

THE BRIDGE

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



May 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.

The deadline for articles for the next issue is the 15th of the month-so that the finished magazine can be sent to our printers on the 17th or 18th.

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.

The deadline for adverts to Liz for the next issue is the 12th of the month.

Inserts: Your loose leaf inserts or flyers can also be inserted in The Bridge for £20. **Please provide 300 copies of your leaflet, in banded bundles of 25, folded to A5 size** if larger, to Jan Standing, between the **27th and 28th** of the month. Jan's email is **jan.standing47@gmail.com**.

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

**The Bridge has been printed by
CMP UK, www.cmp-uk.com, tel: 01202 739993.**

A message to our Advertisers and Sponsors

First of all, a massive thank you for your support over the past twelve months without which we would have been unable to continue publication of the magazine.

Our new system of placing the monthly print edition in various locations around Sturminster Marshall, the surrounding villages and Wimborne is working well and hits on the website are steadily increasing.

Financially we are just about holding our own but are already seeing an increase in our printing costs and are totally reliant on advertising and sponsorship income. If you know of other businesses/organisations which could assist us we would be very grateful for your recommendation.

We are planning several promotional events during the year, including cream teas at the Old School on a Sunday in September.

Your continued support reflects a community spirit which is recognised by all our readers.

Barry Johnson - on behalf of the Bridge Committee

CHURCH NOTICE

Sturminster Marshall is joined with the parishes of the Red Post Benefice which is the responsibility of Rev Jane Williams.

Kingston Lacy and Shapwick are joined with Wimborne Villages Benefice which was the responsibility of Rev Suzie Allen until the end of March.

The contact details for the church officers can be found in the Parish Directory on page 50.

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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      |          |          |

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For more information please ring Anne Weller - 01258 857046

# From The Church

## Thoughts from the vicarage for May 2024

Dear Readers,

Why is it that when the house is full of chocolate all I want is a sweet?

I'm writing this just after Easter and the Vicarage is still littered with the remnants of Easter eggs from family and 'left over' chocolate eggs from church events, but I really don't fancy any chocolate.

What I really crave is a Liquorice Allsort!

However, instead of going out to buy some I thought I would talk about them instead.

Liquorice Allsorts have been around since 1899 and the story goes that one day Bassetts sent one of their salesmen, Charlie Thompson, from their factory in Sheffield to Leicester to demonstrate their newly manufactured liquorice sweets to a potential buyer. During the demonstration the salesman accidentally knocked over his box of samples on to the floor in front of the buyer. Seeing all the wonderful, colourful mix of sweets on the floor, the buyer asked Bassetts to produce just such an assortment for him to sell. What this became was the mix of sweets we now know as Liquorice Allsorts.

In the aftermath of Easter the disciples were left a bit like the box of liquorice samples upended on the floor. They were a bit of a 'hotch-potch' of people – fishermen, a tax collector, activists and others who we know little about, each with their own colourful personalities, good and bad traits, each with their complex layers of failures and doubts just like the diverse 'allsorts' in the box. While Jesus had been alive they had stayed in reasonable order because Jesus had made it so (like the box of sample sweets the salesman carried).

But when Jesus was arrested and crucified the disciples were scattered, and although after the Resurrection on Easter Day they regrouped in the upper room for a while, like the liquorice sweets being replaced in their sample box for the journey back to Bassetts, here they were after Jesus' Ascension back to heaven, feeling as if they had been poured out onto the floor all over again in a mess and a mix up.

But sometimes from what looks like chaos something wonderful begins.

The 'happy accident' of the salesman and his liquorice sweets became the well-loved box of Liquorice Allsorts that is still popular today, over 120 years later.

And the disciples?

Well, they went on to be filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (this year celebrated in our churches on 9<sup>th</sup> May) and started the Christian Church which shared the Good News of Jesus with all the world. The Christian Church is still sharing that Good News now, over 2000 years later and encouraging people, whoever they are, to follow in the way of life that Jesus demonstrated and to share God's love in the world.

Just like Jesus called a bunch of 'all sorts' to follow him and to build something wonderful to share God's love, God still calls all sorts of people to be part of the Church today, in their local churches, in villages, in towns and cities all over the world.

Whoever you are, whatever your past holds, whatever you look like, whatever age you are, you are welcome in God's Church because God loves all sorts!

With every blessing,

*Jane* Vicar of the Red Post Churches

# St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

## April Draw

### Main draw

£50     79             Rob and Margaret Langdown  
£30     170            Ed and Stella Warren  
£20     194            Debby and Gary Miller

### Congratulations to the winners.

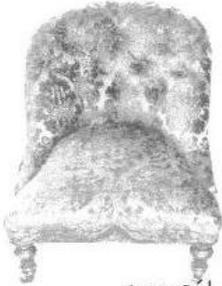
If you would like to support St. Mary's Church, please join the 100 Club lottery by contacting one the committee listed below.

