



THE BRIDGE

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

DIABETES WEEK

8–14 June 2026

June 2026

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**The Bridge Magazine is sponsored by
The Red Lion, Sturminster Marshall**

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

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 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

Diabetes UK is on a mission to 'Strike Out Stigma'. From their website: 8 out of 10 people living with diabetes say they've faced negative attitudes - people passing judgement, making sweeping statements, or blaming and shaming people living with diabetes. This is diabetes stigma. And it causes real harm to millions. Nobody chooses diabetes. It isn't anyone's fault. But by changing the way we talk about diabetes, together we can create a world where diabetes does no harm. Diabetes Week takes place from 8 to 14 June. Visit diabetes.org.uk to find out more, including resources, information and stories.

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, 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

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.

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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		

Pentecost – what does it mean for us today?

Pentecost might be one of the overlooked feasts in the Church calendar. Celebrated 50 days after Easter, it marks the moment when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, igniting the beginning of the Church's mission in the world.

So what actually happened at Pentecost? Why does it matter for us today?

The word “Pentecost” comes from the Greek word meaning “fiftieth.” It originally referred to a Jewish feast day celebrated 50 days after Passover and it was a time of thanksgiving for the first fruits of the harvest. But after Jesus's resurrection, Pentecost took on a whole new meaning.

Acts 2 tells us that the apostles were all gathered in one place, waiting as Jesus had instructed. Suddenly, a sound like a mighty wind filled the room. Tongues of fire appeared and rested on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages. People from every nation were amazed to hear them speaking in their own language. That day, about 3,000 people were baptised.

It was the launch of something entirely new: the Church, alive with the Spirit. At Pentecost, the Spirit didn't just fall on Peter or the most eloquent apostle. Every single person in the room received the Spirit. And that same gift is offered to us today—through baptism, confirmation, and the life of the Church. The power of Pentecost wasn't a one-time event. The Holy Spirit continues to move in the Church and in our lives—if we're open to Him.

- **Ask the Holy Spirit to come.** Pray for a fresh outpouring of the Spirit in your heart. Invite Him into your decisions, your relationships, your fears, and your mission.
- **Be willing to speak.** You don't need to have a theology degree to share the Gospel. Like Peter, you just need to be open. Speak from your experience of what God has done in your life.
- **Live with boldness.** The Spirit transforms ordinary people into extraordinary witnesses. Trust that the same Spirit who filled the apostles can work through you.



**Coffee
Mornings
Tuesdays
9.30 – 11.00**



St Mary's, Sturminster Marshall

PSD MUSIC SERIES

Music at Pimperne, Stourpaine & Durweston

Sunday 14th June at 7.15pm
St Peter's Church, Pimperne

Lesley Dinham - mezzo-soprano

A selection from Elgar's Sea Pictures and music by Mahler

St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

May Draw

Main draw

£50	29	Sandra Oldham
£30	19	Wendy Leffler
£20	102	Karen Royles

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)

Parkfield Cottage



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JUNE FILMS

1st - 4th The Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)

8th - 9th Michael (12A)

JUNE SHOWS (a selection)

3rd Craig Revel Horwood: Revelations - Songs Boys Don't Sing

4th The Opera Boys: A Night at the Musicals

10th The Manfreds: Get Your Kicks on Tour '26

11th Marty Wilde and the Wildcats 2026

12th A Foreigner's Journey - the music of Foreigner and Journey

25th - 27th Shrek The Musical - Wimborne Musical Theatre Society

28th Blandford Forum Gymnastics Club: Moving Through Decades

29th Les Liaisons Dangereuses - National Theatre Recorded Screening

30th An Evening with Jimmy Tarbuck

1st July Clearwater Creedence Revival 2026

4th The Bournemouth Youth Theatre: We Will Rock You

5th The Drifters

This magazine accepts no responsibility for the products and services advertised.

All adverts are accepted and published in good faith.

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



Railway Extravaganza!

