

# THE BRIDGE

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

**Village Fete**  
**Fun Dog Show**  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June**  
**12.00 – 4.00**

See page 42

**June 2024**

You can now read The Bridge in colour on line  
at [www.bridgemagazinedorset.com](http://www.bridgemagazinedorset.com),  
[www.redpostbenefice.com](http://www.redpostbenefice.com)  
and [www.mackrellcharity.org.uk](http://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 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month-so that the finished magazine can be sent to our printers on the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>.**

### 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 **27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://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**

| <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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## LADIES

If you're handy with a needle, be it knitting or to sew,

If your standard's very high or even very low,

PLEASE come along and join us, we're a very friendly crowd,

You can learn to do some crafty things of which you'd be so proud.

MONDAY at the Memorial Hall we'll see you there at 2,

**£2.00** with refreshments, there's nothing nicer you could do.

For more information please ring Anne Weller - 01258 857046



## From The Church

June brings us high hopes of summer, cold drinks and warm evenings. Then there's the first Test match and Wimbledon, people sitting out in cafés and children playing happily in our parks.

It is also a month where older children finish their exams.

And, of course we also have the longest day, reminding us of the roundabout we're on in life and part of a poem based on Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 which I'd like to share:

***'This world is like a roundabout. It spins around each day and yearly round the sun – but not for fun. There is a purpose in its revolutions. They bathe the earth in light and warmth, which make their vital contributions to the growth of living things. It is not love or money make the world go round. It is the world's rotations which make love and life and work and wealth come into being by the means of countless transmutations. Repetition is not, as Ecclesiastes thought, a recipe for boredom and despair. It is the catalyst of change. It fills the air with promises of something new, as every generation builds on that which went before ... Don't despair, while you've the chance to join in God's creative dance; but give instead a joyful shout because you're here to take a ride on life's fantastic roundabout.'***

From Pete Dainty in The Electric Bible

I love this poem which reminds me that nothing stays the same forever.

Wherever life's roundabout is taking you at this time, whatever you may be going through, I urge you to commit yourself to the love of God, who knows you inside and out. Turn towards God whenever you need some reassurance, comfort, hope, some guidance and advice. God is there to answer our prayer, whenever and whatever we need.

With every blessing,

*Jane*

**The Reverend Jane Williams**

Vicar of the Red Post Churches

01258 858604



# St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

## May Draw

£50 165 Ed and Stella Warren  
£30 92 Denise Dickerson  
£20 14 Christine Feaver

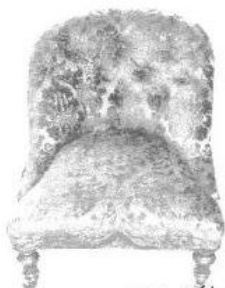
Congratulations to this month's winners. There are still a few NUMBERS available. Buy one starting in July for the rest of the year at a cost of £12. You could win a £50 prize every month.

If you would like to join the 100 Club, contact one of the committee listed below or look out for the stall at the Fete on 15 June. Help 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)

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



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# Tivoli Theatre

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

## JUNE FILMS

None shown on the website

## JUNE SHOWS

|                  |                                                                                         |                                            |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Moonage – The Best of Bowie                                                             | 7.30pm, £21.50.                            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Paul Zerdin: Puppetman                                                                  | 7.30pm, £22.50                             |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Miles Jupp: On I Bang                                                                   | 7.30pm, £25.                               |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Letz Zep: A Tribute to Led Zeppelin                                                     | 7.30pm, £22.50.                            |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Magic Of The Bee Gees - 2024                                                            | 7.30pm, £30.                               |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Punt & Dennis                                                                           | 7.30pm, £30.                               |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | The Bird Dogs                                                                           | 7.30pm, £20.                               |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Kossof: The Band Plays On                                                               | 7.30pm, £22.50.                            |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Absolute Benson                                                                         | 7.30pm, £22.                               |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Queens Of Country                                                                       | 7.30pm, £24.50 / £22.50.                   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Mi Flamenco: Echoes                                                                     | 7.30pm, £22.                               |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Albert Lee                                                                              | 7.30pm, £30.                               |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | John Lydon: I Could be Wrong, I Could be Right                                          | 7.30pm,<br>Std £33, VIP £50, SuperVIP £90. |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | P*ssed Up Panto – Jack & The Beanstalk<br><b>OVER 16'S ONLY!</b> Additional Performance | 7.30pm, £26.50.                            |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | The McCartney Songbook                                                                  | 7.30pm, £26.50.                            |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Summertime Showcase:<br>Blandford Gymnastics Club                                       | 2pm, £15, <16 £13.50.                      |