Pay just £2 a month for the ten remaining months and you could win £50 every month.

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

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

Jan Standing: Chartwell, Newton Road, Stur. Marshall (Tel: 01258 857477)



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## MAY FILMS

|                                   |                    |         |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> | Bleeding Love (15) | 2pm.,   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>                   | “ “                | 7.30pm. |

## MAY SHOWS

|                                     |                                                      |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>                     | Kevin Dutton: Saints, Spies and Psychopaths          | <b>CANCELLED</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | Richard Digance                                      | 7.30pm, £20.     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | Johnny Cash Roadshow                                 | 7.30pm, £25.     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>                     | Daniel O'Reilly: Out of Character                    | 8pm, £25.        |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                     | The Bootleg Rock Show                                | <b>CANCELLED</b> |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>                    | Brian Downey's Alive and Dangerous                   | 7.30pm, £27.50.  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>                    | The Ultimate Commitments & Blues Brothers Experience | 7.30pm, £23.50.  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup>                    | Post Office Scandal: The Inside Story                | 7.30pm, £16.     |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | The Fureys                                           | 7.30pm, £25.     |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>                    | ZZ Toppd                                             | 7.30pm, £20.     |
| 18 <sup>th</sup>                    | The Signatures – Northern Soul LIVE                  | 7.30pm, £25.     |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> | Still Alice: Wimborne Drama Productions              | 7.30pm, £17.50,  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup>                    | “ “ “ “ “                                            | 2.30pm, £15.50.  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>                    | Griff Rhys Jones: The Cat's Pyjamas                  | 7pm, £24.        |
| 29 <sup>th</sup>                    | T J Higgs Psychic Medium: Grief is Love Tour         | <b>CANCELLED</b> |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | China Crisis                                         | 7.30pm, £30.     |
| 31 <sup>st</sup>                    | Money For Nothing                                    | 7.30pm, £25.50.  |

# Lesley Davies

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St Mary's Church  
Sturminster Marshall

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1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month

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



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## Nature's Voice

I'm reading a book at the moment which is all about fantastic creatures in our world. From Greenland sharks that can live for hundreds of years and keep their bodies from freezing by having high concentrations of urea in their blood to pangolins that can roll up like a ball with their baby snuggled inside with them, there are so many amazing and rare creatures in this book. The writer (Katherine Rundell) declares 'each single seahorse contains enough wonder to knock the whole of humanity off its feet, if we would but pay attention.' She's right, of course, but, as always, I believe that wonder has to start at your own doorstep.

There're few things more completely amazing, when you only stop to think about it, than metamorphosis – the process some creatures undergo when changing from a larval to adult state – think Very Hungry Caterpillar! How on earth a squidgy grub only a mother could love can build itself a cocoon and change or pupate inside into a thing with wings is just alchemy!

I recently disturbed a pupa while weeding. I'd no idea what it had fallen from so my children 'rescued' it and popped it into a butterfly net to see what it became. The unassuming little brown capsule didn't take long to reveal its alter ego (burning an exit in the cocoon with special enzyme it produces) – a beautiful angel shades moth!

If you spend a bit of time looking at and looking after flying insects in all their states (as I've had to accept we do in our house!), you get your eye in and can see more and more of the grub's features that remain in the adult creature, their breathing holes or spiracles, for example, that are dotted along either side of both. You might think a pupa or cocoon is completely dormant and defenceless, but they can give the most impressive, grub-like wiggle, presumably to startle anything that might be about to eat it. Sometimes it is only the grub form that eats. Some moths and flies do not even have mouth parts, they exist in that form, purely to reproduce.

When we see butterflies, moths, flies and even beetles around us, it's easy to forget they were all, once upon a time, funny little grubs, like the ones you might come across when digging in the garden. They all, once stocked up on resources, spun a cocoon and waited for Nature to cast her spell, before emerging, quite literally, a new bug! So, appreciate the seahorses and the sharks, adore the pangolins and all the far flung marvels, but also remember the little miracles that are there for us to wonder at every day, if we just take a moment to look.

**Melanie Fermor**

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

***The Mackrell Charity  
at The Old School  
May Activities  
in date order***



***Discovery Café - 2.30pm on Saturday 4th May  
Sandra Simmonds - Life After Iran  
+++++***

***Social lunch – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.  
+++++***

***Play reading - 2pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May  
A Voyage Round My Father by John Mortimer  
+++++***

***Mackrell Lectures and Film Society  
- resume in October after their summer break  
+++++***

***Thursday morning Bridge Group.  
Special courses on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 10am - 12.30pm  
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*



a talk by Sandra Simmonds

**Saturday 4th May 2024**

**2.30pm £6** tea/cake available

Tickets on the door





# BRIDGE

at the Old School

2024 Sturminster Marshall

'Bidding Strong Hands'

tutor: Terry Wood

Thursday Lessons 1000am-  
1230pm

9th/16th/23rd May

Cost: £20 for all 3 lessons booked together

£7.50 for individual lessons

all to include coffee and cake



Enquiries: Katy Norman 01258 857081

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





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Email:- sturminstermarshallpreschool@btinternet.com

It's been nice to welcome back the children after the Easter break. We have started the new term by welcoming some new children and they are all settling well into the preschool.