Remembering the Somerset & Dorset railway

Sunday 12th July 2026 from 10.30am

Spetisbury Station Project

(just off the A350 in Spetisbury village, Dorset)

Freshly-made Pimms, cold drinks, tasty snacks

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Somerset & Dorset Railway Trust, S&DR Midsomer Norton,
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Entertainment by Blandford Ukulele Band

ENTRY IS FREE but donations help us maintain the station. Cash preferred, or donate online at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/spetisbury

Please consider parking at Spetisbury Primary School (DT11 9DF), it is only a 10-minute walk along the Trailway to the station. Or why not cycle or take the bus? If wet, find us in the nearby Spetisbury Village Hall.

Do you remember the Somerset & Dorset railway?

Come along and share your memories and photographs, etc.

2026: 70 years since the closure of Spetisbury station
60 years since the closure of the Somerset & Dorset railway

MORE INFORMATION: www.spetisburystationproject.wordpress.com



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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



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The
Old School



The Mackrell Charity
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Forthcoming Activities at The Old School

+++++

Discovery Café - Saturday 13th June at 2.30pm

BY POPULAR REQUEST! "A Little Bird Told Me!"

An illustrated talk by Dominic Couzens

+++++

Play Reading - there are two this month

*** 1st June at 2.00pm**

William Congreve: 'The Way of the World'

*** 29th June at 2.00pm**

William Wycherley: 'The Country Wife'

+++++

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

+++++

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

The Old School, Sturminster Marshall
Discovery Cafe
presents



A Little Bird
told me....

an illustrated talk by Dominic Couzens

Saturday 13th June 2026

2.30pm **£8** inc
tea/cake

Tickets on the door



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The Court Henbury 150th 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
or scan the QR code

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.
Foresters Friendly Society is the trading name of The Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society Limited which is an Incorporated Friendly Society (Registration No. 313F) and is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (Registration No. 310029).



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You should make provision in advance for the possibility of you becoming incapable of managing your own financial and welfare affairs during your lifetime....this could be because of dementia or a stroke or an accident causing brain damage.

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.

Fees

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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

With every blessing,

The Reverend Jane Williams

English Usage: a personal view by Michael Evans

What is meant by a “split infinitive”?

Some people say there is a rule that a word should not be inserted between “to” and a verb such as “go” because they are an “infinitive,” like “aller” in French which cannot be split. This is nonsense. There are many examples in English literature in which good authors have inserted a word between “to” and a verb. Thomas Hardy inserted two: “She wants to honestly and legally marry that man.”

The so-called rule was the invention of a contributor (who signed only as “P”) to the New England magazine in 1834 because he objected to “uneducated” people writing things like “to fully understand it.” He had a right to prefer “to understand it fully” but not to enforce it on others.

There is nothing ungrammatical about the famous “to boldly go where no man has gone before.” English infinitives have two words, so we can choose whether to place an adverb or other word before, after or between them. It’s a matter of style, not of grammar.

Last month’s anagrams

AGONISED - SAN DIEGO
A GREAT INN - ARGENTINA

This month’s anagrams

US BOTANIST - public transport hub
FOREIGN LADS - predatory insects

Social Lunch Club - For the over 50’s

Come and join us for lively conversation, make new friends, meet old acquaintances and enjoy good company.

£8 for 3 courses

Midday – til finish. Each month we aim to have a different theme details below

Next Dates:

Wednesday 10th June - Puzzle Exchange (bring a puzzle you wish to exchange)

Wednesday 8th July

Contact Claire - 07757322632

Held at The Old School, Sturminster Marshall

Sponsored by the Mackerall Charity (re. Charity 306275)





WEE ALBION NOTEBOOK

"Take care, he'll bite, you've caught the Devil!"
"Pooh, Pooh," replied the man quite civil,
"If Devil he is, as I am a sinner,
I'll eat the Devil for my dinner."

