



# THE BRIDGE

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



## May 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, Pamphill 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 to [bridgemagazinedorset@gmail.com](mailto:bridgemagazinedorset@gmail.com)

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 articles is the 15th of the month.**

## Advertisements

If you would like to place a commercial advertisement, or announcement of an event, please email it to [bridgeadvertising@outlook.com](mailto:bridgeadvertising@outlook.com) Advertising rates are listed opposite.

**The submission deadline for adverts 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, by the **27th of the month**. Phone 01258 857528 to arrange.

### **This month's cover image**

For almost 50 years the Federation of Children's Book Groups has celebrated National Share-a-Story Month in May. From their website: Great stories are the greater for sharing! Humans have known this since the birth of language although it's easy to forget that in our global but fragmented world. Research has proven that reading is best nurtured by sharing. The more we build reading communities, the more we support children's enjoyment of reading. Today, that is more important than ever, as the numbers of children who report that they read for pleasure continues to decline.

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**

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### 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.

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### Bridge Magazine advertising fees

Duration	full page	1/2 page	1/4 page	1/8 page
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

## Bellringers

This past weekend I had the privilege of leading a short service for the East Dorset Guild of Bellringers and I thought I'd share some of what I said to them in honour of all of our bellringers who work hard to ensure our churches are still 'heard'.

"We gather to give thanks for the ministry of bellringers; a ministry that is heard far beyond these walls, often by people who may never step inside them. It is fitting that our reading comes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, where he speaks not about buildings or institutions, but about witness, visibility, and the quiet power of faithful living.

### **Jesus says, "You are the light of the world." Matthew 5v14**

For centuries, church bells have marked the rhythm of life. They have called people to worship, announced celebrations, tolled in times of sorrow, and simply reminded communities that the church is present and praying. In an age when many churches struggle to be noticed, the bells still speak clearly. They cut through traffic noise, through closed doors and distracted minds, and they ask—sometimes gently, sometimes boldly—to be heard.

Many who hear the bells may not know who is ringing them. They may not understand the methods or the skill involved. They may not even realise that what they are hearing is an act of service. Yet they hear something that stirs memory, emotion, or curiosity. In that moment, the light shines.

Jesus says in his sermon: "*A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.*" The church tower is often the most visible part of a village or town. And when bells ring from that height, they carry even further. But visibility brings responsibility. To be seen—or heard—is to represent something greater than ourselves.

Bellringing is not about drawing attention to individuals. It is about offering something beautiful, disciplined, and communal for the sake of others. One bell on its own is incomplete. It is only when ringers listen closely to one another, keep time together, and act in trust, that the music becomes whole. This is a powerful image of the Christian life: each person playing their part, attentive to the rest, creating something that none could achieve alone.

Jesus also reminds us that light is not meant to be hidden away. "*No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bushel basket.*" And yet, much of what bellringers do is unseen. Practices in cold towers. Hours spent learning, teaching, and maintaining skills. The public hears the result, but not the effort behind it.

And perhaps that is exactly where this ministry reflects the heart of the Gospel. Faithful service is not always visible, but it is never wasted. God sees the quiet dedication, the patience, the willingness to keep showing up week after week, year after year.

When Jesus says, “*Let your light shine before others,*” he is not calling for display or self-promotion. He is calling for lives shaped by faith, offered in service, so that others may glimpse something of God’s goodness. Bellringing does this in a unique way. It speaks without words. It proclaims without argument. It offers beauty in a world that is often noisy but not always harmonious.

Think of the moments when bells are heard:  
on wedding days filled with hope,  
on days of mourning heavy with grief,  
on ordinary Sundays when life feels routine.

In each of these moments, the bells say something simple but profound: you are not alone; this moment matters; God is present.”

As we approach our wedding season, listen out for the joyful bells or even pop across to our Facebook page to listen to a recording I made yesterday at Winterborne Kingston. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/973512295095301>

With every blessing, Jane (Vicar of the Red Post churches)

# THANK YOU!

## LENT LUNCH

A big thank you to all who supported the Lent Lunch on 18th March, it was lovely to see everyone on such a beautiful Spring day.