Preparations have begun, for the pre-schoolers and their transition into "big school". We have had lots of discussions about school and our PE sessions are in full swing. It's hard to believe they will be leaving us soon to begin their school journey. We're so lucky to be on the same grounds as the school, it really helps ease that transition.

There's been lots of digging and planting in our garden. The children love to help, especially with the watering. We talk lots about what the plants need and how they grow. We have been learning about life-cycles. Last term we had frogspawn and watched the changes. Unfortunately, the frogs appeared over the Easter holidays, but we used our online learning journal, to show the children what they became. This term we have caterpillars. We can't wait to see their changes and I'm sure will be sharing the hungry caterpillar story along the way.

We have spaces available for the September starters. Please contact us if you have a child between 9 months and school age due to start, want to book a visit or to discuss your child's needs and to find out about the Government funding available to you.

The Pre-school is open Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 3.15 pm – school term only.

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## **St. Mary's Church, Sturminster Marshall**

### **Revision of the Church Electoral Roll 2024**

If you are already on the Church Electoral Roll and wish to remain on the Roll you need do nothing. If, however, you wish your name to be added to the Roll or removed from the Roll, please speak to me or phone me. My number is at the back of this magazine.

**Elaine Huntriss**, Electoral Roll Officer

Wimborne Musical Theatre

# Cream Teas Afternoon



Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024  
at

The Old School  
147 Church Street  
Sturminster Marshall  
Dorset  
BH21 4DQ

From 2.00 pm until 5.00 pm

**TOMBOLA**  
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Proceeds in aid of Society Funds

# BBQ ON THE GREEN



SAVE THE DATE- 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024

We are once again holding our annual fund raiser on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.

BBQ on the Green has been donating money since 2015 for much needed research into cancers and equipment for our local Forest Holme Hospice in Poole.

We are so very proud of all our committee members, all of who are volunteers, they all work so hard and put in so much of their own time into making this annual

event so successful, to all our bands who so generously come and play at our event, our supporters who come out every year to support us and give so generously and to all the local businesses who donate raffle prizes and loan equipment, we feel very privileged to be supported by so many kind-hearted people.

To date we have raised over £46,000 for Guys & St. Thomas' Triple Negative Breast Cancer Research, Prostate Cancer UK and as mentioned Forest Holme Hospice.

It is such a family fun filled day that is enjoyed by so many whilst raising money for much needed causes. We would love to see you all there on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May. The fun starts at 12:00pm and finishes at Midnight.

**Don't forget to bring a bottle for the Wheelbarrow of Wine, there will be a chance to win it! The more donations, the more wheelbarrows will be raffled off!**

Look forward to seeing you all there!

Any bakers out there? If you wish to practise your baking skills, please bring a cake/Cupcakes/biscuits for our cake table on the day of the event, please drop off to either Louise Scrivener or Cheryl Williams. Thank you in advance.

**The BBQ on the Green Committee**

**CHARLTON MARSHALL  
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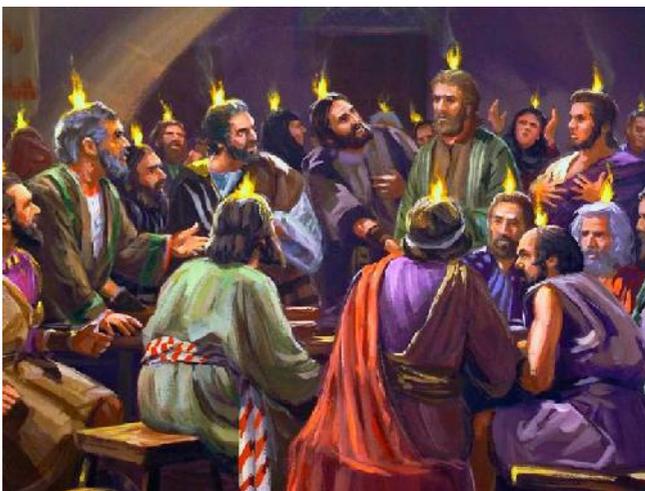
# What is Pentecost?



Pentecost, sometimes called Whitsun, which falls on 19<sup>th</sup> May this year, is celebrated by Christians, 50 days after Easter. It was when Jesus' disciples were given the power of the Holy Spirit.

