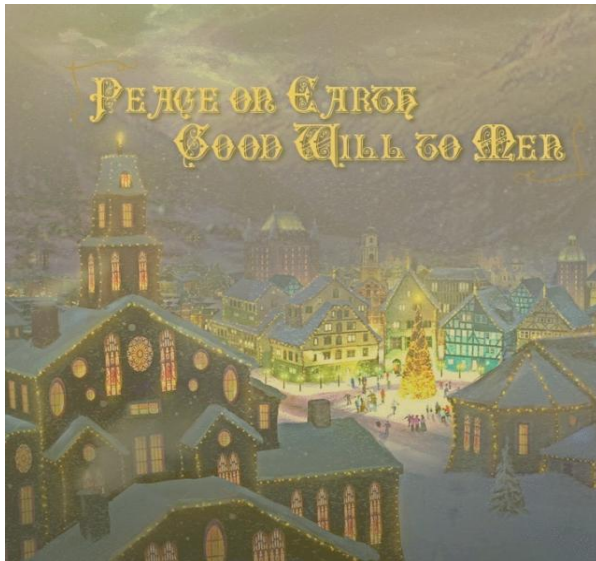


THE BRIDGE

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



Wishing a Merry Christmas to all our readers
December 2024

You can now read The Bridge in colour on line
at www.bridgemagazinedorset.com,
www.redpostbenefice.com
and www.mackrellcharity.org.uk.
Just follow the links or scan the Q.R. code.



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 fund raising activities. Our Chairman is Barry Johnson, our Editor is Tony Cross 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 (NOT A4 OR Letter PLEASE)** size pages, in **MS Word (.doc or .docx)** or **Works (.wps)**, or **it can be a .jpg file or .pdf file**, to the Editor at **tcenator@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 Court House, Cowgrove, BH21 4EL, making it clear on the envelope that this is for the Editor of The Bridge.

Please Note: Due to our printer's Christmas shutdown this year the deadline for articles for the January issue is the 12th of December.

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**

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 contact number for all advertising enquiries.

Please Note: Due to our printer's Christmas shutdown the deadline for adverts to Liz for the January issue is the 10th of December.

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, tel: 01202 739993.**

From Bridge Publications (The Committee that produces this Magazine)

Thank you to all our supporters who have enabled us to continue with the publication of this community magazine. Our main source of income is advertising and sponsorship. If you run a small business in the villages why not consider advertising with us which could, not only, bring you customers but also demonstrate your support for the community. If you would like to support us with a monthly 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 20-96-96 - Account Number 00026530.

Thank you for your support.

PS: The Bridge Committee requires someone to join them as a Minute Secretary. The role is fairly undemanding as we meet only about 4 times a year but fresh ideas would also be very welcome. If you wish further information please contact me on the above email or give me a call on 07958 437860.

Barry Johnson - on behalf of the Bridge Committee

The Bridge Magazine – Collection Points

Sturminster Marshall:

Nisa, Spar, The Red Lion, St. Mary's Church, The 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             |                 |                 |

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[facebook.com/stephencheesegardenservices](https://facebook.com/stephencheesegardenservices)



**Please Note: Due to our printer's Christmas shutdown this year, the deadline for articles for the January issue is the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.**

## From The Church

### Christmas Newsletter 2024

I absolutely love the run up to Christmas, this liturgical season that we call Advent. The sense of preparation for something big, something wonderful and the anticipation of what's to come: with Jesus in our midst, the future is very bright!

That sense of awe and wonder about the place, of children's little faces lighting up with happiness and joy as we prepare to celebrate the fact that Jesus came and lived among us, starting out life as a baby, just like all of us here ...

As one modern translation of the bible puts it:

**“The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into our neighbourhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son. Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.”** (John 1.14 The Message)

For Christians this has to be the most exciting thing ever, God sending his one and only Son. For some though the sad thing is that these liturgical seasons are, or have become, nothing but empty cycles without any meaning.

This Advent, whether you're excited about Christmas or not, let me challenge you to take some time out of your busy schedule and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, how the birth of Jesus Christ has impacted on your life spiritually.

Throughout December across the Red Post Churches there will be some wonderful opportunities to anticipate and celebrate together, beginning with our Advent Service of Darkness to Light on 1<sup>st</sup> December running right through to our services on Christmas Day and during the Christmas season.

### **EMMANUEL – GOD IS WITH US**

My prayer for you all this year is that you will be more aware of God's presence than ever before, during the anticipation of Advent and that as you celebrate, Christmas will be especially joyful for you.

As a family we would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a blessed New Year.

With every blessing,

**Jane** (Vicar of the Red Post Churches; Almer, Bloxworth, Morden, Sturminster Marshall, Winterborne Kingston and Winterborne Zelston with Tomson.)

PS If you happen to be on FaceBook, have a look at what our Elf is getting up to throughout December! Follow the link:

**<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567776809693>**

# St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

## November Draw

### Main draw

£50      53   Sue Anthony  
 £30      165   Stella Warren  
 £20      4   Lynne Vipond

### Bonus Draw

£50      62   Karen Royles  
 £30      170   Stella Warren  
 £20      78   Val Brown

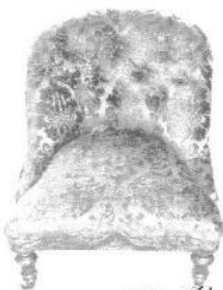
Congratulations to this month's winners.