The tale of the Shapwick Monster tells of a travelling fishmonger who, while wending his way through the village on October 12, 1706, lost a large crab from his load. With the sun low in the autumn sky a local 'country clown' spotted the unfamiliar creature and took fright. He raised a hue and cry, bringing others out, armed with pitchforks, sticks, stones and torches to drive this devil from their midst. A weathervane at Crab Farm on the road to Badbury Rings still commemorates the chase. The mob had the beast surrounded when the fishmonger returned. He scooped up the cornered crustacean and left, armed with a tale that would be used to mock the villagers for centuries, while '*It's a Shapwick Monster*' became an expression for something too extraordinary to explain. More than 100 years later the story was written down - first, it seems, by Jeremiah Joyce (1783-1816), a member of the Joyce family of White Mill. A copy of his calligraphy is still held at Kingston Lacy, dating the event as October 12, 1686, not 20 years later. But perhaps the story is best known from verses penned and illustrated by a visiting artist, Buscall Fox, in a pamphlet published by Blandford bookseller F. Clemence in 1841. Fox likely came across the story while lodging at the home of Mary Harrington and her family at West Street, Shapwick. Lines from his poem are printed above, and the whole can be read on The William Barnes Society website at <https://williambarnessociety.org.uk/the-shapwick-monster/>



Sturminster Marshall MEMORIAL HALL

ANNUAL MEETING

9 July 2026 | 6.30 p.m. | including refreshments

Business meeting followed by
Caro Hart from Dorset Community Action.

All welcome

Are you interested in becoming a Trustee?



Sturminster Marshall MEMORIAL HALL

Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall is run by a dedicated team of Trustees who volunteer their time and skills to support our community.

We are always looking for new people to join our team and help shape the future of the Hall.



Make a difference – help support a valued community resource.



Use your skills – contribute your knowledge and experience.



Work as part of a team – collaborate and meet new people.



Shape the future – help plan and develop the Hall for generations to come.



No previous experience necessary – just enthusiasm and a commitment to our community.



Interested? Please get in touch to find out more.

Contact Sue Ratcliffe: sue.ratcliffe15@gmail.com

Church Services in June

Sunday 7th: Trinity 1

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

Sunday 14th: Trinity 2

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

9.30am** Holy Communion at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

Sunday 21st: Trinity 3

9.30am** Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's, Shapwick

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

Sunday 28th: Trinity 4

9.30am** Family Service at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

**ANIMAL SERVICE - PLEASE BRING YOUR PETS
FOR A BLESSING!**

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

** NOTE the new start time of 9.30am from now onwards

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



ANIMAL BLESSING SERVICE

at Kingston Lacy Church

SUNDAY 28th JUNE

at 9.30am

All pets are welcome

with their owners

St Marys, Sturminster Marshall
Saturday 6th June
Fun Dog Show

Registration from 1pm. Judging from 2pm



In the Red Lion Garden

Most handsome dog

Best Veteran

Prettiest Bitch

Best Child Handler

Best Junior

Most appealing eyes

Best Adult

Most obedient

Church Fete

Running in conjunction with the Church Fete 12 till 4pm

***In case of cancellation, notice will be published on www.redpostbenefice.com
and on Sturminster Marshall News and Views and Community Help
Facebook pages, by 9am on 6 June.***

St Marys Sturminster Marshall

Saturday 6th June 12-4 pm

Church Fete

- **Children's Competitions & Treasure Hunt**
- **Photography competition (adults & 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.*



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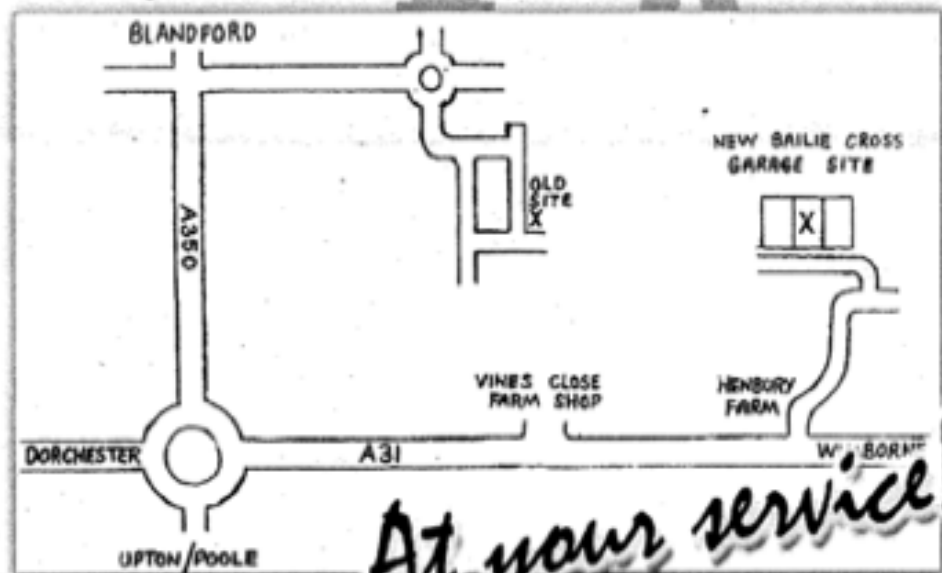
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The weather has been very mixed, we have had that lovely short warm spell, but as I write it has been a bit chillier with high winds again. There has been some rain but not enough to fill the water butts back up and I am not sure it will have been enough for farmers and their crops either.

