterwards. Sadly, the bird's nest swing was damaged over the holiday period. Thank you to the member of the public who reported it, so that it could be removed safely. We have ordered a replacement and hopefully it will be installed soon, we know it is a much loved and popular piece of equipment. Another item that has been removed is the WI Seat at the end of Millmoor by the bus stop. Unfortunately, this was found to be completely rotten, and we are currently investigating a replacement. The new EV Charge Point is operational in the Memorial Hall car park and has already been used several times. We applied for funding to place defibrillator at Jubilee Cross but unfortunately we were unsuccessful.

Following the consultation, the majority of residents support a 20mph Speed Limit in the village. As a result, we are moving ahead with the application, and the next step will be traffic speed surveys in the High Street, Kings Street and Station Road.

The Parish Council has approved the budget for 2026/27. The precept will increase by 8.55%, which equates to an additional £6.59 per year. (All figures based on an average Band D property). In case you are not familiar, the precept is the Parish Council's share of the Council Tax. It helps fund local services and projects, such as maintaining community facilities and supporting initiatives.

We currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you'd like to help shape the future of our village, please get in touch with the Parish Council at [parishclerk@sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk)

Recent Plans:

P/HOU/2025/06662 170 Church Street Sturminster Marshall BH21 4BU  
Proposed single and two storey extensions and reconstruction of garage.

P/VOC/2025/07321 97 High Street Sturminster Marshall BH21 4AT  
Outline application P/OUT/2021/04873 for Access and Layout to 'demolish a pair of semi-detached bungalows and replace with 5 x 3 bedroom dwellinghouses' (with variation to condition 4 of planning permission P/OUT/2021/04873 (approved plans))

P/VOC/2025/07479 Location: 97 & 99, High Street, Sturminster Marshall  
Variation of Condition 1 - to amend the existing plans to provide 2x four-bedroom detached houses with access

P/CLP/2025/07553 20 Henbury House Gardens, Sturminster Marshall BH21 3TZ  
Alterations within the existing roof utilising the permitted development rights.

P/VOC/2026/00050 15 Churchill Close, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4BQ  
Demolish the garage, sever land and erect a bungalow with shared vehicular access and parking amended by P/NMA/2025/05549 (with variation of Condition 2 of Permission P/FUL/2024/01770 to amend the scheme to a 2no bedroom chalet bungalow and reposition the car parking)

P/FUL/2025/07597 Riverside House, Back Lane, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4BP  
Erect a detached house with garage and vehicular access.



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For details of Mornington Court, New Milton and our other homes in Hampshire visit [www.cinnamoncc.com/hampshire](http://www.cinnamoncc.com/hampshire)



## A February Quiz

(answers on p.33)

1. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
2. February gets its name from the word 'februa', which comes from which language?
3. Valentine's Day is celebrated on which date in February?
4. The February Revolution was the first of two revolutions which took place in Russia in which year?
5. What happened in Britain on the 15th of February, 1971?
6. Februalia was the Roman festival of what ritual?
7. On 16th February, 1659, what was used for the first time in Britain as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settles a debt?
8. In leap years, February starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
9. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
10. In the DC Comics, on which date in February is Superman's birthday?
11. In which resort city on the Black Sea was the Crimea Conference held in February, 1945?
12. On the 12 February, 1554, who was beheaded at the tower of London?
13. Which country's leader once said, "I have two generals who will not fail me: Generals January and February"?
14. In the poem called 'The Months' by Sara Coleridge, if 'hot july brings cooling shower' what does February bring?
15. True or false. It is possible to have Easter in late February?





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Monday afternoons 2.00pm – 5.00pm,

Thursday evenings 6.15pm – 9.15pm,

All sessions are held in the Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall.

It is a great sport for all ages and we would welcome some younger players, so do come along. The club owns several sets of bowls and these can be lent to players who do not have their own, but they must remain on the premises. Completely flat shoes must be worn on the mats.

We are a mixed club and we do not compete in leagues, so the emphasis is on pleasure and not pressure. We do join other local clubs for just friendly matches.

INTERESTED? – come along, your first three sessions will be free, so give it a try.

For information telephone:- John on 01202 690718 or Jean on 01258 857308.

### **St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival**

The whole weekend raised a total of almost £1,120. £530 of this has now been donated to the various charities. The Market Stall accounted for the rest. A wonderful effort! Very many thanks go to all who were involved.