Please look out for a letter or email inviting you to join the 2025 Lottery.  
 If you don't receive a renewal letter or wish to join for the first time please contact one of the committee below.

Help to support St Mary's Church.

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

Karen Royles: 1 Parkfield, Newton Road, Stur. Marshall (Tel: 07761 867738)



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Mobile: 07890 064328

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# Tivoli Theatre

BOX OFFICE & ENQUIRIES 01202 885566 [www.tivoliwimborne.co.uk](http://www.tivoliwimborne.co.uk)

## DECEMBER SHOWS

|                                     |                                                                   |                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | Maddy Prior and the Carnival Band                                 | 7.30pm, 27.50      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | A Christmas Carol – A radio play live on stage                    | 7.30pm, £25.       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>                     | Marty Wilde and the Wildcats; greatest hit tour                   | 7.30pm, £29.50.    |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>                     | Platinum – the live ABBA tribute show                             | 7.30pm, £33.       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>                     | Showaddywaddy in concert December 2024                            | 7.30pm, £30.       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>                     | Counterfeit Stones 2024                                           | 8pm, £30.          |
| 14 <sup>th</sup>                    | Cregan & Co                                                       | 7.30pm, £24.50     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> | Snow White and the seven dwarfs<br>by Made To Measure Productions | £19.50, <16 £15.50 |

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – 1pm.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – 5pm.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – 6pm.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – 10:30am & 2:30pm.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – **No Shows.**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – 2pm.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> – 10:30am (relaxed performance) & 2:30pm.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – **No Shows.**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> – 2pm & 6pm.



## FLOOD RISK

We have been pretty lucky so far this autumn and, as this is written, there have been no serious floods in the village either from the river or from surface water. Mill Lane has not been inundated and the usual collection points have been drained quickly.

However the likelihood of flooding increases at this time of year and it is worth reminding householders of the risks.

There are several 'hotspots' where torrential rain is bound to result in pools... Church St, High St, Kings Street and Newton Rd are all vulnerable. Please be wary of these situations....the water may not be very deep but driving through it at speed will jeopardise properties and pedestrians close by....and may result in your ignition system being flooded. You will get no sympathy for this....indeed you could be prosecuted for assault if you drench pedestrians....there is a precedent!

Only the police have authority to close roads...flood wardens can put up warning signs but we will contact the police in instances where we think a flood becomes dangerous. That happened 3 times last winter when drivers who had foolishly ignored signs were trapped in their immobilised cars on Mill Lane. In those situations, once the people were safe the police were not interested in recovery of vehicles (unless they were blocking the road) this being entirely the owner's responsibility....and insurance companies are unlikely to pay out on claims where road signs have been ignored. Needless to say the parish has no mechanism to recover vehicles in those cases.

The flood team have recently been issued with a small allocation of (empty) sandbags and, if you think your property is at risk from rising surface water or passing vehicles causing waves, you are welcome to keep a couple in stock....you will need your own sand supply to fill them when needed...they are effective but organic and will only suit for one event lasting a few days. Contact me for details.

The road gullies sited along the principal routes are deep soakaways, not connected to a pipe system. So if they get blocked by solid debris at the grill level they will not drain quickly. I can report blocked public drains to Dorset Council and they have been pretty efficient in the past at sending round a clearance team. If you notice one near you feel free to contact me and I will pass on the information.... I need a position identification and which side of the road.

Here's hoping for a dry(ish) winter!

**Adrian Holden: Flood Warden Team.      [adrianholden48@sky.com](mailto:adrianholden48@sky.com),**

## **Aircraft Crash And Lucky Escapes Near Sturminster Marshall**

In June 1956 a Vickers Armstrong SuperMarine Swift from the former RAF Chilbolton airfield in Hampshire, flown by test pilot George Horne, was returning to base when the engine developed a serious fault as it approached Sturminster Marshall. Witnesses stated that the engine suddenly cut out followed by two loud bangs. Pilot Horne made the decision to eject. The plane carried on over the village and headed another few miles toward Barford Farm, Cowgrove.

Pilot George Horne had ejected at 3500 feet and came down near the then Black Horse Inn (now the Golden Fox), and a story goes that he landed in an a tree in the pub garden and the then Landlord, a certain John Sibley, on hearing all the noise, went into the garden saw George Horne hanging there asked him if he could do with a drink.

"Where am I then?" says George.

"Back garden of my pub, the Black Horse, Sturminster Marshall" says John.

"Couldn't think of a better place to come down" said George "I'll have a double Brandy please".

After his drink and a wash and brush-up in the pub, George was feeling a little better after his experience and began to think about his plane.

Meanwhile back at Barford farm, tractor driver Jim Mouland had just driven across a field when the plane appeared flying low and just missing some high voltage electricity lines and came down and exploded in a ball of fire in the very field Jim had just driven across and wreckage was spread over a quarter mile radius. Across the way, near the farm, dairyman Bert Endicott was doing what dairymen do when he heard a bang on the dairy roof and a piece of debris from the plane came through the roof and clipped the top of his head, luckily just a graze. In the nearby cottage where Bert lived with his wife Brenda, a large piece of earth smashed through the roof and bedroom ceiling and damaged a vase on a shelf. Other workers had lucky escapes but no serious injuries as the wreckage fell on other farm buildings. The fire brigade and ambulance service arrived swiftly but were not needed as no serious casualties and the flames from the burning plane had died out.