My thanks also to all who helped and contributed to the occasion.

Lewis Manning Cancer Care will be receiving £320.

Liz Hodgson

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

### April Draw

#### Main draw

£50	90	Jane Champion
£30	8	Brenda Clunies-Ross
£20	9	Katy Norman

Congratulations to this month's winners.

NUMBERS cost just £2 per month. You can join at any time - just contact one of the committee members listed below.

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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## MAY FILMS

18th - 19th Mother Mary (15)

## MAY SHOWS (a selection)

1st Supreme Queen:A Dazzling Tribute  
5th The Makings of a Murderer:The Undercover Detective  
6th Richard Digance  
7th The Invisible Man - Our Star Theatre Company  
14th - 16th And Then There Were None - Wimborne Drama Productions  
17th Showcase: Bournemouth University Dance Society  
20th Handle With Care:Talon - The Acoustic Collection  
21st The Puppini Sisters:The Birthday Tour 2026  
22nd Genesis Connected  
23rd Santana:Very Santana 2026  
26th Colin Blunstone: Believe in Miracles Tour  
27th Mark Steel:The Leopard In My House  
28th Ben Thompson:The Ultimate Elvis Experience  
29th Legend:The Tribute to Bob Marley

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All adverts are accepted and published in good faith.

Payments made by advertisers contribute to the cost of publishing this magazine.



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SCHOOL SOCIETY

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2026

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Our club comprises retired or semi-retired men who have held a position of responsibility during their professional life. We meet at the well-appointed Hamworthy Club in Canford Magna, near Wimborne, on the first Wednesday of the month. Before lunch, we are entertained by speakers, who cover a full and interesting range of subjects. In addition, our club holds social functions and arranges visits and other activities, involving wives and partners, throughout the year.

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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# **'Bring a Bottle' Coffee Morning**

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**\* 11.00 – 12.30**

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6<sup>th</sup> June**

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## ***Forthcoming Activities at The Old School***

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***Discovery Café - Saturday 2nd May at 2.30pm***