# Lesley Davies

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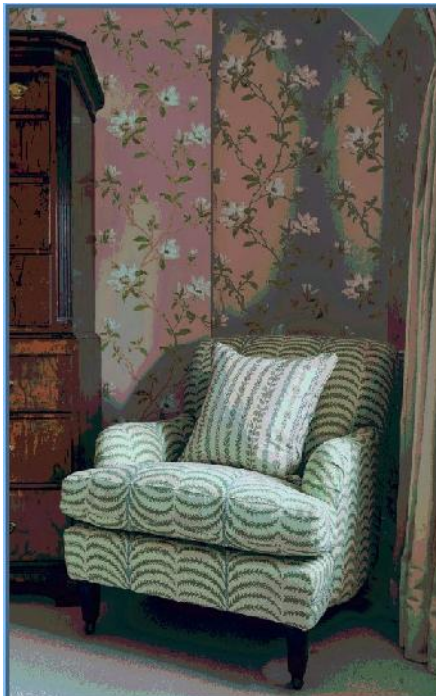
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Sturminster Marshall  
**Market Stall**

**1<sup>st</sup> June**

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

**10.00 – 12.00**

**Raising funds to maintain  
this historic church**



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STURMINSTER  
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## MINSTER PROBUS 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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## Beavers in Sturminster Marshall



This beaver was the first to be seen, last year, in Sturminster Marshall for 400 years. They were reintroduced to Dorset in 2021 as part of a scientific study focusing on recording the impact beavers have on water quality, flooding and other wildlife.

These rodents are classed as keystone species and are often called 'ecosystem engineers' with their dams creating a mosaic of wetlands that can benefit other animal species and reduce risk of flooding. Long-term studies demonstrate how spectacularly beneficial beavers are for healthy rivers, creating vital wetland habitat, and helping landscapes adapt to climate change.

Beavers appear to be no threat to the otters already living along the Stour. Otters are carnivores, and primarily consume fish, amphibians, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. Beavers, on the other hand, are herbivores feeding on bark, twigs, leaves and roots of a variety of plants. This means that they can live alongside each other quite happily. It has been known for beavers and otters to actually share the same lodge.

You may be lucky enough to see otters along the River Stour, swimming silently but beavers are harder to spot. You are more likely to hear a beaver as they dive in, slapping the water with their flat tails.

|                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  |  |  |
| <b>Order</b>     | Carnivora                                                                           | Rodentia                                                                            |
| <b>Class</b>     | Mammalia                                                                            | Mammalia                                                                            |
| <b>Nutrition</b> | Carnivores                                                                          | Herbivores                                                                          |
| <b>Species</b>   | 13 Species                                                                          | 2 Species                                                                           |
| <b>Lifespan</b>  | 10 - 15 years                                                                       | 8 - 10 years                                                                        |



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

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



***2.30pm on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June  
Sea Safari - a talk by Kevin Patience  
'Passages on the British/India Shipping Line'  
+++++***

***Play reading - on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm  
'One Man Two Guvnors' by Richard Bean  
+++++***

***Social lunch – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June at midday.  
+++++***

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

***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*



# Sea Safari

**Passages on the British India Shipping Line**

an illustrated talk by Kevin Patience

**Saturday 1st June 2024**

**2.30pm £6** inc  
tea/cake

Tickets on the door







by Richard Bean

Monday June 10th 2.00pm

# Play Reading Group

The Old School, Sturminster Marshall

£3 (inc. tea & biscuits)

email: Fiona Waters  
members.mackrell@outlook.com





## Nature's Voice

Finally it is starting to warm up and feel like spring!

Our local doves are sidling up to one another on the telephone wires, the blackbirds are busy pulling moss up to build nests and skylarks and stonechats noisily guard their nests as I walk through grassland and heath.