Bert's daughter Pat had come home from school and wondered what all the excitement was and was quite enthralled when her Mother told her all that had happened.

Many thanks to Pat, who still lives in the village, and supplied her memories of the event and let me have a copy of the original newspaper report. As for the Black Horse story I cannot fully verify that, but Pat remembers her Mother talking about it, as she knew Mrs. Sibley. So if there is anyone out there that knows anymore I would love to Know.

**David Whitmarsh**



**St Mary's Church  
Sturminster Marshall**

# **Christmas Market Stall**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>  
December  
10.00 – 12.00**

THE RED LION INN



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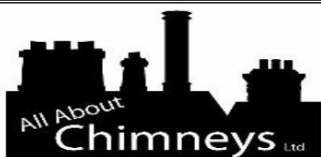


## MINSTER PROBUD CLUB OF WIMBORNE

**Founded 1988**

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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Check your eligibility for Pension Credit online.

Eligibility criteria apply  
\*or the equivalent in Scotland

The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual payment to help you with heating costs during the colder months. The Government announced in July 2024 that, from this year onwards, to be eligible you must have reached State Pension age and also receive a qualifying means-tested benefit e.g. pension credit, universal credit or income support.

The last possible date to make a successful backdated claim to receive the Winter Fuel Payment is 21 December. Applications for Pension Credit can be made on the [How to Claim](#) page on GOV.UK or over the phone by calling 0800 99 1234 (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm).

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

***The Mackrell Charity  
at The Old School  
December Activities***



***Discovery Cafe - 2.30pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Early Beliefs – Religion or Superstition by Neil Meldrum  
+++++***

***Social Christmas lunch - noon on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
+++++***

***Film Society - 7.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
The Bleu Dahlia - director George Marshall  
and Les Enfants du Paradis - director Marcel Carne***

***+++++  
Play reading- No play reading in December but 2 in January,  
Goose Pimples by Mike Leigh on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan and  
On the Razzle by Tom Stoppard on the 27<sup>th</sup> Jan.***

***+++++  
Thursday morning Bridge Group.  
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*



# EARLY BELIEFS



## Religion or Superstition?

an illustrated talk by Neil Meldrum

Saturday 7th December 2024

2.30pm **£6** inc  
tea/cake

Tickets on the door

BH21 4BU





*The*  
**Old School Film Society**

*presents*

**The Blue Dahlia**

1946

Dir: George Marshall



&

1945

Dir: Marcel Carné

**Thursday 12th December 7.30pm**  
**sturminster marshall**

## December Celebrations

**Christmas** is unarguably the most popular December celebration. The day marks the birth of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom Christians believe to be the son of God sent to save humanity from sin. What sets Christmas apart from most religious festivals is that the day is generally celebrated even by non-Christians. Father Christmas brings gifts just as the Magi brought gifts to the baby Jesus.



But it is not the only Festival celebrated in December.

**Hannukah** or the Festival of Lights, is an 8-day Jewish festival that, this year, falls between November 28 and December 6. Hannukah is a period to celebrate the re-dedication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem after



the Maccabean Revolt. The celebrations include lighting of candles every night throughout the eight days, singing of special songs, as well as reciting of the Hallel prayer. Other popular Hannukah customs include eating oil-dried foods such as potato pancakes and jam-filled donuts.

**Santa Lucia** was an Italian Saint that died as a martyr is remembered and celebrated each December 13th in Sweden as a symbol of light and hope. This important day is marked by atmospheric concerts and processions, featuring singers clad in white and wearing headdresses featuring actual flickering candles.



**Yule**, also called Yuletide, is a festival marked by Germanic people around the world. The festival has pagan roots and can be traced back to the Norse god Odin as well as the Anglo-Saxon festival of Modraniht. Yuletide technically falls within the Winter Solstice, making it one of the oldest and most popular winter celebrations in the world. Ancient people marked



Yule by lighting a huge log in a bonfire and spending the long night outdoors.