***“Shackleton’s Antarctic Journey”***

***An illustrated talk by Nick French***

+++++

***Mackrell Lecture - the season has finished but the Lectures  
will begin again on 17th October with***

***Professor Steve Ellis talking about***

***“The End of Virginia Woolf”***

+++++

***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)***

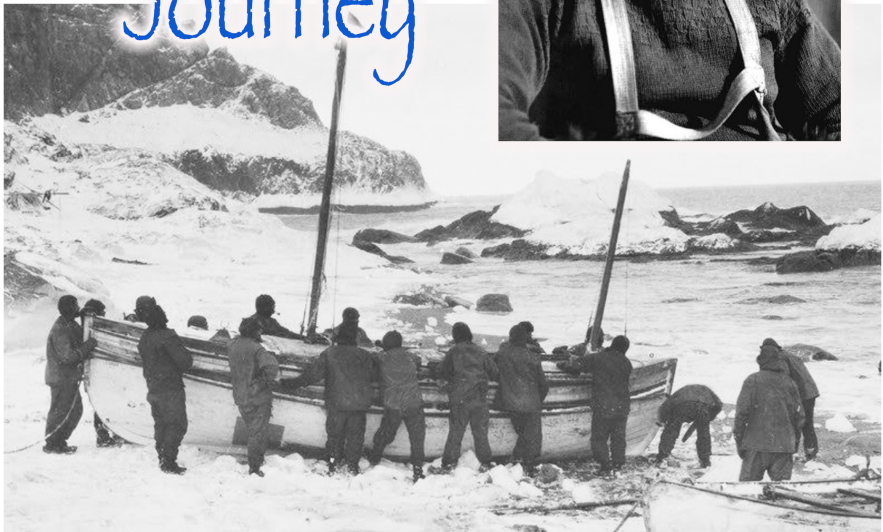
+++++

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

*The Old School, Sturminster Marshall*  
Discovery Cafe  
*presents*



# Shackleton's Antarctic Journey



an illustrated talk by Nick French

Saturday 2nd May 2026

2.30pm **£8** inc  
tea/cake

Tickets on the door

BH21 4BU



## **Social Lunch Club is back!**

**The Old School, Sturminster Marshall**

*Sponsored by the Mackrell Charity (Reg. Charity 306275)*

**Social Lunch Club is on Wednesday 20th May at  
midday. Only £8.00.**

**Please note this is the 3rd Wednesday of the month**

The Lunch Club is open to all those over 50 who live in the area.

Come and join a lively group of people – meet old acquaintances and  
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## 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 Gladelands Way, Broadstone BH18 9JB** or by email to: **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.*



SCAN ME



For more information visit:  
[www.forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk](http://www.forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk)  
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Foresters Membership benefits are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority or the Prudential Regulation Authority and are reviewed regularly to ensure they are relevant to our members.  
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**Holy Trinity Church, Stourpaine**

*Vox Serenata* (vocal quartet)

Programme includes music by Rutter, Whitacre, Tallis, Chilcott and others

**Sunday 14th June at 7.15pm**  
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If you don't have Lasting Powers of Attorney in place the Court of Protection may appoint people to manage your affairs, but the procedure is **VERY COSTLY** and time-consuming. More importantly, you will have lost the right for you to choose who will have the responsibility for looking after your affairs at a time when it is vital that they are dealt efficiently & sympathetically; **and by somebody who knows you !**

### **Property and Financial Affairs LPA**

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

Work on creating an accessible W.C. and kitchen servery continues in St Mary's. Unfortunately the recent relentless rain and flooding meant that the contractors were unable to work for three weeks but they are now back on site and we are hopeful of completion in May.

The redundant north aisle pews have now been sold and 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 for each chair, we shall place a plaque on a chair with one of the following dedications:

- Donated by .....*name*.....
- In loving memory of .....*name*.....*d.o.b*...-...*d.o.d*.....
- .....*name*.....and.....*name*.....married on.....*date*
- .....*name*.....baptised on.....*date*.....

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

### What is meant by “English Usage”?

It is the way English words and phrases are spoken or written by its speakers. It includes grammar, syntax, and style rather than rigid rules. Changes and variations depend on the usage of communities, such as North vs South, or British vs. American.

English is a global medium for communication; over half the internet's top websites use it. There is no central authority, and the language is governed by convention/ “Correctness” is defined as being effective and idiomatic.

### Last month's anagrams

ROMANS INSIST - TRANSMISSION  
REVISED ART - ADVERTISER

### This month's anagrams

AGONISED - US city  
A GREAT INN - South American state

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## **FUNDRAISER WELCOMES ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY GUESTS**

The Reverend Jane Williams welcomed one hundred and fifty people including our MP Vicki Slade and her husband to Moonacre Wedding Venue on the Sturminster Marshall Round House Roundabout for a special fundraising evening in aid of St Mary's Church Project Welcome. Funds are being raised to provide a welcoming community space within St Mary's Church Sturminster Marshall to include kitchen and toilet facilities to enable more gatherings for worthy causes in the community and outreach projects.

The evening took the form of live cookery demonstrations by four of Dorset's most celebrated chefs. Our very own Dr George Williams, himself a 2024 Master Chef semi-finalist, hosted the evening and started proceedings by making delicious canapés with mouth-watering ingredients including crab meat. A "cold toddy" cocktail was mixed using the best quality whisky. Throughout the evening, twenty lucky raffle winners were invited to sample the wonderful dishes. Four people tasted the food and drink prepared by each chef.



George then introduced the three other chefs, namely, Charlotte Roy who demonstrated how to cook with all plant based ingredients, having been the first vegan chef to reach the quarter finals of Master Chef and who currently works at the Michelin Star restaurant Plates, Shoreditch and Scully, Piccadilly. Charlotte showed how cooking vegetables is not just about popping them into a pan of boiling water!!!!