But what is the Holy Spirit? This has been, for many, a difficult concept to grasp, and especially difficult for children. Sometimes it is portrayed as a dove but it is easier to explain by likening it to something we cannot see but know is there, such as air. What does air look like? Can you see air? It is impossible to describe air, but we can definitely see what it does. We need it to give our bodies oxygen and help everything function. We can also feel it, if the wind is blowing. We can see the wind bending trees outside, or creating ripples in water. But we can't actually see the air. We might hear it and sometimes a gentle breeze can bring us comfort or relief from a hot day. Air is essential to make a lot of things happen!

Well the Holy Spirit could be explained a bit like that. When the disciples were all together the bible tells us that they suddenly felt a rushing wind and tongues of fire landed on their heads. They were then filled with the Holy Spirit and were able to do amazing things through the power of the Holy Spirit! So like air, it is also deemed to be essential to live life as a Christian. You can't see it but the Holy Spirit is often described as the active presence of God in the world and in the lives of believers.



Pentecost was really the start of the whole Christian church when God first sent the Holy Spirit to give comfort, help, and faith to his followers on earth.



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## CALLING ALL 11-19 YEAR OLDS.



In memory of Dee Butterfield, an annual scholarship of up to £250 is awarded to a young person between 11 and 19, resident in, or with a loose connection to, the Parish of Sturminster Marshall, to enable them to pursue an educational or vocational opportunity.

- **Are you a talented musician who would like to purchase an instrument or pay for special tuition?**
- **Are you a trainee who needs to purchase specialist equipment for your course?**
- **Would you like to be able to fund a training course to pursue an ambition?**
- **Have you a hobby that a small grant would help you to pursue?**

Applications should be in the form of a letter written by the applicant detailing the activity and why they are applying and should be accompanied by a supporting letter or reference from a teacher or similar person. Applications from previously unsuccessful applicants are welcomed.

Applications must be received by midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and should be sent to

The Mackrell Charity,  
The Old School,  
172 Church Street,  
Sturminster Marshall  
BH21 4BU

or emailed to [history.mackrell@outlook.com](mailto:history.mackrell@outlook.com)

For further information please contact 01258 857528 or see [www.mackrellcharity.org.uk](http://www.mackrellcharity.org.uk)

## Spetisbury Station Project Plant Swap

Spring has definitely sprung at Spetisbury Station Project, with the site a riot of colourful plants and flowers. But did you know that every plant has been donated by our green-fingered volunteers or members of the public? We now have a dedicated Plant Swap hut where anyone is welcome to leave items for us to brighten up the station. Look out for the slightly wonky green and yellow hut on one of the platforms. The team is working hard to improve the station for visitors including providing additional benches and, with better weather hopefully coming soon, it is a perfect time to explore and spend a while at the station.

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





## **LOOKING FOR A VENUE FOR YOUR PARTY?**

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**To book or for further  
information**

**hall.mackrell@outlook.com**

**Birthdays, Christmas,  
Halloween or just want a party!**



## Social Lunch Club

### Old School Hall, Sturminster Marshall

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

**Social Lunch Club is on Wednesday  
8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 12 noon.**

**We offer a 2-course lunch for £6.**

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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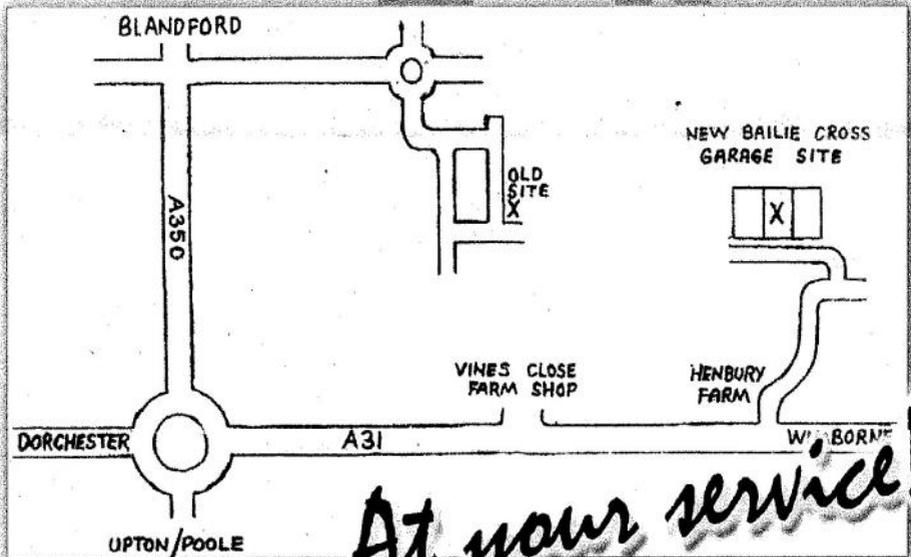
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Thanks from all the team.