### **Answers: A February Quiz (p.4)**

1. Aquarius
2. Latin
3. 14th February
4. 1917
5. Decimallisation
6. Purification
7. A chequer
8. August
9. American
10. 29th February
11. Yalta
12. Lady Jane Grey
13. Russia's (Tsar Nicholas I)
14. The rain
15. False (22nd March is the earliest Easter can occur)

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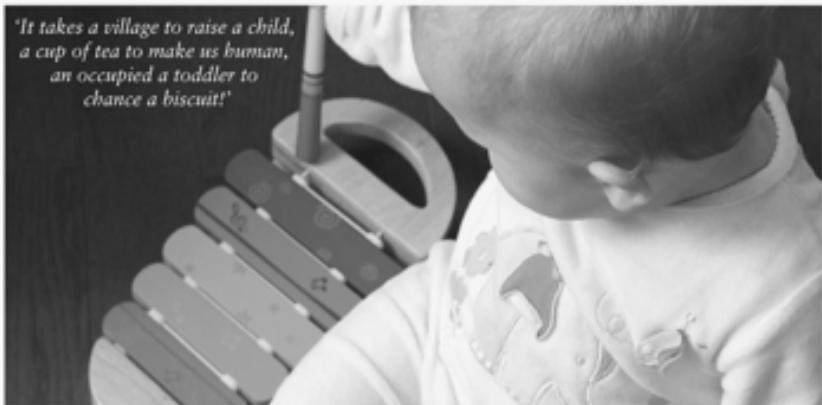
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[teaandtoddlers18@gmail.com](mailto:teaandtoddlers18@gmail.com)  
[fb.me/teaandtoddlers](https://fb.me/teaandtoddlers)

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With stately village manor house  
'Longside the cricket green  
Many a pretty, happy bride  
This church has often seen

The solemnity of Easter  
And the joy of Christmas time  
The sound of choral voices  
Singing as one in rhyme

Sweet sorrow of departure  
As we bid our last farewells  
These thick stone walls bring comfort  
They've many a tale to tell

The delight of new born babies  
Being blessed with holy water  
The alabaster angels  
Keep watch and never falter

This sanctuary has nestled here  
A century and more  
A place of prayer and  
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It stores a village history  
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Of generations past  
And those still to grace its pews  
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In December we had some festive fun at our Christmas Party hosted by The Barn Café in Lytchett Matravers. They looked after us well and provided a cosy venue and great food. A Christmas themed Dingbats quiz kept us entertained and Secret Santa Baubles saw us unwrapping a wonderful variety of Christmas tree decorations.



Over the last 110 years, WI members have campaigned on an incredible range of issues, increasing public awareness and bringing about real change. We are now in the process of voting for our preference from five shortlisted resolutions, one of which will become the WI's 2025/2026 national campaign. This year's shortlist of five resolutions are:

- 1.Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion
- 2.Action on women's homelessness
- 3.Every child needs a friend
- 4.Love your vulva – self checking is your best defence against vulval cancer
- 5.Nearer to Nature

At our meeting we will receive background information on each resolution to help us select and vote individually and then all votes are counted. The resolution with the most votes from our group will be sent to the Dorset Federation of WI and then eventually to the National Federation of WI.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February at The Old School starting at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Trisha Lewis who will be doing a talk titled 'The Striking 70's in the WI' delivered in the style of Joyce Grenfell!

We are always delighted to welcome new members and you don't need to be a resident of Sturminster Marshall to be able to attend.

For more information about SMEWI, please contact Christine Rainsford on 01258 857413 or visit our website: [www.sturminstermarshalleveningwi.weebly.com](http://www.sturminstermarshalleveningwi.weebly.com)

Follow us on Facebook: Sturminster Marshall Evening WI

**Karen West**



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## Kingston Lacy Estate News

With the start of the year comes the annual glory that is the snowdrop display at Kingston Lacy. It's always a joy to welcome back these little heralds of spring, and with more than 40 varieties the season is spread over several weeks. Of course, snowdrops aren't the only flowers blooming now – the Camellia Walk is coming into its own, and in Nursery Wood is witch hazel and winter cherries are putting on a show.

But we love to celebrate the snowdrops, and this year we've got a range of guided walks, special early morning photography sessions and a stencil workshop inspired by Kingston Lacy's snowdrops. Check the website to book these and lots of other events.

We've also welcomed back the wonderful Rembrandt self-portrait, on loan from Buckland Abbey. It's on display in a new, wheel-chair accessible space on the ground floor, with specially commissioned audio guides to help you slow down and look more deeply at the painting, as well as discover more about its history and Rembrandt himself. You don't need to book, but we are operating a timed ticket system to make sure the space and the experience is open to everyone. Head over to the house and pick up a ticket from the Entrance Hall to see this amazing work of art.

For half term, we've got a special seed planting and craft activities in the tipi (which has been repositioned at the start of the Woodland Walk) - bring your little ones over to decorate an eco pot before planting a sunflower or pumpkin seed to take home. We look forward to welcoming you soon.





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## February Joys (by Alex Pearce-Broomhead, adapted)

Despite celebrating the solstice in December, sometimes the depths of winter can't really be felt until February. The nights are still long and often finish with frosted mornings. The medieval-named 'snow' or 'ice' full moon falls early in the month, reminding us of the potential weather ahead. February tends to be the coldest month in England; average temperatures are around 4 degrees, but bitter winds can make it feel much colder.