Charlotte was followed by Gareth Rixon, head chef at John Lewis, Brownsea Castle. Gareth was able to cheer the audience as the cold wind blew outside with his rendition of wonderful barbecue dishes we can look forward to creating ourselves when summer finally arrives!!!

Finishing the evening appropriately was chocolatier and private chef Christian Orner, of Salt Co, who showed everyone how to temper chocolate in the

correct way to keep it shiny, together with the use of moulds and gave away some lovely 'proper chocolate' as tasters.

All the action was filmed from overhead and shown on four large television screens kindly loaned for the evening by Dacombe of Wimborne. A power point presentation depicting contributing businesses and auction lot donors was shown during the intervals.

The demonstrations were interspersed by a delicious main meal of Asian Style Crispy Chilli Chicken or Stir fried vegetables, all with rice and sweet chilli sauce provided by Sturminster Marshall's very own The Red Lion Inn. Dessert of scrummy chocolate brownies with cream and strawberry garnish was ably provided by some industrious ladies of the village. The whole meal was also very greatly praised by the professional chefs.

A raffle of three huge jam packed hampers took place with winners taking home many artisan products kindly donated by local food and drink businesses.

A full evening was rounded off by an auction of wonderful lots including rounds of golf from Purbeck and Sturminster Marshall golf clubs, restaurant vouchers from Wild Whisk at Sturminster Marshall golf club and St Tropez Lounge, Poole Quay, a clay shooting lesson donated by DBW clay shooting, Spetisbury. English Oak at Lytchett kindly gave vineyard tours and tasting vouchers. Eight guests will enjoy a tour of the garden together with a delicious cream tea at the magnificent listed Manor House at Chettle, which was generously given by the owners.

Project Welcome is particularly indebted to Moonacre, not only for the amazing donation of the wonderful venue free of charge but also for the auction donation of two separate one night stays for two people in the popular tree house on site.

The chefs themselves finished the night incredibly generously by offering a gourmet meal cooked by Christian and Gareth for four people, an opportunity that was snapped up at auction.

Sturminster Marshall is blessed with many talented people who gave their time and expertise to help raise over five thousand pounds towards Project Welcome and throughout the evening another village talent Pilch, Andy Pritchard and his bass guitarist Pat, entertained everyone with their fabulous music and singing. A huge thank you to everyone.

# Church Services in May

## Sunday 3rd: Easter 5

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

## Sunday 10th: Easter 6

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

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

## Sunday 17th: Sunday after Ascension

9.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's, Shapwick

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

## Sunday 24th: Pentecost

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

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

## Sunday 31st: Trinity Sunday

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Winterborne Kingston

## Wednesdays at 9.00am

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

## LOCATIONS OF OUR CHURCHES

St Mary's, Sturminster Marshall: Church Street, BH21 4BU

St Bartholomew's, Shapwick: Church Street, DT11 9LB

St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy: Abbott Street, Pamphill, BH21 4ED





## WEE ALBION NOTEBOOK

*I own I hate the brazen trump of war;  
Nor politics nor parties share my theme;  
Yet though with bashful care I turn aside  
To shun the jostle of the bustling crowd,  
In this eventful age... reputed wise,  
Enlightened, and I know what beside...  
That laughs at all its ancestors admired;  
Simplicity, Humanity, and Truth,  
Virtue and Social Order... O! 'tis hard  
To walk, of crooked politics secure,  
Unprejudiced, unbiased or unawed!*

Extract from *Scenes of Youth...* William Holloway (1803).

### THE FORGOTTEN POET

William Holloway (1761-1854) is often described as *Dorset's Forgotten Poet*. Born in Winterborne Whitechurch, he was much published, but still fails to gain a mention in my old copy of *Literary Dorset*. Orphaned while young, William seems to have enjoyed a good education locally before being apprenticed to Weymouth printer and bookseller John Love - once said to be the fattest man in England (a picture of him hangs in Kingston Lacy). Love published William's poem about the Halsewell shipwreck of 1776, then a longer narrative poem: *The Cottager* - which was dedicated to Lady Mary Blair, great-great-grandmother of Eric Blair, a.k.a. George Orwell. After Love's death in 1793, William moved to London where he worked as a clerk for the East India Co. and continued to write.

