

# *the* **Bridge**

September 2022

THIS ISSUE IS

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*If you cannot get to church and would like home communion or a visit, please contact one of the lay pastoral assistants.*

## Hall bookings

*St Swithun's church hall*

Details online at [www.bridport-team-ministry.org/hall-bookings](http://www.bridport-team-ministry.org/hall-bookings)  
or contact Caroline Whitaker 07787 805711

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*Opinions expressed in The Bridge are not necessarily those of either the editorial team or the clergy. While we make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the magazine's contents, we cannot accept responsibility for information given or claims made by our contributors or advertisers.*

The advertising and copy deadline for the October 2022 issue is 5pm on Monday 12 September

# Let's move towards a fairer way of life

**Let us dream: that's an invitation from Pope Francis in a book of this title published as the result of a conversation with Austen Ivereigh, an English journalist. It is a book intended to help us reflect on the current crises in the world and in our societies.**

At home, with the spiralling cost of fuel and food, rampaging inflation and then the likelihood of increasing interest rates, we are experiencing something of the fear of those in other, poorer parts of our world. The Pope suggests it is time to look seriously at the possibility of a new, fairer, more sustainable way of living. He says it's time to "make concrete commitments to do our part" so that economy and finance are at the service of the poor and marginalised, rather than the other way round. This requires a new sense of "solidarity", of closeness and compassion with others.

Could it be that what we are seeing today is the result of a global economy obsessed with profits at the expense of people and the environment? The Holy Father rightly reminds us that the Christian's first duty is to serve others, rather than ourselves, just as Jesus did. At the heart of social teaching is the absolute imperative of the dignity of every human being. It was the recognition of this unique dignity that drew people to Jesus.

There are many local examples of a desire to do something about it: the food banks, the vision of Bridport Cooperative Housing, the welcome to refugees in our town

and countless other initiatives. To look out for another person is always a recognition of his or her inherent dignity. We can create a more caring world where the priority is people, not profit. It is so good that in so many ways we are already doing this. The greatest power is not in the respect that



**Mgr Keith Mitchell**

*We can create a more caring world where the priority is people, not profit... in many ways we are already doing this*

others have for us, but in the service we can offer others.

September is traditionally a time of new beginnings. Our schools and colleges will be returning for a new academic year, some will be starting work for the first time, and others leaving for pastures new. In the church we begin to think about next year's holy communions, confirmations and the Christian initiation of adults coming into the church. So many new beginnings –

and even a new prime minister!

September is also a good month to begin to dream with Pope Francis, and to make sure that any pain is not in vain, by exploring what the present crises can teach us as we seek the path to a better future. Perhaps another new beginning?  
*Monsignor Keith Mitchell, Bridport Catholic Church*

## The Bridge feature competition for young writers

**September feels very much like the start of the 'new term' for everyone – even if you're not involved in the world of education – so I think it's the perfect time to launch The Bridge's feature writing competition for young people.**

There are already plenty of wonderful competitions to encourage creative writing, but we want to introduce something new for Bridport. We want the town's budding journalists to have a go at writing the kind of feature that would be published in a magazine (this one, for example).

The first step is to find a great subject, and there are so many possibilities. It might be something that's going on in the town – whether you're involved or not – something that's going on further afield, or someone you find interesting. Then after that it's up to you.

Our judges will be looking at how effectively you dig out the most interesting things to say about the subject, and how you structure the feature. Appropriate 'tone of voice' and readability are also important factors, but grammar and spelling aren't necessarily deal-breakers.

The rules are published on the right, and the full terms and conditions are on our website: [www.thebridgemagazine.org/featurecompetition](http://www.thebridgemagazine.org/featurecompetition).

By the way, there's also a cash prize. I look forward to seeing what our young people come up with!

*Olivia Daly, Editor*

### Competition rules

1. The competition is open to anyone aged 16, 17 or 18 on the closing date (Monday 12 December 2022) whose home address has a DT6 postcode. You don't have to be at school or college.
2. Entries must be in English, your own original work, not previously published (including online) and be based in fact (i.e. not works of fiction). They should be between 700 and 1,200 words in length. Each entrant may submit up to two features.
3. There are very few restrictions on subject matter – please see online for details.
4. Please email entries to [editor@thebridgemagazine.org](mailto:editor@thebridgemagazine.org) by 6pm on Monday 12 December 2022. See online for details of formatting and what information to include.
5. The results will be announced in The Bridge in February 2023, and the winning and runner-up features will be published as soon as possible afterwards.
6. The judges are: Kate Shelley, librarian at the Sir John Colfox Academy in Bridport and former journalist and feature writer; Margery Hookings, freelance journalist and former editor of the Bridport & Lyme Regis News; and Olivia Daly, editor of The Bridge magazine.
7. The prize is £200 for the winner and £100 for the runner-up. Half of each prize will be given in cash, and half in book tokens.

### Riding and striding for historic churches

This year's Ride+Stride will take place on Saturday 10 September. The event is in aid of the Dorset Historic Churches Trust (DHCT), which aims to preserve, sustain and develop the county's beautiful historic churches.

The aims of the event remain the same as in previous years: to enjoy a great day out on foot, bicycle or even horseback discovering local church buildings while raising funds so the DHCT can continue its vital work.

The web address for this year's JustGiving page is [www.justgiving.com/campaign/dhctrideonstride2022](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/dhctrideonstride2022). There is also more information at [www.dhct.org.uk](http://www.dhct.org.uk).