We were however very lucky with the weather for the May Day Bank Holiday, and a big thank you to everyone involved in organising another very successful Maypole Dancing event. A great deal of time and effort by volunteers goes into making this such a valued community occasion and it was good to see it well supported. Unfortunately, we have been advised that the new maypole is not load-bearing, which means that the weather vane cannot be re-installed on top as originally intended. We are currently looking at possible solutions to resolve this issue and will provide an update once options have been explored.

The Guides have been busy giving the Book Box, which is a valuable village asset, a spring clean and we would like to thank them very much for all their hard work. Please do not leave large quantities of books or magazines beside or inside the box. The function of the book box is a book exchange.

On recent walks around the village I am still noticing that people are not picking up after their dogs. Please pick up, we are coming into summer and families will be out and about and there is nothing worse than stepping in this and having to clean it up. With the warmer weather, the brambles in hedges are growing fast and hanging over pavements and roadsides, please keep them trimmed back. Children particularly can get nasty scratches from brambles.

Just a reminder that legislation relating to **Martyn's Law** is now in place. This introduces new responsibilities for community groups and organisations arranging events with more than 200 attendees, requiring proportionate measures to improve safety and preparedness against potential terrorist threats.

continued overleaf . . .

...continued from p.33

Recent Plans:

P/CLP/2026/02219 3 Dullar Lane Sturminster Marshall BH21 4AD. Formation of a hardstanding area.

P/HOU/2026/01689 1 Coombe Farm Cottages Poole Road Sturminster Marshall BH21 3RR. Erect replacement porch, new garage, new windows and refurbishment.

**20 WIMBORNE GARDENS TO BE OPENED
IN AID OF
WIMBORNE IN BLOOM**

SUNDAY 28th JUNE

Wimborne in Bloom Open Gardens Day is all set to take place once again at the end of June this year. 20 gardens in and around Wimborne will be open on Sunday 28th June from 11.00am to 5.00pm to raise funds for Wimborne in Bloom. Pay £10.00 (cash only please) at the first garden visited. Start at any garden and in any order. Well signposted throughout the town. There will be maps put up in all the major car parks on the day of the event showing the location of all the gardens.

Once again the event is being held in the morning as well as the afternoon. Why not enjoy a day out and see some lovely gardens at the same time as raising money for Wimborne in Bloom. Teas available at some of the gardens.

Full details at wimborneinbloom.org.uk

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CHURCHILL CLOSE, BH21 4BQ

MONDAY 2-4PM

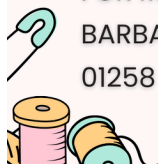
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The Club plays on the following days:-