**St Marys Sturminster Marshall**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 12-4 pm**

# Church Fete

## Save the date!

***Childrens Competitions & Treasure hunt  
Photography competition (adults and childrens classes). Senior  
and Junior Hat competition and parade. Fun Dog show.  
Wang a welly, Aunt Sally and other games***

***Ice-creams, Raffle, Plant stall, PIMMS  
Cream Teas cakes + Barista-style Coffee  
£50 prize for winning programme number.***

***For details of the classes to enter and age groups, please go to the Red  
Post Churches website, by using this QR code, or look  
out for messages on our Red Post Churches facebook  
page <https://www.facebook.com/share/14ZK7fXBXK3/>  
or Sturminster Marshall News and Views Facebook.***



**St Marys Sturminster Marshall**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 12-4 pm**

# Church Fete



## **We need your help please?**

- We would like cakes, biscuits and produce galore!
- Like dogs? Would you help running the dog show?
- Are you a Face painting artist? Would you paint for us?
- Would you help run a childrens' art session?
- Having a turnout? We need your bric-a-brac!
- Would you help with traffic management/car parking?

*There are labelled boxes at the back of church for  
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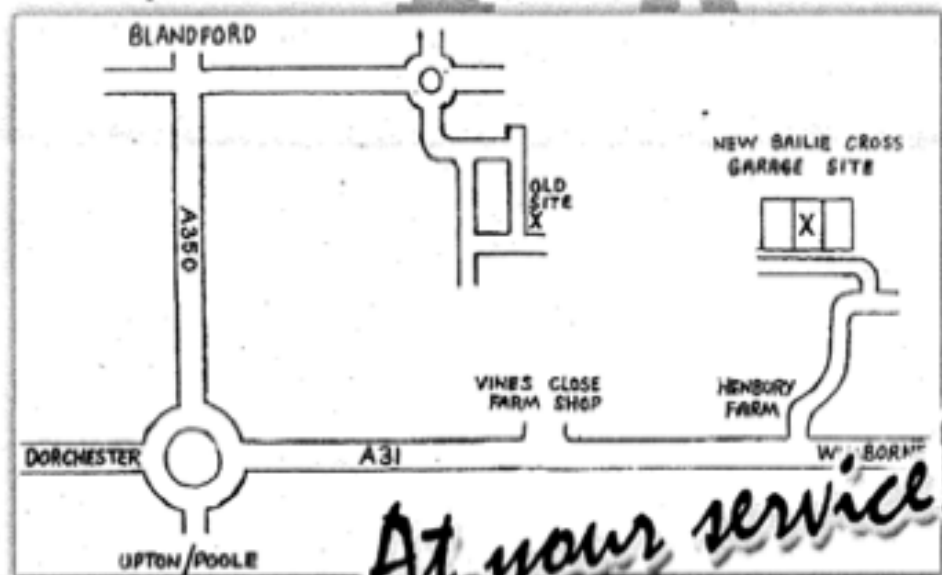
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## **STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS**

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

We are pleased to announce that Cllr Nick Ireland, Leader of Dorset Council, will again be our guest speaker at the **PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL OPEN MEETING** on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026 at 7.30 at the Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall. This is a great opportunity for you to come along and hear what he has to say and raise any issues you may have in person. The Dorset Councillor, Parish Councillors and Police will also be in attendance. Refreshments will be provided.

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Flood Resilience Event at the Memorial Hall in March. It was an informative session that was well attended, and thanks to the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Dorset Council and all local residents who took part and contributed to the discussions. Our Flood Warden team has grown which is great as this will improve coverage of the Parish for reporting any future flooding issues. Thank you to all those who have volunteered for this important role. If you would like to contact the Flood Warden team, please get in touch with Cllr Fookes on 07921 068970.