I've been hoping, for a long time, to see an adder in the wild and a few weeks ago I spotted one on a walk at Morden Bog. It was right on the path and quite cross because the dog and I had disturbed it. Luckily Dog didn't step on or sniff it and we were able to watch it from a safe distance. It was light, sandy brown, with a beautiful dark zigzag along its back, mirroring the jagged outline of the bracken it often lives near. Adders are one of our precious native species and deserve our awe and respect. They are venomous, and, of course, you wouldn't want to suffer a bite, so it's always a good idea to wear proper shoes and stick to the path and to keep your dog on the path too.

In one of those bizarre twists of fate, just the next week, I returned to Morden Bog with my parents, who were visiting for the day, and saw a grass snake, right on the path! This one was very interesting, as it was attempting to swallow a large frog! Grass snakes have a white or pale yellow collar, so are easy to distinguish from our other native snakes, the adder and the smooth snake. This one was not impressed at being disturbed and left its frog behind.

2 snakes in 2 weeks! Not bad!

In this warm weather, look out for other reptiles, such as slow worms and lizards. They're often found in sunny, sheltered spots, soaking up the heat.

**Mel Fermor**



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  
BRIC-A-BRAC**



Proceeds in aid of Society Funds



## **Trees for Wimborne and St. Mary's Church Withy Bed.**

When we moved to Sturminster Marshall just over a year ago, I discovered a small group called "Trees for Wimborne" (T4W), a subgroup of Planet Wimborne. As you are probably aware, our natural environment in southern England is under threat, with many species of insects, birds and animals in steep decline and some facing extinction and the warming climate is an existential threat to us all.

Trees for Wimborne was set up a couple of years ago, to do something practical in our local area, to try to reverse or at least slow the decline, by planting more trees. Trees have a number of beneficial effects. They not only store carbon which helps reduce how much carbon is emitted into the atmosphere, they also provide a cooling effect, not just by providing shade but also through the evapotranspiration in their leaves. And they provide habitat for an incredible number of insects, lichens, microbes and birds.

Trees for Wimborne has planted up both standard (stand-alone) trees in corners and hedge row shrubs and trees along field boundaries on the two Wimborne Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGs), at Dogdean, off the road to Cranborne and Brook Road (beyond the tip). We have also planted up a strip of land off Ainsley Road, near Wimborne Town Football Club.

We have two other projects on the go now, which are the Native Black Poplar and the Street Trees, which we are planning to do next winter. The Native Black Poplar is not quite on the Red, Risk of Extinction list, but very close to it. It is a tree that thrives on riverbanks and we are lucky to have a few remaining groups and specimens along the Stour at Sturminster Newton and various other spots. We have taken cuttings and grown them on, and are working with local landowners, including farmers, private individuals and the National Trust, to plant these on sites on the River Allen, the Stour and the Winterborne.

And here is the connection between T4W and Sturminster Marshall! Trees For Wimborne has provided 4 Native Black Poplar whips (young trees), for us to plant in the Church Withy bed, on the bank of the Stour, behind the Church. We have also had a donation of half a dozen willow saplings from Upton Specialised Tree Services, which we have planted along the bank of the withy bed, where vegetation had been cleared, in order to stabilise the bank and reduce its erosion.



Two black poplars will go in there too, in the autumn, when they will be big enough. The other two black poplars are going to be planted on a farm at Peveril Newton, on the bank of the Winterbourne River.

A small group from the Church has cleared a lot of junk, broken chairs and tables, road signs and cones etc, etc, some of which were incredibly heavy, which had been taken into the withy bed by local youngsters. We are happy for them to use the withy bed to build dens or whatever, but not drop litter or set fires to trees, which has been done in the hollow trunk of one of the veteran willows. And please, we ask that they take their litter and put it in the bin by the Lytch gate of the Churchyard or the other bin by the entrance to Walnut Tree field.

We are working to rejuvenate the withy bed, as most of the willows are really old, and create a wonderful piece of river side habitat, where we might also get some willow coppiced in a few years and, who knows, we could start making willow baskets again, as that is what the villagers of Sturminster Marshall will have done in the past. This will complement our activities promoting wildlife in the Living Churchyard.