## Kingston Lacy Estate News

### Eye Bridge management

We just wanted to give you an update on our plans for Eye Bridge this year. With all the recent rainfall the Eye Bridge area has been under water much more than normal. As a result of the changing weather conditions, and the ongoing popularity of the site we are needing to look at managing the site a little differently going forward. The overflow car park may have to have



seasonal opening due to the ground conditions or may have to open / close depending on the weather forecast. This will be trial and error this year to help manage the demand along with trying to conserve the wider area. We have already been in talks with the Council around ways to help manage traffic on the roads. Alongside these changes we are looking to improve our messaging and engagement with users of the site around the water quality and the amount of litter which is unfortunately left at the site. It is hoped that these changes will help visitors enjoy and respect the site for the benefit of nature and the local community.

### Thefts and vandalism

Unfortunately, we have been victim to theft and vandalism across the estate over the past few months. In September 2023 the Badbury Rings pay machine was ripped out of the ground and the new machine which has just been installed has already been damaged. Also, at Bishops Court Farm there have been a variety of thefts, and the cattle were released from the barns. All of these incidents have been reported to the police, but we just wanted to make you aware so that you can be vigilant of your own property and of any suspicious activity. If you see any crime, please report to Dorset Police (999 if a crime is in progress, or 111). The more crime that is reported the better the police can support the local area with patrols and investigations.

If you have any concerns about National Trust land please contact Kingston Lacy on 01202 883402, or for any livestock issues please contact the Farm Manager on 07769 881395.

## Church Services For May 2024

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> : Rogation Sunday**

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

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

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

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

11.00am Morning Service at Morden

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> : Pentecost**

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

9.15am Morning Prayer at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

11.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Almer

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>: Trinity Sunday**

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

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

11.00am Holy Communion at Morden

### **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.**

# Church Services For May 2024

## 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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### Flooding....a warning!

The river has overflowed Mill Lane several times over this winter and each time there have been numbers of drivers risking driving through the flowing water. Sometimes a 4x4, ARV or large van has been followed by family saloon cars with very low freeboard expecting no trouble. Modern vehicles have undertrays beneath the engine compartment but this is not waterproof and only designed to protect the electrics from normal wet road spray. Any higher water will swamp the electrics which run the ignition and may short out the battery. Similar risks attend battery fittings in boot floors and the electrics attached...which could zero the engine management system. On three occasions over the winter cars have been marooned in the flood on Mill Lane and on at least one the occupants had to be rescued by the Fire Brigade.

Driving fast through floodwater heightens the risk as the bow-wave will ride even higher into the engine space.

If this happens to you your insurer is very unlikely to pay out on a claim for damage to your car, especially if you have ignored warning signs..... and they will not pay for your vehicle to be recovered from the water.

We have no facilities in the village to recover vehicles and it will be up to you to remedy your problem.....so remember that when you encounter flooding on Mill Lane or other places ...and find a diversion.

Adrian Holden :: Flood Warden Team



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## English Usage by Michael Evans

### Singular or plural?

It's not surprising that people are sometimes unsure whether a word should be considered as singular or plural. This can happen with collective nouns, such as *team*, *committee*, *crowd* and others. Should you say "The team **was** good today" or "the team **were** good today"?

It's your choice, and although pedants may tell you what the rule is, there isn't one!. The general convention is to say either, according to whether you mean the team to be thought of as unit, or as a group of separate people.

It helps in such cases to reflect on what most people say in similar circumstances. If it sounds right to you and those around you, then it probably is, for language develops not according to a list of rules, but as people use it.

Next month I'll deal with the singular/plural question concerning words borrowed from Latin, such as agenda, data and media.

Last month's anagrams

CENTRE STAGE - SECRET AGENT

DIM SEABIRD – BRIDESMAID

This month's anagrams

OVAL TRAY – suitable for a small room

TRY SAILING – it can give you a sore throat

### Sturminster Marshall Gardening Club

Meetings are held in the Old School and begin at 7.30pm. New members and visitors are always welcome. Annual subscription is £30, to include refreshments at each meeting.

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** Hanging Basket Demo - David Bassil

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** Dahlias - Bryan Madders

Contact: 01258 857606 / 857118

# WIMBORNE MUSIC SOCIETY/PSD MUSIC UPDATE

## Wimborne Choral Society

In January 1977, a few months after my arrival in Wimborne Minster, I founded Wimborne Choral Society. On November 30th this year I will be laying down my baton after an exciting journey of 47 years." About time", I hear some people say!

Wimborne Choral Society is always looking for new members and I would like to see the numbers grow during my final year with the Society. Maybe some of you might be interested in joining us for this year or just for a term. We would be delighted to see you at one of our Thursday evening rehearsals from 7.30 to 9.30 pm in Wimborne Methodist Church.