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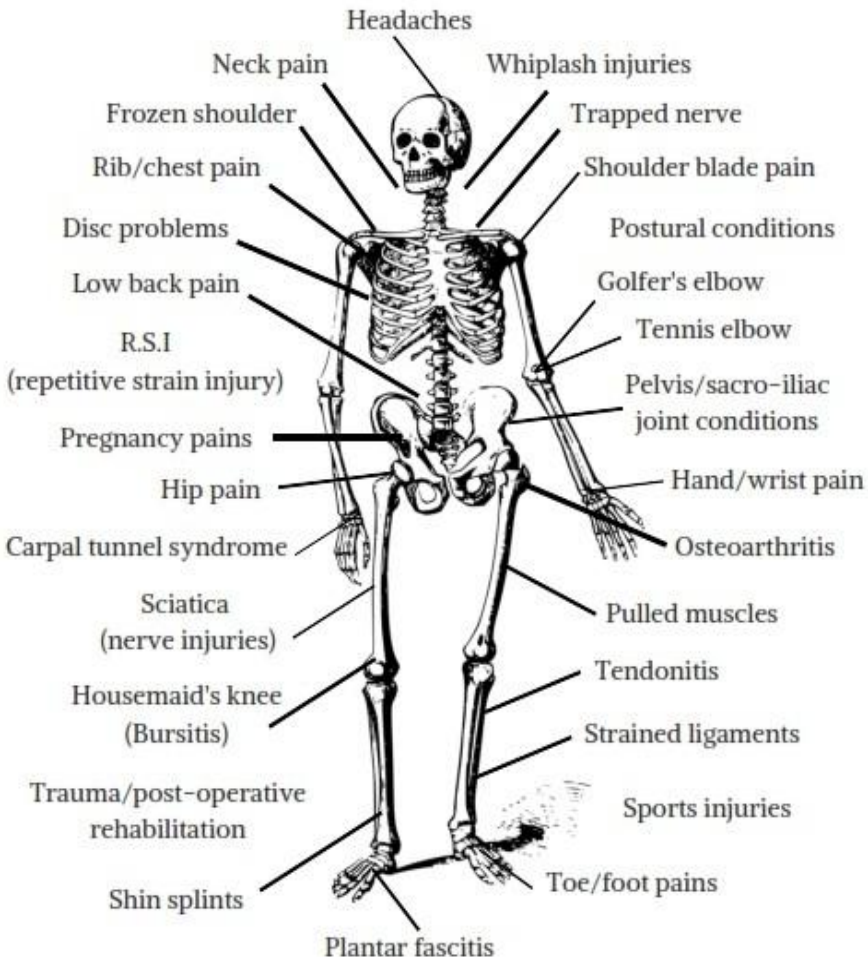
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01202 880618





*Advent*  
*From Darkness to Light*  
*1<sup>st</sup> December 5.00pm*  
*St Mary's Church*  
*Sturminster Marshall*

*All Welcome*



Christmas Services at  
St Stephens, Kingston Lacy  
St Bartholomew's, Shapwick

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at Kingston Lacy  
CHRISTINGLE at 4 pm

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December Kingston Lacy  
CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE at 7 pm

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December Shapwick  
CAROLS AROUND THE CROSS at 7 pm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December at Kingston Lacy  
FAMILY SERVICE with COMMUNION at 10 am

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[www.dorsetbridgechoir.co.uk](http://www.dorsetbridgechoir.co.uk)



# Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>  
& Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>  
December  
10.00– 4.00**

**St Mary's Church  
Sturminster  
Marshall**

**Come and support  
your favourite charity  
and vote for your  
favourite tree.**

**Join in the Carol  
Singing at 3.00 on  
Sunday**



**Toy Service 9.15**

---

**Please Note: Due to our printer's Christmas shutdown this year the deadline for articles for the January issue is the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.**

## Nature's Voice

Now, normally I write here about our less cute or beautiful natural friends, or the traditionally less agreeable seasons, with the mission to show how amazing they are and to lessen the 'eek' or 'urh' factor... but this month is dedicated to a very special and, I think, universally impressive creature.

During half term, we had the rather dubious pleasure of needing to buy a car to replace a very old one that had an unfortunate, but small, bump and was written off, as they do seem to do over a small thing these days, by the insurance company. We'd looked at a few and they were all 'fine'... We're not really 'car people' and so it was a tricky decision. On the way to see the last one, which was over in Christchurch, we were treated to, what the children are calling, a good omen, that I'm sure helped seal the deal! After years of searching the skies and hoping and wondering, we finally spotted one of the local white tailed eagles!

Now, I've been told that if you're wondering whether it's a buzzard or an eagle, then it's definitely a buzzard, and I was always a bit cynical about this, but it turns out to be true. The creature we saw over the floodplains near Parley was a jumbo jet in comparison to a mere buzzard!

It was so exciting to finally see one, circling and being bothered by crows that looked the size of starlings next to it. Its wingspan was so impressive and the wing tips, like fingers at the ends, were so different to the buzzard's silhouette that there was simply no mistaking it.

The white tailed eagles were reintroduced to the Isle of Wight in 2019, having been widespread in the area until the 1800s. It was humans that brought their numbers down to zero, but thankfully, humans are helping to secure their numbers once again. They are our largest bird of prey and are regularly seen around Poole Harbour.

Needless to say, we were all in a good mood when we arrived at the garage. The young chap showing us the car had no idea what I was talking about but said he'd tell his manager who was apparently 'into birds.'

And the car? Reader, we bought it 😊

**Mel Fermor**

## **Social Lunch Club**

### **Old School Hall, Sturminster Marshall**

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

**11<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon**

**December Lunch Club is our Festive Christmas meal  
which must be booked in advance**

**Lunch Club is taking a break in January but will be back  
on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

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  
make some new friends – we look forward to seeing you.

Call Heather (01258 857823) or Gladys (01258 858135) if you have  
any questions or need transport to get to and from the Old School.