If you would like to get involved, to help the environment and wildlife in our village, and get your children, if you have any, to take an interest and learn how to care for and protect it, please do get in touch with Trees for Wimborne via Facebook or [treesforwimborne@gmail.com](mailto:treesforwimborne@gmail.com) and/or The Living Churchyard team at St. Mary's via [\*\*redpostbenefice@outlook.com\*\*](mailto:redpostbenefice@outlook.com).

If all of us make small changes, to help our environment and wildlife, collectively we really CAN make a difference.

**Nikki Haswell**





**DORSET BRIDGE CHOIR & ORCHESTRA**  
present

# *Sing for Joy!*

Dan Forrest's

**Jubilate Deo**

*and other works*

**Sunday 8th September 2024 at 7.00pm**  
**Lytchett Minster Parish Church**

**Tickets £15 including wine**

More information: [liz.york@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.york@btinternet.com) | 01258 857528





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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).







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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**  
**12<sup>th</sup> June 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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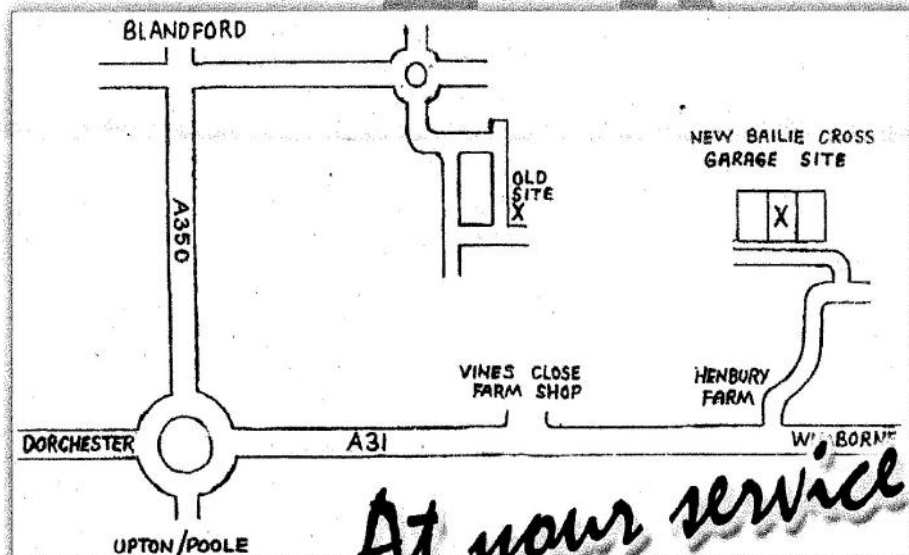
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## Kingston Lacy Estate News

Did you catch Kingston Lacy on BBC2's second series of Hidden Treasures of the National Trust? If not you can catch up on iPlayer; the first episode goes behind the scenes for the nail-biting moment when Peter Paul Rubens' portrait of Maria Serra Pallavicino was taken off the wall to go on loan. She's back in all her glory now, but it brings back memories of a tricky manoeuvre.

Now that summer is on the horizon (according to the calendar, if not the weather gods), we've got a packed programme of events. There's a rare chance to hear Martin Papworth, who has been the National Trust's archaeologist in the south west for 30 years, as part of the Festival of

Archaeology in July. He's giving three talks: one on Badbury Rings (13 July), one on Shapwick (18 July) and a final one on the mediaeval manor of Kingston Lacy (23 July). Keep an eye out for other events at Badbury Rings on the weekend of 13-14 July.

Bookings are now open for all outdoor theatre performances; Duke's Theatre Company kick off the season with Shakespeare's comedy, *As You Like It*, on 26 June, followed by The Lord Chamberlain's Men performing *Hamlet* (on two nights, 12 and 25 July) and finally much loved performers Illyria bring family classic *Doctor Dolittle* to Kingston Lacy on 29 August.

There's plenty for keen gardeners: guided walks on the formal garden, Japanese Garden and Kitchen Garden, as well workshops planting up South Terrace, where you'll learn how to plan beautiful summer displays, and on fruit training in the Kitchen Garden.