In March we had another successful litter pick with all areas of the village covered. Thank you to everyone who came along and took part, and to those who kindly helped by providing refreshments. Your support is very much appreciated and watch this space for the date of our Autumn Litter Pick. Everyone who signed up for Grow your Home seed starter pack should now have received one, and we wish you all a happy growing season. The village school is also taking part with a sunflower growing competition, along with the local Guides group.

As part of on-going maintenance in the Parish, Dorset Council Highways has asked the Parish Council to provide a list of all highways-related issues within the parish. This includes potholes, blocked drains, blocked highway ditches, damaged road signs, and white line marking. Whilst the Parish Council are aware of a number of issues, residents are invited to let us know of anything they come across that might have been missed, and you can do this by emailing the clerk using [parishclerk@sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk)

continued overleaf . . .

...continued from p.31

The Playground surface repairs are being carried out as I write, so they should be completed by the time you read this.

Another traditional village event is the annual Maypole Dancing which is taking place on Monday 4th May on Maypole Green. The triangle of Front Lane and King Street will be closed to traffic from 9.30am to 2.00pm to allow the construction of the site and safe transit of children and everyone wanting to attend.

Recent Plans:

No recent plans have been received.



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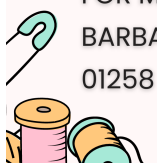
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Monday afternoons 2.00pm – 5.00pm,

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.

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fb.me/teaandtoddlers

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**2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**10.00 – 12.00**



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## Kingston Lacy Estate News

Are you or anyone you know living with Parkinson's? If you are, you probably know that maintaining or improving your activity levels is important (this article from Parkinson's UK explains why: <https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/magazine/experts/why-high-intensity-exercise-matters-when-you-have-parkinsons>)

This May, there's a new activity programme starting at Kingston Lacy, designed specially for those with Parkinson's and their carers in association with the charity, Parkinson's UK. Last year we trialled a 12-week running programme (a modified version of the popular NHS app, Couch to 5K) and now the trial has been extended with a second running group, and an additional walking group for those who aren't sure whether running is right for them.



The two groups are led by fully qualified activity leaders and it's free to take part (booking is essential, which you can do via the Kingston Lacy website). The programme runs for 12 weeks from 11 May, and the hour-long sessions usually end with a sociable coffee in the Stables cafe! Meanwhile, there's been an exciting project in the house to improve the lighting in some of the rooms. It's long been a conundrum for us, with light levels deliberately kept low due to the damaging effect of ordinary daylight (one of the nine so-called "agents of destruction" for conservation staff), which means the world-class art collection may not be seen at its best. But it's also obviously difficult to add modern lighting to spotlight the art, without intruding on the atmosphere of the historic property.

Now, new lighting has been added in the entrance hall and dining room – hopefully so subtly that you won't notice unless looking out for it! These trials will be extended to other rooms over time.

And finally, the end of May brings the half term holiday. We have exciting plans for a trail but we can't say anything more at the moment (how mysterious is that?!). We'll be posting on the website and social posts as soon as we can, so keep an eye out and we look forward to welcoming you here soon.



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At our March meeting, local resident Anne Weller demonstrated her skill at making attractive greeting cards using paper napkins and glue. Members had the opportunity to have a go themselves with some fantastic results. Committee members Jan Lloyd and Karen West provided instruction and assistance with alternative activities to make an Easter egg shaped decoration using stiffened thread and a trinket dish using scallop shells and more paper napkins. Here are a couple of photos of a very industrious and enjoyable craft session.



Our next meeting is on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May at The Old School starting at 7.30pm. We will be having a talk about the Erie-Drax Estate by Genealogist and Research Consultant, Luke Mouland.