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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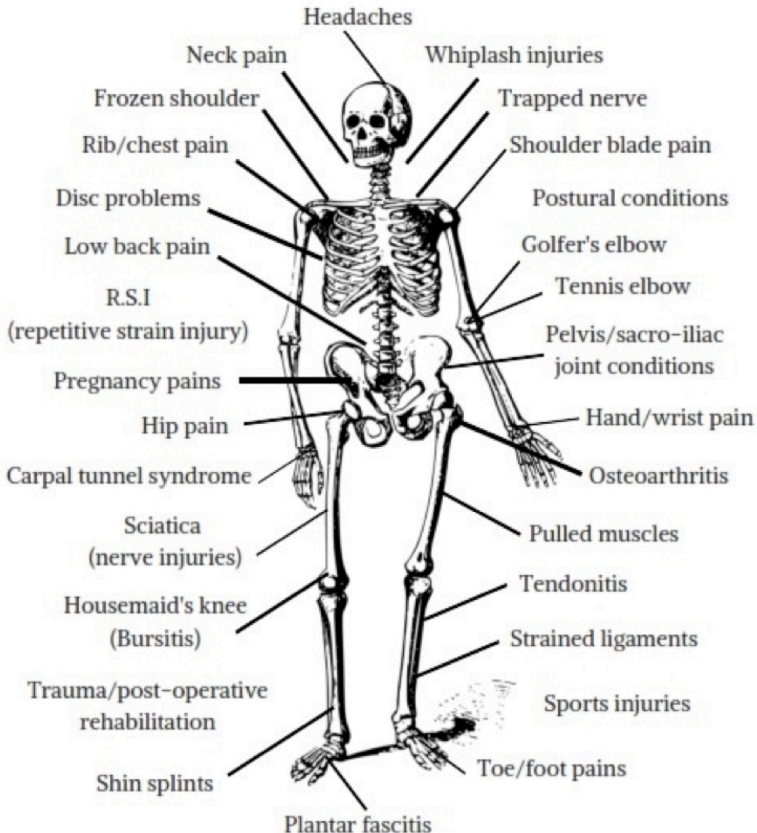
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Summer Picnics

Hopefully the weather will be good this summer and we will be able to spend some days out with family and friends. If you are fed up with the same old sandwiches, here is one idea to liven up your picnic.

Tarragon Chicken Salad on Croissants

Ingredients

- 3 lb.** boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup** golden raisins
- 4 Tbsp.** tarragon vinegar, divided
- 1 1/4 cups** mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup** chopped fresh tarragon
- 3 Tbsp.** chopped fresh dill
- 1 Tbsp.** Dijon mustard
- 8** croissants, halved lengthwise



Directions

Place chicken in a large pot of salted water. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer until the internal temperature on an instant-read thermometer reads 160°F, 10 to 12 minutes. Drain and shred.

Meanwhile, combine raisins and 2 tablespoons tarragon vinegar in a small pot. Add water to just cover raisins. Bring to a boil, then remove from heat and let sit until plump, 14 to 16 minutes. Drain.

Combine chicken, mayonnaise, tarragon, dill, mustard, raisins, and remaining 2 tablespoons vinegar in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Spoon mixture onto croissant bottoms, dividing evenly. Sandwich with tops.

Wash it down with a refreshing rosé such as BRAMBLE HILL ENGLISH ROSÉ from Marks and Spencer.

Enjoy!

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Kingston Lacy Estate News

The end of May brought our exciting new trail to Kingston Lacy, with the arrival of Pokémon. Whether you're an existing fan or a newcomer, you can join in the fun and get active outdoors on the Pokémon Trading Card Game *Mega Evolution* Trail. Team up as a family to search the gardens for each Mega Evolution Pokémon, discover their powers and complete your own challenges.

The trail runs throughout the summer (until 6 September) with additional challenges in the Kitchen Garden when the Summer of Play activities start (from 23 July), so the big question is - are you ready for a mega adventure? The trail is free (normal admission applies, free for National Trust members) and you can collect your trail sheet on the day from reception.

Meanwhile, in the house the beginning of June sees the unveiling of the newly conserved Visakhapatnam cabinet, the centrepiece of an exhibition that explores the culture and creativity surrounding this astonishing piece of craftsmanship. Made in the

18th century on India's Coromandel Coast, the cabinet is a stunning and fantastical work, with ivory-inlaid floral designs and turned ivory balustrades (check out some of the picture on Kingston Lacy's website or social feeds). The exhibition explores the cultural



crossover between India and Europe in this period, while students at Cranborne Middle School and Arts University Bournemouth have taken inspiration for their own works of art, which will be on display.

You may also want to pop into the Dining Room, where a long-standing project to light the magnificent art has been completed. Our house & collections staff walk a daily tightrope between the destructive effects of daylight and the desire to see the Kingston Lacy's art collection in all its glory; hopefully this is one step on the road to lighting everything safely.



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The Merry Month of May

Although May is now behind us, we can still enjoy some memories of the month which, in the words of Emily Brontë, is “the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope.”