There are a range of guided walks around the estate, a willow weaving workshop and the return of our ever-popular tractor and trailer rides. Check our website to find out more and book

([www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy); click the tab 'Things to see and do', and scroll down to 'Upcoming events'). We look forward to seeing you.





## **Church Services For June 2024**

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> : Trinity 1**

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

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> : Trinity 2**

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

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

11.00am Morning Prayer at Morden

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> : Trinity 3**

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 23<sup>rd</sup> : Trinity 4**

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

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> : Trinity 5**

11.00am Benefice Service/ Picnic at Almer

### **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 June 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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## English Usage by Michael Evans

### Ain't

Many parents and teachers try to dissuade children from using this word. I wonder why, when it is such a useful abbreviation in the absence of consistent rules.

We know that the negative abbreviation for **you are**, **we are**, and **they are**, is **aren't**. But with the pronoun **I**, we say **I am** but there is no negative following the same rule, such as **am't I?** People do sometimes say **Am I not?** but it can sound rather pompous.

**Ain't** has been known in writing since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, but it has always been taboo, possibly because we simply don't like the sound. Language does not follow logic, as we know instinctively when we realise that **Aren't I clever?** is Standard English, but **I aren't clever** is not!

Last month's anagrams

OVAl TRAY – LAVATORY

TRy SAILING – LARYNGITIS

LOST AGAIN – NOSTALGIA

This month's anagrams

SAN DIEGO – Identify something wrong (1 word)

HAVING GROCER – Asking too much (1 word)

MET AT MINSTER – Not what you'd expect (1 word)

HERE'S PEP DISH – Traditional recipe (2 words)

### 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.

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

**July 5<sup>th</sup>** OUTING

Contact: 01258 857606 / 857118



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

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

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

To apply, simply write a recital of no more than 500 words about the activity you wish to pursue and how the grant would help you towards your goal. You can send it by post to: **The Court Secretary, 7 Gladlands 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.*



For more information visit:  
**[www.forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk](http://www.forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk)**  
or scan the QR code



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### The Court 'Henbury' 150th Anniversary Award

The Sturminster Marshall branch of the Foresters Friendly Society, Court 'Henbury' was founded on 27 November 1872, celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2022. As a lasting commemoration of that milestone, the branch has established the 'Court 'Henbury' 150th Anniversary Award', a £250 grant which is to be awarded annually in March to a young person aged between 11 and 19 who lives or has a connection to the Sturminster Marshall area or is a Court member. As part of a long-established friendly society, the branch felt that this type of award would be an ideal expression of the Foresters' core ethos of benevolence.

The purpose of the award is to assist a young person in either their education, vocation, or hobby by helping with the cost of equipment, training or simply to further a particular interest. Its aims are like those of the Dee Butterfield Scholarship that the Mackrell Trust has offered for a number of years.



The branch holds meetings at the Old School in Church Street, a venue it has used since its foundation in 1872. The attendees at the March meeting judged the entries for 2024, which was the first time the 150th Anniversary Award has been made. The winner was 13-year-old Reuben Moran from Wimborne, who intends to put the £250 grant towards setting up an apiary and is already a member of the British Beekeeping Association. The list of equipment required to maintain an apiary is lengthy; a bee suit, smoker, and the hive itself are essential, together with insurance, parasite treatments and not forgetting the queen bee, of course, which can cost up to £50 alone.

Reuben has a passion for the natural world and wants to pursue a career in entomology. The judges were particularly impressed with Reuben's thorough research and his enthusiasm for the subject that was evident from his application for the award.

The branch wishes Reuben every success in his apicultural adventure and hopes that the grant will inspire him to follow in the footsteps of famous beekeepers, such as Scarlett Johansson, Morgan Freeman, David Beckham, and Sherlock Holmes.

### **About the Foresters Friendly Society**

Founded in 1834, Foresters Friendly Society is a mutual organisation with over 60,000 members across 189 UK branches, offering a range of financial savings, investment and insurance products, as well as a range of discretionary financial grants, which, unlike a loan, do not require paying back and can help members to cover the cost of things like higher education, healthcare costs and convalescence assistance. In 2023, Foresters gave over £1.72m in discretionary grants to members and as charitable donations. The Sturminster Marshall branch – Court 'Henbury' – also organises social events throughout the year, to which everyone whether they be members or not, are welcome.