For full details of the choir please see

[www.wimbornechoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.wimbornechoralsociety.org.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Forthcoming event:-

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Wimborne Choral Society in Wimborne Minster**

(Wimborne, BH21 1HT)

### C E L E B R A T I O N

Parry "Blest Pair of Sirens"/Dowie: "A Song for Saint Cecilia"

Wimborne Choral Society/Wimborne Chamber Orchestra

Soloists:-

Clare Page/Catherine Murray/Michael Aitkenhead/Steven Page

Conductor - Christopher Dowie

Christopher Dowie

## 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)  
or scan the QR code

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A CREAM TEA ON  
SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY,  
2.30 - 5PM

AT THE OLD SCHOOL,  
STURMINSTER MARSHALL

## Cowgrove Fruit Cake

This recipe is for a very easy, long lasting, moist fruit cake all put together in a saucepan.

4oz ( 125g ) Margarine

6oz ( 175g ) Granulated sugar

14oz (450g ) Mixed Fruit

8 fluid oz Water

1 level teaspoon of Bicarbonate of soda

1 heaped teaspoon of Mixed spice

2 beaten eggs

4oz ( 125g ) Self raising Flour

4oz ( 125g ) Plain Flour

Small pinch of Salt

In a large saucepan place the margarine, sugar, mixed fruit, bicarbonate of soda and mixed spice. Bring slowly to the boil on a medium heat, let simmer for 1-2 minutes.

Put to one side to cool.

Line a 7" square, or 8" round tin with greased, grease proof paper.

Add the beaten eggs, flour and salt to the cooled mixture in the saucepan, mix well.

Pour mixture into the prepared tin and bake in the centre of the oven on Gas 4, 160 C (350 F) for 1 and a half hours or until the centre tests cooked with a skewer.

Allow to cool for 10 minutes before turning out on a tray to remove from the tin.

**Red Squirrel**



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

# STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS

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

As I write, this is the last weekend of the school Easter break, and it has been about the best weekend this year so far with regards the weather. Hopefully this is a sign that things are improving.

The local elections will be imminent when you read these jottings as they are due to on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024, or may have already taken place. Later this month on we will be holding **the Annual Open meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, and SGN have agreed to come along and speak.** There will be light refreshments after the meeting.

With the exceptional wet weather we have been experiencing this winter, Mill Lane has been flooded on many occasions, and even though signs have been put out drivers still attempt to get through which is not advisable. If you are not aware what to do if there is a flood, please visit the government website **[www.check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/what-to-do-in-a-flood](http://www.check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/what-to-do-in-a-flood)**

I would like to say a big Thank You to all those who came along and supported the Annual Litter Pick last month. The weather was kind despite the forecast the day before and we did not find a lot of rubbish, which is good news. I do think this is in part because some very kind villagers doing regular litter picks of their own, and the school children carrying out a litter pick in March. We are very grateful to them too. We are actively looking into a new piece of play equipment for the Playpark, and the Annual Inspection will take place in June. The new blossom trees in the Playpark seem to be doing well and will over the next year or two provide some welcome shade on hot days for those sat on the seats. Sadly, fly tipping is on the rise again locally, if you do see any please report it to Dorset Waste Partnership. We have also been experiencing sewage leaks in two places in the village, which is not good, but Wessex Water have been proactive in trying to assist and sort the issue.

Another problem is horse riders riding on the Churchill Close Green. This is not allowed under the bylaws and causes damage to the surface. If you know anyone who does ride in the village, please can you make them aware.

Dorset Council is working with Dorset Citizen's Advice to offer help, support and advice on issues. For help with Cost of Living visit

**[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help)**. For help with paying your Council Tax visit **[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/council-tax/council-tax](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/council-tax/council-tax)** .

Dorset Council has also received extra funding for road maintenance, so hopefully they will repair some of the local potholes.

## Recent Plans:

P/HOU/2024/01389 - Barkers, Blandford Road, Sturminster Marshall.

Convert hipped roof to gable, erect dormer and alterations to windows.

P/RES/2024/01209 - 97 and 99 High Street, Sturminster Marshall.  
Reserved matters application seeking consent for Appearance, Scale and Landscaping in respect to approved outline application P/OUT/2021/04873 (Access and Layout to demolish a pair of semi-detached bungalows and replace with 5 x 3 bedroom dwellinghouses).

P/TRT/2024/00583 - Stour House, 45 Kings Street, Sturminster Marshall.  
T1 Copper Beech: Reduce lateral limbs growing towards property by 1.5 metres. Crown thin by 10% (no cuts exceeding 40mm diameter). Remove 3 lowest primary limbs growing towards Churchill Close. T2 Mulberry: Overall reduction by 1.5 metres. T3 Mulberry: Overall reduction by 1.5 metres. T4 Mulberry: Overall reduction by 1.5 metres.

---

## Shapwick Acoustic Sessions 2023

Great music.

Great venue - Saxon church – St. Bartholomew's.

Great acoustics.

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

Pop-up bar. Alcoholic, non-alcoholic drinks.

Profits going to church refurbishment.