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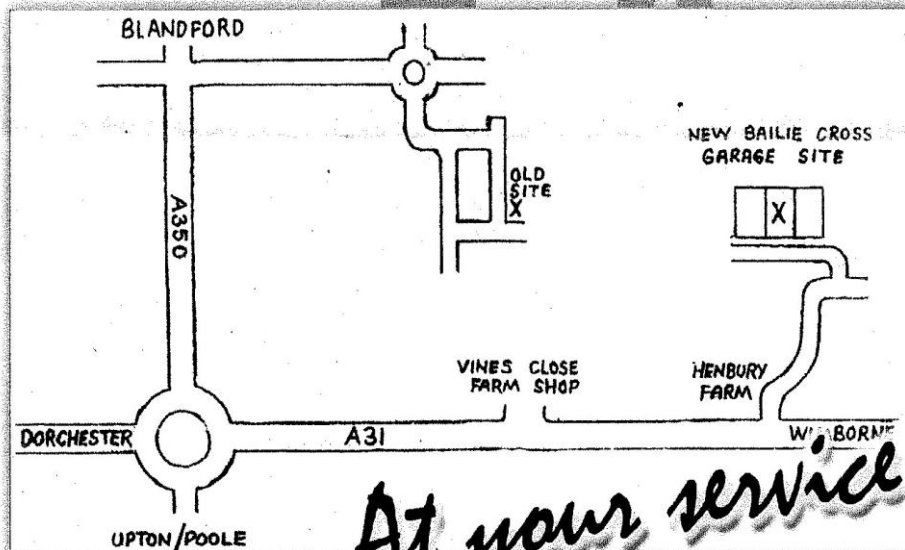
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Thanks from all the team.

## Kingston Lacy Estate News

It's the most...frantically busy time of the year at Kingston Lacy. We love Christmas, but there's such a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes; we've been planning since spring).



However, by the time you're reading this hopefully it will all have come together in a magical way, and you'll be able to see the beautifully decorated house and take part in the Christmas wishes trail through the grounds if you have little ones. The first day will be Saturday 30 November, and this year's theme is all around Christmas wishes, with Kingston Lacy being visited by the Wish Makers – as seen in the picture!

There'll be a welcome return of the vintage carousel, the usual festive feel in the Laundry Courtyard and the cafe, and Storytelling with Santa (booking essential, tickets £15 per child). We hope many of you will get the chance to visit and bring friends and family for

what we hope will be plenty of festive fun.

In other news, we are cracking on with the maintenance work on the Woodland Walk, where we are removing 30 per cent of the tree canopy to change the woodland from a dense, dark environment to a light and airy habitat.

Much of the woodland was planted after storms in the 1980s, but since then very little management has taken place and botanical surveys have shown there is virtually no ground flora with young trees unable to grow strongly due to the lack of light. Ash die back has also affected many ash trees, which need to be felled for safety reasons.

Usable wood is being taken off site, but fluffy "brash" (the top part of the tree) will be left on the woodland floor to encourage natural regeneration and for wildlife habitat.

The work is scheduled until February, but we are hopeful it will be completed well before then.

## **Church Services for December**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>; Advent Sunday**

5.00pm Advent: From Darkness to Light at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>:**

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

9.15am Toy Service at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>:**

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

9.15am Simple Worship Service at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

4.00pm Christingle at St. Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> :**

7.00pm Carol Service at St. Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>:**

6.00pm Carol Service at Almer

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup>:**

7.00pm Carols round Cross at St. Bartholomew's, Shapwick

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

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

11.00am Holy Communion at Morden

6.00pm Carol Service at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>:**

4.00pm Crib Service at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

11.30pm Midnight Mass at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day**

10.00am Family Communion at St. Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

11.00am Holy Communion at Almer

11.00am Christmas Service at Morden

## Church Services for December

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>: Christmas I

11.00am Benefice Holy 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.**

### Zoom Services at Red Post

If you would like to join an online Red Post service via Zoom, please email: [redpostbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:redpostbenefice@outlook.com) for details

### Zoom Services at Wimborne Minster

Meeting Number Zoom ID: 883 2976 1518

|                  |        |                |
|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Monday to Friday | 8.30am | Morning Prayer |
| “ “ “            | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer |

If you would like to join an online Minster service via Zoom, please contact

Judith Lane at: [villageadmin@wimborneminster.org.uk](mailto:villageadmin@wimborneminster.org.uk)

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## NOTICES



**Coffee and Cake:** This is a new event which will be taking place on the second Monday of each month at **St Bartholomew's** church in **Shapwick** from 9.30am – 12.00pm.

A very warm welcome awaits everyone who enjoys coffee, cake and a chat.





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## English Usage by Michael Evans

### It's terrible!

Here's another example of how words change their meaning over time.

"Terrible" used to mean "what can cause *terror*". That was what Russians understood by the title "Ivan the Terrible." He was to be feared!

The word now means "bad" or "of poor quality", and is even used instead of "very" as in "That young child is terribly clever."

To say something is "terrible" in French means that it was extremely good, perhaps even "smashing".

Now there's another word that's had a few different meanings!

Here are some anagrams for you to solve on alternate days during the 12 days of Christmas.

IT IS MACABRE – but good with curry (2 words)

LOADING UP KERB – a nuisance on the High Street (2 words)

SATIRIC ACTOR – high society status (1 word)

MONETISE – musical half step (1 word)

ADDED VAT GAINS – but was poor (1 word)

HOTEL SUITE – dark shape (1 word)

Last month's anagrams

I AM TOLD CREAM – MELODRAMATIC

IT'S A CRIME - ARMISTICE

ABRUPT DECLINE - UNPREDICTABLE

IT IS MACABRE – BASMATI RICE

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**Please Note: Due to our printer's Christmas shutdown this year the deadline for articles for the January issue is the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.**



## *Christmas at the Station*

Join us on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December** at the old railway station in Spetisbury, Dorset, from 10am to 2pm for delicious

*seasonal refreshments including mulled wine, mince pies, hot dogs and other festive treats*

and the chance to buy some last-minute presents from a range of good quality second-hand railway books (including children's books), DVDs and other railway gifts.