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## STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS

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

Unfortunately, due to the local elections, it has not been possible to hold the Parish Council meeting for May until after the closing date for the June Bridge Magazine. We will report on both the May, June and Open Parish Meetings next month.

The weather is hopefully improving at last, and I hope the very wet weather is behind us. By the time you read this our gardens should be in full flush of late spring and early summer flowers. As I write it is mid-May and everything is at varying stages of growth, it really is a beautiful tapestry of green. It was lovely that a small group of the village school children were able to carry on the annual tradition of dancing round the Maypole on May Day this year.

Now that the weather is improving it should allow further maintenance work around the parish, including clearing the ditches in Moor Lane.

We would like to say a big thank you to Robin Cook our previous Dorset Council Councillor for all his hard work and support over the past few years, and a welcome to the new incumbent Will Chakawhata, who we look forward to working with in the coming months.

The Playground inspection is taking place this month, and we are now almost ready to possibly purchase two new items of equipment for the Play area. We are still actively trying to sort out an Electric Car Charge Point which will be in the Memorial Hall car park. We are still trying to gather evidence for a possible 20 mile an hour speed limit in one area of the village with the assistance of the Community Speed Watch Team. If you are interested in helping and would like to join the group and help with this please get in touch with the Parish Clerk whose details are on the web site mentioned above.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been examined by the nominated Examiner, and the Plan has been updated accordingly. The steering committee are now looking to move forward to a referendum. Look out for details of this, because without your support it will be unable to progress forward.

**Recent Plans:** Nothing to report this month due to the delayed Parish Council meeting.



# Shapwick Acoustic Sessions 2023

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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

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Charismatic Church

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### **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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# 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**



## Talking 'Oh No Annie'

'You Cow'. I can see how the phrase came about, as working with cows can very often extract that very cry - bellowed from your lungs on soooo many occasions.

Here on the farm we had what we referred to as 'the two Annie's' - they were identical as calves and we could never tell them apart without looking at their ear tags, so we just referred to them both as 'Annie'. As time went on one of the 'Annie's' grew horns, but the other Annie did not. So they then became 'Annie horns' and 'Annie no horns'. Both girls lived here on the farm for many years producing calves. Annie no horns we sadly lost last year - she was starting to get on in years and had a calf, but she went 'off her legs' and we had to have her put to sleep by the vet. Her last calf we have called 'Little Annie' and she will stay here as one of our new breeding mums.

Annie Horns has also had many calves over the years and is now coming to the age that she will be pulled out of the herd and retired - but we had a day recently that she surely tested our patience! We came out to do the feeding one morning to find Annie horns with her head through the front feeder. Nothing unusual in that, but as the day went on it became apparent that she could not get her head out!!! She is 14 years old and over all that time has popped her head in and out of the same feeders without a problem, but today it seemed that she had forgotten how to do it. We coaxed, we twisted, we shouted, we swore but no. In the end there was nothing for it but to go to the workshop and get 'the kit out'. With angle grinder in hand the bar was removed from the feeder and Annie stepped back, non phased by her ordeal. We then set to work welding the bar back in before someone came a cropper in the gap - only to see Annie horns had made her way down the barn and put her head through the same type of feeder further along. We all stood watching in exasperation as she then put on the show again that she was stuck!

'You Cow' was the unanimous cry. We left her for a few hours as she surely was not that stupid - but no - she was still stood, head through the feeder some hours later, seemingly unable to get out. Angle grinder and welder came out again to repeat the process. This time she was swiftly moved to the next part of the barn with different feeders that she could not get her head stuck in again. We had the vet out to check her over as there are medical conditions that can cause 'odd' behaviour in cattle but no, not in Annie's case. Perhaps she is just getting a bit senile in her old age - and she forgot!

**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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As I write this article the sun is shining at last. I hope everyone has managed to enjoy this lovely weather over the past week.

I have taken over writing the WI article for the Bridge magazine from Christine. Thank you Christine for all your very interesting accounts of our WI meetings, you are a very hard act to follow.