We are always delighted to welcome new members and you don't need to be a resident in 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**

## A Quiz for May

Answers at the bottom of the page

1. Which Roman goddess inspired May Day celebrations in pre-Christian times?  
●Minerva ●Juno ●Flora ●Vesta
2. In the Celtic calendar, May Day is known as which of the following?  
●Maius ●Lammas ●Beltane ●Samhain
3. Which of the following is not a traditional British May Day activity?  
●Dancing around a maypole ●Morris dancing ●Eating a salad of flowers  
●Crowning a May Queen
4. Which of the following Bram Stoker stories takes place on Walpurgisnacht, on the night of April 30 into the early hours of May 1?  
●Dracula's Guest ●A Dream of Red Hands ●The Gypsy Prophecy  
●Under the Sunset
5. In Estonia, May 1 is called Kevadpüha. What does Kevadpüha mean?  
●Witches Day ●Carnival ●Workers Day ●Spring Day
6. Hawaiians call May Day by what name?  
●Lei Day ●Kala mai ia'u ●Mele Kalikimaka ●May Day
7. If you are born April 21st-May 20th, you are considered what zodiac sign?  
●Gemini ●Taurus ●Pisces ●Capricorn
8. What is the May full moon called?  
●The blue moon ●The spring moon ●The flower moon  
●The blossom moon
9. What major tennis open begins in late May and ends in June?  
●Wimbledon ●US Open ●Laver Cup ●The French Open
10. What colour are emeralds, the birthstone of May?  
●Green ●Yellow ●Pink ●Blue

## Answers to the May Quiz

1. Flora 2. Beltane 3. Eating a salad of flowers 4. Dracula's Guest  
5. Spring Day 6. Lei Day 7. Taurus 8. The flower moon  
9. The French Open 10. Green



# WIMBORNE MUSICAL THEATRE

## Wimborne is about to get Shrektacular!

Join Shrek live on stage this June at the Tivoli Theatre, as Wimborne Musical Theatre Society (WMTS) get ready to stage their next major musical production!

‘Shrek the Musical’ tells the story of a grumpy but loveable ogre’s hilarious adventure to rescue the feisty Princess Fiona and reclaim his swamp! Along the way, he’s joined by the fast-talking Donkey, faces off with the villainous Lord Farquaad, and discovers that true love and friendship really does come in all shapes and sizes.

Filled with dazzling costumes, laugh-out-loud moments, and a whole host of quirky fairytale creatures, it’s the show that proves being different is truly what makes you special.



Director, Duncan Trew, comments “we are delighted to be bringing this iconic and uplifting story to life in Wimborne and it’s fantastic to be working alongside such a gifted cast and crew. This extends to our two junior cast teams—local young performers who are truly shining in their roles and are sure to steal the spotlight! Rehearsals have been an absolute joy, and we cannot wait for audiences to share in the fun!”

The show will be performed from 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at Wimborne’s Tivoli Theatre, with evening performances Thursday to Saturday, plus a matinee performance on the Saturday.

Book through the box office on 01202 885566 or online at [www.tivoliwimborne.co.uk](http://www.tivoliwimborne.co.uk)

Tickets are £22 for adults and £18 for under 16s. It’s an ogre-sized hit for the whole family and not to be missed!

## **CURIOUS CUISINE & REMEDIES FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS**

### **Penguin Egg Pavlova**

2 penguin egg whites \*\*                      1 teaspoon vanilla essence  
1 cup sugar                                      1 dessertspoon cornflour  
1 teaspoon vinegar

Whisk egg whites until stiff, add sugar and continue whisking until firm. Add vinegar, vanilla and cornflour. Spoon onto greased paper that has a band of paper made into a ring for support. Place in a moderate oven for 15 minutes or until risen, then in a cooler over for 1 hour. Allow to cool slowly. Peel paper from sides and turn onto a plate. Cover with fresh whipped cream and decorate with fruit (fresh, or drained tinned fruit).

\*\* 1 penguin egg equals 2 hen eggs

*Thankfully, the custom of 'egging' (collecting birds' eggs for food) ceased long ago.*

### **A Cough Cure**

Slice an onion and put it in a shallow bowl, cover with 2 or 3 good tablespoons of brown sugar. Leave until the sugar has dissolved and mixed with the onion juice. Take 2 or 3 teaspoons before going to bed.