For further details of past concerts and future dates see:

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

---

## New Life Church

Sturminster Marshall

Charismatic Church

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the Memorial Hall

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For more information go to: [www.nlbcuk.com](http://www.nlbcuk.com)

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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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# Village Fete



**Fun Dog Show**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

**12.00 – 4.00**

**To be opened by Martin Brown of  
Horrible Histories fame**



## **Sturminster Marshall**

**Barbecue at 12.00.**

**Stalls & games in the churchyard**

**Cream teas**

# **Fun Dog Show**



**15<sup>th</sup> June 2.00pm**

**Registration 1.00pm**



**Variety of classes and 'have a go agility' suitable for dogs of all shapes and sizes. Prizes and rosettes for adults and children.**

**At Sturminster Marshall**

**Village Fete**

**12.00 – 4.00**



# **Bottle Morning and book sale**

## **Millmoor House**

**Wednesday  
22<sup>nd</sup> May  
10.30 – 12.00**

**Bring a bottle  
in exchange  
for coffee and  
cake**

**Bottles for bottle  
stall**

**at Church Fete  
15<sup>th</sup> June**

## \*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.

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



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Our April meeting also included the business of our Annual General Meeting when the committee and President for the forthcoming year were elected. It meant dusting off the WI Handbook to make sure we were correctly following processes and procedures governed by the WI Constitution and rules. We are also fortunate to have access to a locally based WI Adviser who has received special training to be able to support WI groups in their area. The outgoing committee's Annual Report reflected on another year of meetings, outings and activities enjoyed by our members.

We also enjoyed an inspirational talk by local swimmer, ocean advocate and environmental campaigner Oly Rush. In 2018 Oly found a new purpose in life fighting plastic pollution and founded Project Planet Earth. He has organised beach cleans, visited schools and completed extreme swims to raise funds and awareness. Known as 'Dorset's Human Fish', his endless positivity and enthusiasm was very motivating and we were extremely impressed to learn he has made the pages of the 2024 Guinness book of world records after completing a 60-mile endurance swim circumnavigating Grand Cayman.

We are always delighted to welcome new members and pride ourselves on being a trusted place for **all** women of **all** generations. You don't need to be resident in Sturminster Marshall; many of our members are from surrounding areas. The membership fee for 2024 has been set at £48 for the full membership year from 1<sup>st</sup> April. If you prefer to give us a try before committing to membership you are welcome to come along to a meeting as a visitor on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in The Old School. We start at 7.30pm and a warm welcome awaits.

For more information about SMEWI please contact Lesley Moors – 01258 857523 or visit our website

**[www.sturminstermarshalleveningwi.weebly.com](http://www.sturminstermarshalleveningwi.weebly.com)**

Follow us on Facebook: Sturminster Marshall Evening WI

**Christine Rainsford**



# *Summer Tea Party*

Join us on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July** at the old railway station in Spetisbury, Dorset, from 10am to 2pm for delicious

*Pimms, teas & coffees, scones, cakes and other tasty treats*

Good quality second-hand railway books (including children's books), DVDs and other railway gifts for sale.

*Entertainment by Blandford Ukulele Group  
(performing at 12.30)*

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

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

 Find us on Facebook

## Action Fraud issues a new warning to stay safe online after £1.3 million was lost from hacked email and social media account scams last year

Data from Action Fraud, the national fraud and cybercrime reporting service, shows that 22,530 people reported that their online accounts had been hacked in 2023, with victims losing a total of £1.3 million.

**Pauline Smith, Head of Action Fraud, said:**

*“Anyone with a social media or email account can be a target for fraudsters or cyberattacks. It is important to take action to secure your accounts, as fraud becomes even harder to detect with technology on a global scale.*

*“Protect your information by ensuring your email and social media passwords are secure and different from all your other passwords. You can also set up 2-step verification for a layer of extra security. Remember, prevent the potential for fraud and hacking, never share your password or any 2-step verification code with anyone.”*

In the reports made to Action Fraud, there were various different methods of hacking reported, including:

### **On-platform chain hacking**

This is when a fraudster gains control of an account and begins to impersonate the legitimate owner. The goal is to convince people to reveal authentication codes that are sent to them via text. Many victims of this type of hacking believe it's a friend messaging them, however the shared code was associated with their own account and the impersonator can now use it to access their account. Usually when an account is taken over, fraudsters monetise control of the account via the promotion of various fraudulent schemes, while impersonating the original account owner.

### **Leaked passwords and phishing**

The other predominant method of hacking reported is leaked information used from data breaches, such as leaked passwords, or account details gained via phishing scams. This becomes prevalent as people often use the same password for multiple accounts.

### **What can you do to avoid being a victim?**

- **Use a strong and different password for your email and social media accounts.**

Your email and social media passwords should be strong and different from all your other passwords. Combining three random words that each mean something to you is a great way to create a password that is easy to remember but hard to crack.