MAY BE

N'er cast a clout 'til the May be out
That's what my Dad would say
So **may be** you will see it
As you walk the lanes today

Arching boughs festooned in white
Tinged pink just here and there
A delicate and sweet perfume
Its scent pervades the air

The harbinger of warmer days
The summer months draw nigh
And buttercups dance merrily
In the meadow grass so high

The mayflies prance their pretty dance
Above the river's flow
And swifts on wing do screech and sing
As they swoop from high to low

We welcome May with open arms
As nature unfurls its many charms
A time of new beginnings
A roast dinner with all the trimmings!



ARE YOU SPY MATERIAL?

Could you get an interview at GCHQ and work for the Intelligence Services? Here are some tricky questions to test your logic and analytical thinking. (Answers at the bottom of the page).

1. Which word or phrase is the odd one out?

- CATWOMAN
- DEUS EX MACHINA
- PARISHIONER
- PYROMANIA
- SCUBA

2. What comes next in this sequence?

7, 8, 5, 5, 3, 4, 4, ?

3. What replaces the question mark in this sequence?

$R + B = P$; $R + Y = 0$; $B + Y = ?$

4. Replace the asterisks with animals to make words

e.g. af*oon = afTERNooN

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. appr*imate | 2. mead*ark | 3. bil*aire | 4. bene*nt |
| 5. b*zebug | 6. ver*im | 7. si*ture | 8. *orker |
| 9. mi*ave | 10. ex*ble | 11. cont*e | |

GCHQ © Crown Copyright

Answers

1. Parishioner: The others contain the names of countries: Oman, China, Romania, Cuba.
2. 6. The number of letters in the names of the months: January = 7, February = 8 etc.
3. G. Red mixed with Blue makes Purple; Red mixed with Yellow makes Orange; Blue mixed with Yellow makes Green.
4. appROXimate meadOWLark bILIONaire beneVOLEnt
beeLzebug verBATim sIGNATURE COVORker
miCROWave exPANdable conTRAVENE



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 25th - 27th 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

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!

The Reign of Queen Elizabeth II

Our late Queen came to the throne in 1952 on the death of her father, and was crowned on 2nd June 1953 at the age of 27 years in Westminster Abbey. The coronation itself was much the same as it had been for the last 1000 years. But that is where the similarity ends. This coronation was the first ever to be televised and many people



purchased and rented television sets specifically to watch the coronation. The number of television license holders doubled from approximately one and a half million to three million. About 27 million people tuned in across the UK, with millions more around the world.

That was 73 years ago and during her long reign, she must have seen a lot of changes. 1953 was only 8 years after the war and rationing was just coming to an end, there were still bomb sites, hanging was still the punishment for murder, and Winston Churchill was again Prime Minister. There was virtually no vandalism, swearing in public places was an offence, and gentlemen still gave up their seats to ladies in buses and trams. There were not so many cars on the roads and a gallon of petrol cost 4 shillings and 6 pence halfpenny, milk was 7d a pint and bread 7d a loaf. Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing became the first people to scale the summit of Mount Everest and 8 years later, in 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first human to travel into space.

Progress that the world has made over those 73 years is staggering. Some for the better, but some worse. In the 1950s, about half the world lived in extreme poverty but by 2019, this had fallen to below 10%. We have not done so well at combating climate change though. We are already seeing more flooding, more wild fires, higher temperatures that could lead to more disease, drought and loss of plant and animal species.

The Queen herself was very aware of the dangers of failing to address climate change and urged world leaders at the COP26 climate summit to "achieve true statesmanship" and create a "safer, stabler future" for the planet.



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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
Deputy Churchwarden Shapwick: Alan Cosgrove	07971 512390 alancosgrove@btopenworld.com
PCC Secretary: Margaret Langdown	01202 841381
Treasurer: Christine Cosgrove	01258 858876
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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: Carol Johnson Sue Pritchard	07400 356901 smcwsue@gmail.com 078xx xxxxxx
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PCC Treasurer: Ed Warren	01258 857467
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Sturminster Marshall Pre-school: Mrs Holly Keets	01258 858395
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Pamphill Pre-School Nursery: Mrs D Gould	07415 473977
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Police station (non-emergency number)	101
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