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The Quayside Choir (at midday) and  
Blandford Ukulele Group (at 1pm)*

All of this is available for a donation (cash only please) to the **Spetisbury Station Project**, every penny raised goes towards helping us maintain and improve the station site.

**If wet, find us in the Spetisbury Village Hall.**

More information at [www.spetisburystationproject.co.uk](http://www.spetisburystationproject.co.uk)



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## **STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS**

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

**We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.**

I know that I always mention the weather at the start of the Jottings but it has definitely been a topic of conversation with everyone I meet. This year has seemed much wetter than I ever remember it although as I write we are having a dry period and it has turned colder. Personally, I prefer it cold, clear and sunny, the grey days recently have been very difficult mentally, I don't know what you think?

The A350 road closure should be in full swing and I hope you have all been coping with it okay. There do seem to have been a lot of road closures locally lately, but this work is needed to ensure that there will be no more leakages within this area.

We have been in correspondence with village First School regarding litter in the parish, and the children are very keen to try and help to make a difference. They are going to design a poster about the importance of taking your litter home and we have offered a prize for the poster chosen to be displayed around the Parish. There is also still a vacancy for a Parish Councillor, so if you are interested in finding out what being a councillor entails, please do get in touch with the Parish Clerk. Contact details can be found on the Parish Website above.

There have been concerns expressed about speeding in Mill Lane, and we have purchased new Cattle Signs to raise awareness about cattle crossing this often busy road, which is also a popular place to walk. We are obtaining quotes for repairs to the playground and hopefully the work will be carried out soon. We are looking into an additional community noticeboard on the outside of Walnut Tree field.

The EV Charge Points are progressing and they are going to be placed in two bays of the memorial Hall car park, situated next to the Dorset and Somerset Ambulance clothing bin. We had a meeting with our new Community Highways Officer to discuss many issues including signs at Bailie Cross crossroads, weed spraying, white lines on Church Corner and Railway drive. The Citizens Advice Bus will be having its last visit of 2024 in the Memorial Hall Car Park on 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00am to 12pm. They offer free confidential advice on a lot of issues, so please do go along if you had any questions.

The Neighbourhood Plan has now officially been adopted and an enormous thank you goes to John Quick and Roger Daniels for all their hard work and dedication. Without them the Plan would not have happened.

### **Recent Plans:**

P/FUL/2024/0475      Almer Manor, Almer Manor Lane, Winterborne Zelston.  
DT11 9EP.

Temporary change of use of site to a wedding venue including temporary stationing of marquee, kitchen tent, toilet trailer & car park.

P/FUL/2024/05059     50 Churchill Close, Stur Marshall. BH21 4BH.  
Demolish garage and outbuilding and erect 2 No 2 bedroom bungalows with parking. Creation of new parking area to No 50.

P/FUL/2024/05270     Land adj. to Middle Road, Bailie Gate Industrial Estate, High Street, Stur Marshall. BH21 4DB.  
Removal of existing hedging and erection of 2 new buildings comprising 9 no. employment units for Class B2, Class B8 or class E business uses with associated hard/soft landscaping.

P/PABA/2024/06323     Fairway Farm, Dorchester Road, Stur Marshall, BH21 3RL.  
Erect an agricultural building.

---

## **Shapwick Acoustic Sessions 2023**

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Great value - £10 on the door, £8 in advance.

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For further details of past concerts and future dates see:

**<https://www.facebook.com/ShapwickSessions/>**

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## **New Life Church**

### **Sturminster Marshall**

#### **Charismatic Church**

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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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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.*



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## Talking Big Red

Farming life - there is nothing like it. The majority of it governed by the weather, and when bad weather is on its way it is all 'go go go' to get the work done and finished while you can.

It was on such a day that after pushing to get 2nd cut haylage, and late cut hay in, straw baled, etc. that as it got dark, we had calls, messages, turned out from a good Samaritan walker of the footpaths around our fields. 'You have one of your Red cows in trouble having a calf!

That is the time you have to drop everything and grab the calving ropes and a torch and head for the field. Sure enough my favourite Red 'Honiton' was struggling to give birth to what looks the size of a 'Donkey!! It is not usually easy to approach a calving cow in the middle of a field - in the dark by torchlight - but we are talking Honiton. She, far from running away, was reversing into us with a look on her face of 'give us a hand with this one.' We attached the calving ropes to the calves front feet to enable us to help her - that done, we started to apply pulling pressure, and she started to push. The front legs and head came - but got stuck at the hips. More pulling saw the big bull calf born. Poor farmer at the sudden exit ended up bowling backwards over the grass. - thankfully avoiding any cow pats!! But a good result, a healthy calf and a happy mum. But Honiton, unlike other cows, does not greet her calf with soft 'Moo's'. She bellows at the top of her lungs! It was a standing joke after her first calf that it would be deaf in a week!! That was some years ago - and she has had many calves since and every time it is the same! But mum and new born were sorted and well - best left now to bond.

A day or so later we had another job to do, the castration and ear tagging. Calves, by law, have to. We set off for their field, taggers in one pocket, castrators loaded in the other. We caught the calf but on fishing out the ear taggers, a tag was missing, lost in the field. Grrrr! We have to let calf go to search for the missing ear tag! That found (thankfully ours are bright yellow making it easier to find in the mud!) Then back to recatch the big boy.