Let me introduce myself to those members and readers who don't already know me. My name is Heather Trenchard and I have lived in Sturminster Marshall for over 40 years and have been a member of Sturminster Marshall Evening WI since the outset 10 years ago. I have recently joined the Dorset Federation as a Trustee and we oversee all the WI groups in the Dorset area. Part of my role as a trustee is to develop a new website for the Dorset Federation, this has been a big challenge. We are just about to roll this out on the web so this is a very exciting time. I just hope everyone likes the new design.

The WI has a huge amount to offer ladies in our community, it's a safe place to meet other likeminded ladies, we are definitely not just Jam and Jerusalem having a very varied activity programme from walking netball, playing skittles, paddle boarding, canoeing and archery to name but a few.

We are delighted to welcome new members to our meetings. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in The Old School Hall opposite the Red Lion. Come and see what we have to offer, nothing to pay at the start and then if you like us a membership fee of £48 for the year. As long as you are over 18 years of age the WI will welcome you. The WI is a brilliant place to meet people and make new friends. You will definitely see a friendly face as you walk through the door.

**Our next meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June will be a talk entitled Because Healthy Minds make Healthy Bodies by Alexa Warner of the Healthy Mind Clinic.**

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

**Heather Trenchard**





# *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  
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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)



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# **Garden Party**

**Sunday 21st July from 1pm**  
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*In aid of*  
**Dorset Cancer Care +**  
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## **The Unreachable Itch - by Lys de Bray**

My father loved roses and had beds full of them, with an arched rose walk to display the climbers. In the summer he would take a big bunch to the city to give to his colleagues, many of whom lived in flats with no gardens.

In those days bush roses were planted in neat isolation to show off the flowers, very different from today's thinking which aims at a more naturalistic look. The roses were planted individually, with bare weed-free earth between each which was the fashion at that time. It was certainly neat but didn't show off the beauty of the flowers as today's more naturalistic planting does. Grown the way they were then the gardener could easily get at the plants to prune, mulch and generally fiddle about, checking for pests or nipping out weak, spindly growth which takes nourishment from the plant without the reward of flowers. Come autumn, they were easy to mulch with fresh manure, there was space for it to be placed surrounding the plant but not touching it because fresh manure burns or is said to. Brought up with father's way of thinking, it never occurred to me to question this or experiment to see if it were so. Nowadays gardeners use rose fertilizer, which is cleaner and easier to apply, but give me the real thing any time. Of course, the real thing is a bit of a pain because you've got to find a local source and ask the farmer nicely if you can have couple of barrow loads and borrow a trailer if you haven't got one; or take lots of black plastic bags and some sheet plastic.

This reminds me of an incident I saw years ago. I was down at Boscombe Pier where the beach ponies gave rides to children. If the ponies deposited a dollop or so of steaming muck (there are many other four-letter words for this) Johnnie, the pony-man, would instantly clear it away. One day I was idly watching a man lifting his little boy off the pony he'd been riding. One of the other ponies delivered a quantity of muck and Johnnie got his shovel and moved it temporarily to the side of the road. The man said to him: 'Can I have that, for my roses? I'll pay you for it! If you'll lend me your shovel I can take it now!' Johnnie said you can have it, there's nothing to pay and there's plenty more where that came from if you want it. Have you got something to put it in?' Are you driving a truck? A van?

'No, I'll just put it in the car. Where I come from I can't get this stuff. Back in a jiff.'

In a few minutes, back he came in a fancy open-topped car with personalised number-plates. Seizing the shovel he scooped up dung and flung it into the car, straight onto the leather upholstery. Bemused, Johnnie said: 'There's more along here, if you want it!'

Soon, the back of the man's car was half-full of fresh manure; he handed the shovel back and with a merry wave, off he went. There had to be a story behind this lunacy and I'll never know what it was, it was like having an itch and not being able to scratch it.





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an occupied a toddler to  
chance a biscuit!'*



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Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall  
Wednesdays 9:45-11:45

[teaandtoddlers18@gmail.com](mailto:teaandtoddlers18@gmail.com)  
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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
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### **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

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25 May and 1  
June 11am-1pm

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crowns.

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