Yet February isn't all bleak. Its arrival brings with it the gentle awakening of the earth and the small signs that we are on the cusp of spring. Badgers birth cubs in setts lined with dry grasses beneath the frost-bitten soil, hazel trees are decorated with garlands of catkins. Sparrows, blue tits, and long-tailed tits begin to gather nesting materials in anticipation of the warmer days ahead.

Look out for the Scarlet Elf Cup that 'blooms' in shades of red and orange in winter, bringing colour to the woodland floor. Although not considered common, scarlet elf cups prefer damp spots, growing in little clusters beneath moss and leaf litter, on decaying sticks and branches, especially on the banks of streams and rivers.



Short-eared owls are one of the few owls that can be seen flying during the day, although dawn and dusk are still their most active periods, and you might even be lucky enough to hear their haunting and rhythmic hooting in February.



February is the time when primroses, one of the first native wildflowers to bloom in significant numbers, can be seen. Also snowdrops and winter aconites appear.

Common toads wake up during February. They will have spent their winters tucked away from the cold, hibernating in mud at the bottom of ponds, but as mating season dawns, they will leave their place of safety and make their way to water to breed, arriving to mate and lay string-necklaces of eggs draped around vegetation beneath the water.

## Parish Directory

## **The Parish of Kingston Lacy and Shapwick**

Rector: Revd Canon Andrew Rowland (The Rector's day off is Friday)	01202 882340
Organists: contact Churchwarden	rector@wimbornminster.org.uk
Churchwarden K Lacy: Rob Langdown	01202 841381
Churchwarden Shapwick: Anne Tillin	01258 858208
PCC Secretary: Margaret Langdown	01202 841381
Treasurer: Christine Cosgrove	01258 858876
Electoral Roll Officer: Janet Tory	01258 857531

**Sturminster Marshall Parish Church**

vicar: Rev Jane Williams (Jane's day off is Friday)	01258 858604
Red Post Benefice Clerk: Vicky Harrison-King	janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com
Organists: contact Churchwarden	redpostbenefice@outlook.com
Churchwardens:	Katy Norman
	07815 610595
	Carol Johnson
	07400 356901
PCC Secretary: Liz York	01258 857528
PCC Treasurer: Ed Warren	01258 857467
Verger: Vacant	
Captain of the Ringers: Mr M Stickley	01202 021895
Electoral Roll Officer: Elaine Huntriss	07818 280800

## Schools

Sturminster Marshall First School: Mrs N Charman	01258 857348
Sturminster Marshall Pre-school: Mrs Patsy Barnes	01258 858395
Pamphill CE First School: Mr Michael Wheeler	01202 883008
Pamphill Pre-School Nursery: Mrs D Gould	07415 473977
The Old School Shapwick Nursery: Ms E Praschma	01258 857922

## Police

Police station (non-emergency number) 101

## Hall Bookings

Old School, Stur Marshall: Val Brown hall.mackrell@outlook.com

Memorial Hall, Stur Marshall: Mrs K Kollberg	07729 712429
	sturhallbookings@gmail.com
Pamphill Parish Hall: David Wright	07789 368044
	pamphillparishhall@gmail.com

### **Councillors**

Dorset Councillor: Cllr. Mr Will Chakawhata	cllwill.chakawhata@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Stur Marshall Parish Council Chair: Mrs Sonia Cade	
Stur Marshall Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Alison Clothier	07469 780548
	sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk
Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council Chair: Mr Martin Underhill	
Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Lindsay Hole	

### **For Sturminster Marshall**

Sturminster Marshall FC: Mr D Miller	01258 857314
Church Preservation Trust: Philip Cubitt	philipcubitt@btinternet.com
School Society: Liz Naulls & Amelia Atkins (Co-Chairs)	schoolsociety@sturminstermarshall.sch.uk
WI Evening Secretary: Mrs Gladys Quick	07720 343897
Sports Association: Mr R Haysom	01258 857616
Stur Marshall Craft Club: Mrs Barbara Beaves	01258 858404
Brownies: Miss J Hayter	01202 885309
Guides: Mrs L Seare	07759 892965
Henbury Residents' Association: Mr M Soper	01258 857647
Homewatch Co-ordinator: Mr Adrian Holden	01258 858884
Stur Marshall Short Mat Bowls & Social Club: Mr J Case	01202 690718
Stur Marshall Village History Website	07469 780548

### **For Pamphill**

Kingston Lacy Skittles Club: Mr R Frost	01202 883084
Kingston Lacy Cricket Club: Mr S Maine	07969 883814
Pamphill Pre-School: Mrs D Gould	07415 473977

### **For Shapwick**

S.C.T. (Village Green): Jez Bragg	07813 925681
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## Sunshine and snowdrops

### at Kingston Lacy

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