All went to plan and the Bull calf was caught, again, and this time ear tagged with his corresponding passport number. As I held onto him, Farmer manipulated the reproductive bits into the castrating band. Honiton, not helping, was busy licking her calve's underbelly and at risk of having her tongue wearing a castration ring!! As Farmer is muttering at Honiton to keep her dam tongue out the way, and I hold onto the monster calf, I realise my right foot is feeling very warm - aid bull calf is having a pee - and it is going right down my boot. But now was not the time to move. Oh joy!!

Finally the job is done. Mum set off with her calf at foot, bellowing as she went, and me - time to change my socks I think - and my boots!

It is with great thanks to Graham who, from the footpath, realised that she was having difficulty, I say 'Thank you Graham'.

**Red Squirrel**

## \*STURMINSTER MARSHALL SHORT MAT BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB



### TRY YOUR HAND AT INDOOR BOWLS

We are currently looking for new members, no experience necessary. We pride ourselves as being a very sociable, friendly and non-League Club; our aim is to have fun and enjoy our game.

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.

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

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together.**

*'Coffee*



*and*



*Cake'*

at

**St Bartholomew's Church,  
Shapwick**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**9.30am – 12.00pm**

**A very warm welcome to everyone**

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Hello everyone.

I am don't know where this month has gone. I have been away on holiday for nearly 3 weeks, so time has just flown by.

Our WI meeting in October was a craft evening. We had 22 ladies attend and we had a variety of crafts to have a go at such as Christmas table decorations, pebble art, painting and making corn dollies in preparation for our visit to the first school Harvest festival when we are going to help the children make corn dollies. We all had a lot of fun some of us more successful than others but at least we had a go.

We have had a busy month with some of us attending the Annual Dorset WI Federation meeting in the Lighthouse Poole. Also, we have been involved in Croquet, skittles matches and a friendly netball match.

We are always pleased to see new members so if you are interested in joining our WI group, you are very welcome. We meet on the Third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in The Old School Hall opposite the Red Lion. See what we have to offer, nothing to pay at the start then if you like us a membership fee of £48 for the year. The next available meeting for you to come along to will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

**Our next meeting on December the 12<sup>th</sup> will be our Christmas party to be held at Sturminster Marshall Golf Club.**

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

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For more information, please email  
[sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk)

**The Parish Council meets  
once a month (except  
August) usually on the first  
Thursday of the month**



**CHRISTMAS  
TEA**

**2.00 – 4.30**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**The Old School**

**Sturminster Marshall**

**Tombola and Christmas Stall**

**All proceeds to The Church Preservation Trust.**

**Dorset Chamber Choir 2024 Christmas Concert**  
**Monday 9th December at 7 pm**  
**Wimborne Methodist Church, King Street BH21 1DY.**  
**"A Ceremony of Carols" - Benjamin Britten**  
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## 'YULE; WHAT ELSE'...by Lys de Bray

Many gardener's thoughts are about Christmas and Christmas day itself, of course, and you will already have planned what you're going to do (or, virtuously, have already done it in the way of gifts) This is magic-wand time, and what fun this is! The garden centres are or have been chock-full of gift ideas, so I'm not going to make any suggestions. Well, maybe a few... and instead I'll talk about spring. Think trees to start with. If gifts have yet to be bought, a young tree in a pot is a happy thought. This will need a consultation with the lucky recipient so the element of surprise won't be there, but on the other hand, what he or she says about trees in general and liking or wanting this or that will give you ideas, and then it *will* be a surprise. I've grouped them into types to help with the decision.

(1) Big trees (ultimately) (2) Average-height trees. (3) Small trees (4) Evergreen trees. (5) Conifers (6) Trees for blossom (7) Fruit trees (8) Foliage trees (9) Trees for autumn colour. (10) Ultimate specimen trees. (11) Bonsai trees

(1) Big trees may come with baggage so homework must be done first, such as local bylaws. If your friend has a large garden there should be no problem, nevertheless, check.

Native forest trees: Oak, Ash, Pine, Beech, Chestnut, Sycamore, Willow; several kinds. Likes damp situations.

Average height trees: Hawthorn, several kinds; good for thorny hedging Reminds me of the time when elephants ate our hedge. (we lived in Kent...)

Small trees: Prunus (Sloe) Thorny native hedging tree: A froth of not-quite-white blossom in spring and very tart, bitter fruits in autumn. Essential for sloe gin. Rowan, creamy flowers in spring and sprays of orange-red berries in autumn. A magical and legendary tree, often seen growing in rocky and inhospitable environments in Scotland.

Evergreen trees: Holly: Very many varieties. Eucalyptus: tall tree with sprays of small creamy flowers and leathery grey-green-blue aromatic leaves. Laurel: Several kinds; tough and invasive. Good for hedging, but needs firm management.

Conifers: Leylandi is (in)famous for its colonising tendencies, but grown correctly it makes excellent hedging. However, if you go to Peru and stay longer than intended, when you come back you may find your Leylandiii hedge has eaten your house. Other conifers may be had with better manners and they come in all sizes and shades of green, silvery blue, yellow/gold, dark red, nearly black, and variegated. Go to a specialist nursery for them because with your purchase(s) you will get excellent cultural advice. If you live near chalky Badbury Rings, the soil around there will be wrong for your tree(s).