### **Cold in the Head or Headache**

Mix 1 teaspoon of Worcester Sauce in a tumbler of soda water, drink while effervescing.

### **Remedy for Boils**

Place 1 teaspoonful of gunpowder in a good thick fig. Eat one 3 times a day before meals till the boils disappear.

All taken from *Cooking the Falkland Island Way* by Tim Simpson

© The Alastair Cameron Memorial Trust 1994

# Spam

If you have an email address, you've likely received spam messages before. Spam email may come across as harmless, but these unsolicited messages sometimes attempt to steal your information, so read on.

Spam email, also known as junk mail, is unwanted or unsolicited messages that comes from mailing lists that you never signed up for. Spam messages may come from companies who are simply trying to advertise their products or services, but other spam messages are known as 'phishing' attacks. Phishing emails attempt to steal your information by appearing to come from a credible source, like your bank or an insurance company.

The origins of using the word "spam" to describe pesky messages came from a sketch in the TV show *Monty Python's Flying Circus* where Vikings chant about Spam, the brand name for canned, processed meat. Their chants in the sketch became so loud and repetitive that they muted any other conversations. Eventually, this sketch became synonymous with annoying messages, and "spam mail" was born.



The first known spam email sent was in 1978 advertising a new computer model. This spam effort reportedly earned the company \$13 million in sales.

Spammers may simply guess your email or scan the web looking for your email online. Some spammers purchase email lists from other companies or services. It's important to check a website's privacy policy when you sign up for their emails to see what they may do with your email address.

If you think an email you've received is spam look for messages that say "Act Now" or "Limited Time Only" or is it too good to be true, like free money or a prize in a draw. If you are getting a great deal of spam messages, **check your junk email options** and make sure you choose the right filtering option for you. You can also click the option to report spam mail to Microsoft. Stay vigilant and if in doubt, trash it!

## Parish Directory

### The Parish of Kingston Lacy and Shapwick

Rector: Revd Canon Andrew Rowland (The Rector's day off is Friday)	01202 882340 rector@wimborneminster.org.uk
Organists: contact Churchwarden Churchwarden K Lacy: Rob Langdown	01202 841381 KL-CW@wimborneminster.org.uk
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 janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com
Red Post Benefice Clerk: Vicky Harrison-King	redpostbenefice@outlook.com
Organists: contact Churchwarden Churchwardens: Katy Norman Carol Johnson	07815 610595 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
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### Hall Bookings

Old School, Stur Marshall: Val Brown	hall.mackrell@outlook.com
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Memorial Hall, Stur Marshall: Mrs K Kollberg

07729 712429

sturhallbookings@gmail.com

Pamphill Parish Hall: David Wright

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: Dolly Purtill (Chair)

schoolsociety@sturminstermarshall.dorset.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



National  
Trust

## Creativity and movement

### at Kingston Lacy

Fire up your creative juices, take a walk on the wild side and prepare to be awed by 18th century craftsmanship.

#### Learn stencil printing



16 May, 10am-4pm

A one-day workshop to teach you how to use stencils on fabric and paper. You'll take home a cushion cover with a pretty cow parsley design. Tickets £85.

#### Indian block printing workshop



6 Jun, 20 Sep and 10 Oct 1pm-4.30pm

Learn how to build colour and layer pattern using traditional hand-carved wooden blocks. You'll leave with up to two pieces to refresh your home decor. Tickets £45.

#### Get out, get moving



Various dates, see website for details

From programmes designed specially for those living with Parkinson's to sociable and guided walks out on the estate, there's plenty to keep you active at Kingston Lacy.

#### Rani Lacy: revealing an Indian treasure



1 Jun-23 Oct, 10.30am-3pm

Explore the culture, craftsmanship and creativity surrounding one of the National Trust's treasures: the Visakhapatnam cabinet. No booking needed.

Information and bookings: [nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy)

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