- **Turn on 2-Step Verification (2SV) for your email and social media accounts.**

2-Step Verification (2SV) gives you twice the protection so even if cyber criminals have your password, they can't access your email or social media account. 2SV works by asking for more information to prove your identity. For example, getting a code sent to your phone when you sign in using a new device or change settings such as your password. You won't be asked for this every time you check your email or social media.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

Suspicious emails should also be sent to SERS at [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk).

Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: <https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk>

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## **Stakes and String for Safety - by Lys de Bray. (first published May 2011)**

Now is the time (if not before now) to make sure that your taller plants in the borders don't fall over in wet and windy weather. There are many ways of propping things up, bamboo canes are very good and years ago I planted a lusty clump of bamboo to harvest these from. Newly cut, they'll be green, nicely matching the plant-stems. Mature canes fade to pale brown and then you can see them all too clearly. Always use a lot of canes for a substantial clump of delphiniums, heleniums, perennial sunflowers etc. as they need stronger support. Push the canes in round the edge of the clump (hammer in a pointed spike to make a hole) and run the first row of string about a foot (30cm) from the ground, looping and tying to each cane. Then add the second row at about the same distance and continue as needed.

I had some 8ft (2.4m) delphiniums some years back and I used thin, thin canes to tie at the backs of the heavy flower stems, having previously had my best ones snap in a rainy summer gale. Long and short-legged metal plant supports both curved and straight are very useful, peony rings are great for phlox, Shasta daisies and campanulas as the compartments keep the stems separate and if put in place at the right time they are almost invisible if they have been sprayed black, the green paint used for many garden products always looking unreal and artificial. At Wisley they have almost invisible plant supports, each large plant being given four wooden posts 2" x 2" x 2ft (5cm x 5cm x 60cm) hammered in in a square. Stretched over the tops of the posts is strong black net, pulled tight and stapled in place. The holes in the net are about 2cm wide and permit upcoming leafy growth to pass through to be held firmly in place for the summer. The structure remains in place here throughout the year, though I imagine that at Wisley they remove them in the autumn, more full-time hands to the pumps there!

Another method of supporting growing plants is to use a number of twiggy branches (collected the previous autumn so that the leaves fall off). Good ones come from silver birch trees, but almost all leafy, branching shrub-prunings are good. The main stems should be sturdy, push them, upright, into the ground around the plant needing support. Where string is used choose natural colour brown, or use 'bass' (raffia) but never, never nasty nylon which will cut the stems. For tall lilies give each stem a thin cane, placed at the back of the flower-stem. Large dahlias or similar you will have to get some stout posts, knock in three per plant. A big rain-wet dahlia lying on its side with flower stems all battered and broken is a sad sight, especially when you know that the sad sight is your fault.



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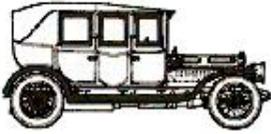
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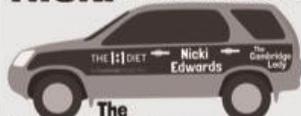
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## Parish Directory

### 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: [janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com](mailto:janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com)

Red Post Benefice Clerk: Vicky Harrison King

...Email: [redpostbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:redpostbenefice@outlook.com)

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

Memorial Hall, Sturminster Marshall: Mrs. K. Kollberg

07729 712428

Email: sturhallbookings@gmail.com

Pamphill Parish Hall: Mrs. Pip Chissell

Email: pamphillparishhall@yahoo.com

### **Councillors**

Dorset Councillor: Cllr. Mr Robin Cook

01202 889199

07968 265897

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Chair: Miss Hilary Palmer

07766 235865

Sturminster Marshall Parish Council Clerk: Mrs. Alison Clothier

07469 780548

Email: sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council Chair: Mr. Philip Chissell

01202 883369

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

WI Evening Secretary: Ms. Lynn Tong

07500 444352

Sports Association: Mr. R. Haysom

01258 857616

Gardening Club: Mrs. S. Crowfoot

01258 857606

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

01258 857606

### **For Pamphill**

Kingston Lacy Skittles Club: Mr. R. Frost

01202 883084

Kingston Lacy Cricket Club: Mr. S. Maine

07969 883814

Pamphill Pre-School: Mrs. D. Gould

07415 473977

### **For Shapwick**

S.C.T. (Village Green): Jez Bragg

07813 925681



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## What's

### May and June at Kingston

The buzztastic bee  
balancing blundershow



18 May  
11.30am and 1.30pm

Have you heard of a bee circus? Come to the Kitchen Garden and experience one of nature's most buzz-tastic creatures, the humble bee, with this family-friendly musical show.

Free event, normal entry applies

May half-term crafts



27-31 May  
11am-3pm

On weekdays in half term meet our volunteers in the bell tent to get crafty making paper flower garlands and

Badbury bug hunting



25 May and 1  
June 11am-1pm

Meet us at Badbury Rings, pick up a bug net and explore the rings to see what creepy crawlies make their home here.

Free event, held at Badbury Rings

Tractor and trailer rides



crows.

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