Trees for blossom: Think of an apple orchard in full bloom in spring, all the trees a-buzz with happy, hardworking bees, and a perfect spring like this means lots of fruit come autumn. Most trees that are hardy in the UK will flower in spring, which gives them maximum time to produce fruits ripening in autumn to make seed for the next generation. It all seems very tidy and organised, but the right weather at the right time is crucial.

Foliage Trees: In the British Isles we are fortunate in being able to grow semi-tropical foliage trees, mostly in Devon and Cornwall where I lived from 1939 until about 1945 As you will see, I haven't finished my list which I will for next month's article. Promise!



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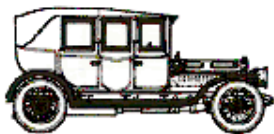
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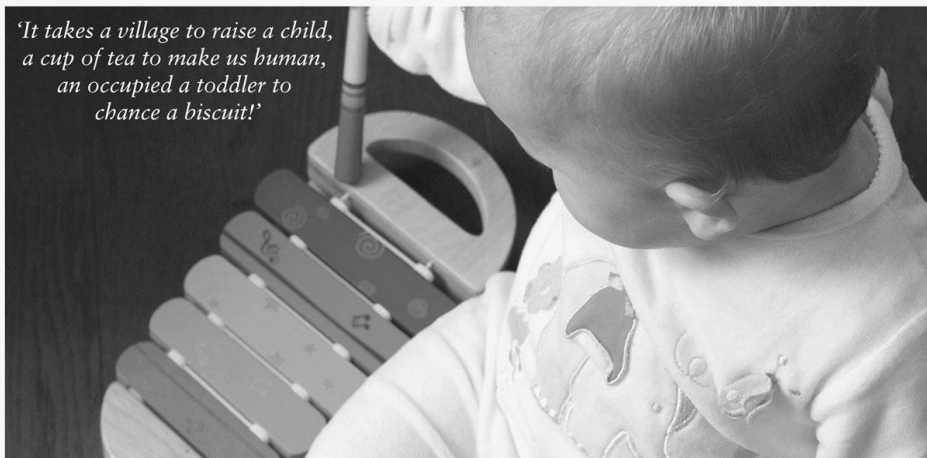
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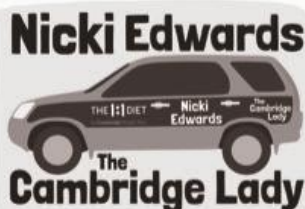


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## **Parish Directory**

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

Vicar:

Organists: contact Churchwarden

|                                                                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Churchwarden Kingston Lacy: Rob Langdown                                              | 01202 841381 |
| Email: <a href="mailto:KI-cw@wimborneminster.org.uk">KI-cw@wimborneminster.org.uk</a> |              |
| Churchwarden Shapwick: Anne Tillin                                                    | 01258 858208 |
| PCC Secretary: Margaret Langdown                                                      | 01202 841381 |
| Treasurer: Christine Cosgrove                                                         | 01258 858876 |
| Electoral Roll Officer: Janet Tory                                                    | 01258 857531 |
| Verger: Vacant                                                                        |              |

### **Sturminster Marshall Parish Church**

|                                                                                                         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Vicar: Rev. Jane Williams (Jane's day of rest is usually Friday, sometimes Thursday and sometimes both) | 01258 858604 |
| Email: <a href="mailto:janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com">janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com</a>                     |              |
| Red Post Benefice Clerk: Vicky Harrison King                                                            |              |
| ...Email: <a href="mailto:redpostbenefice@outlook.com">redpostbenefice@outlook.com</a>                  |              |
| Organists: contact Churchwarden                                                                         |              |
| Churchwarden: Katy Norman                                                                               | 07815 610595 |
| Churchwarden: Carol Johnson                                                                             | 07400 356901 |
| PCC Secretary: Liz York                                                                                 | 01258 857528 |
| PCC Treasurer: Mr Edward 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, Sturminster Marshall: Mrs. Val Brown

Contact by email only, please, to: [hall.mackrell@outlook.com](mailto:hall.mackrell@outlook.com)

Memorial Hall, Sturminster Marshall: Mrs. K. Kollberg

07729 712428

Email: [sturhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:sturhallbookings@gmail.com)

Pamphill Parish Hall: Mrs. Pip Chissell

Email: [pamphillparishhall@yahoo.com](mailto:pamphillparishhall@yahoo.com)

### **Councillors**

Dorset Councillor: Cllr. Mr Will Chakawhata

Email: [cllwill.chakawhata@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllwill.chakawhata@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Chair: Mrs Sonia Cade

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Vice Chair: Miss Hilary Palmer

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Clerk: Mrs. Alison Clothier

07469 780548

Email: [sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto: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: Jan Standing

07973 766614

School Society: Liz Naulls (Co Chair)

School Society: Amelia Atkins (Co Chair)

Email: [schoolsociety@sturminstermarshall.sch.uk](mailto:schoolsociety@sturminstermarshall.sch.uk)

WI Evening Secretary: Ms. Lynn Tong

07500 444352

Sports Association: Mr. R. Haysom

01258 857616

Gardening Club:

SturminsterMarshall 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

Sturminster Marshall Short Mat Bowls & Social Club: Mr. J. Case

01202 690718

Sturminster 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

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For full details and to book tickets for Santa, please visit: [nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy)

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