### LEAP can make homes warmer this winter

Bridport Town Council is backing the Local Energy Advice Partnership scheme (LEAP), under which an advisor comes to your home for free to advise on energy tariffs, look at issues with damp or poor insulation, and refer you for further energy improvements such as central heating, loft or cavity wall insulation or a new boiler. They can also install simple energy-saving measures to help you save money. Eligibility criteria include, among others, having a total household income less than £31,000 p.a. or a health problem made worse by the cold. Council energy champion Caroline Pearce can help with information and referrals: 01308 456722 / [caroline.pearce@bridport-tc.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.pearce@bridport-tc.gov.uk).

### Save the date!

On Tuesday 4 October at 7.30pm there will be a celebration Eucharist at St John's West Bay to mark the Revd Philip Ringer's 30 years in the priesthood. The service will be followed by refreshments.

# A star-studded line-up for this year's BridLit

**Stars from stage and screen are joining top literary names for the 18th Bridport Literary Festival, which takes place from 6 to 12 November.**

Actors Dame Sheila Hancock and Hugh Bonneville add their weight to an incredible line-up, which includes award-winning novelists Maggie O'Farrell, Kit de Waal and debut author Joanna Quinn, whose Dorset-based novel *The Whalebone Theatre* is receiving rave reviews. Also taking part are travel writer Colin Thubron, environmental activist George Monbiot, singer-songwriter and Bridport native Polly Harvey, politicians David Owen and Chris Patten, broadcaster Melvyn Bragg, gardener and novelist Alan Titchmarsh and chef and campaigner Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall.

"It's an exciting programme, fitting for our coming-of-age year," says festival director Tanya Bruce-Lockhart. "The team is really looking forward to bringing together these high-calibre speakers in Bridport."

General booking opened on 26 August online at [www.bridlit.com](http://www.bridlit.com) and at Bridport Tourist Information Centre.

**Below: Polly Harvey (left) and Maggie O'Farrell are among the line-up at this year's BridLit**



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**St Swithun's Church Hall, Allington**

## FUN QUIZ

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# September services in Bridport Team Ministry churches

## Sunday

8am	<b>St Mary's Bridport</b> BCP Communion
9.30am	<b>St Swithun's Allington</b> Eucharist <b>Holy Trinity Bradpole</b> Informal Morning Praise ( <i>first &amp; third</i> ) Communion ( <i>second &amp; fourth</i> )
11am	<b>St Mary's Bridport</b> Communion ( <i>first, second &amp; fourth</i> ) Morning Praise ( <i>third</i> ) <b>Holy Trinity Bothenhampton</b> Communion ( <i>first &amp; third</i> ) Morning Praise ( <i>second</i> ) Matins ( <i>fourth</i> ) <b>St Mary's Walditch</b> Communion ( <i>fourth only</i> ) <b>St John's West Bay</b> Communion ( <i>first &amp; third</i> ) Morning Praise ( <i>second &amp; fourth</i> )



## Monday

10am	<b>St John's West Bay</b> Morning Prayer
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## Tuesday

2.30pm	<b>Holy Trinity Bradpole</b> Communion ( <i>first only</i> )
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## Wednesday

2.30pm	<b>St Mary's Bridport</b> Communion ( <i>first only</i> )
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## Thursday

10am	<b>St Swithun's Allington</b> Eucharist <b>St Mary's Walditch</b> Morning Prayer
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## Saturday

6pm	<b>St Swithun's Allington</b> Contemplative Church ( <i>first &amp; third</i> ) <b>St John's West Bay</b> Service of wholeness and healing ( <i>fourth only</i> )
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On Sunday 18 September at 3pm, the Royal Air Forces Association (Bridport and Lyme Regis Group) is holding its annual Battle of Britain service at St John's Church, West Bay. Standards will be in attendance. All welcome.



# Come and discover the plans for St Swithun's

The team behind the Repair & Renewal project at St Swithun's Church are holding an open morning on Saturday 17 September.

The event is a chance for local people to find out more about plans for the Allington church. Philip Sturrock, chair of the project, says: "Many people will now be aware of the project to transform St Swithun's by repairing the building and upgrading the space to offer a more flexible environment for community events, social need and worship. If you have visited the church in the last six months or so, you will have seen the information about how we are tackling this project. While we have to deal with the essential work of the damp and the peeling paint, this project is far more ambitious than that, and we truly want to reflect local need as well as nurture our worshipping community. Whether you have been involved so far or not, do come along to our open morning to hear more about our plans and talk to those involved."

See the advert on page 7 for more information.



The Right Revd Rufus Lemi and his wife Remi Joyce Laila spent a day in the Parish of Bridport in August. Bishop Rufus is Assistant Bishop of Lainya, a county in the Central Equatoria Province of South Sudan. A cream tea was held in their honour at St Mary's Bridport, where guests included members of the town's new Ukrainian community. Bishop Rufus and Mama Remi are pictured below with the Revd Pete Stone and the Revd Canon Deb Smith, Team Vicar and Team Rector respectively.



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# Review agrees 'One Council for Bridport'

**Dorset Council has announced that from 1 April 2024 there will be significant changes to the way local councils work in Bridport.**

## The new structure will see:

- a single town council area incorporating most of the existing parishes of Allington, Bothenhampton & Walditch, Bradpole and Bridport;
- a total of 20 councillors, compared with 44 at present across the four parishes;
- five wards within the new council area representing Bradpole, Bothenhampton & Walditch, Bridport Central, Bridport West & Allington, and West Bay; and
- inclusion of most of the Foundry Lea (Vearse Farm) development into the single council area.

Symondsburry continues as a separate rural parish, albeit with some changes to its boundary, and Dorset Council remains the principal authority for the area.

The changes were put forward by Bridport Town Council (BTC) in October 2021 as part of a wider community governance review being carried out across the Dorset Council area, and were confirmed in July following two public consultations and extensive engagement by the town and parish councils with their constituents.

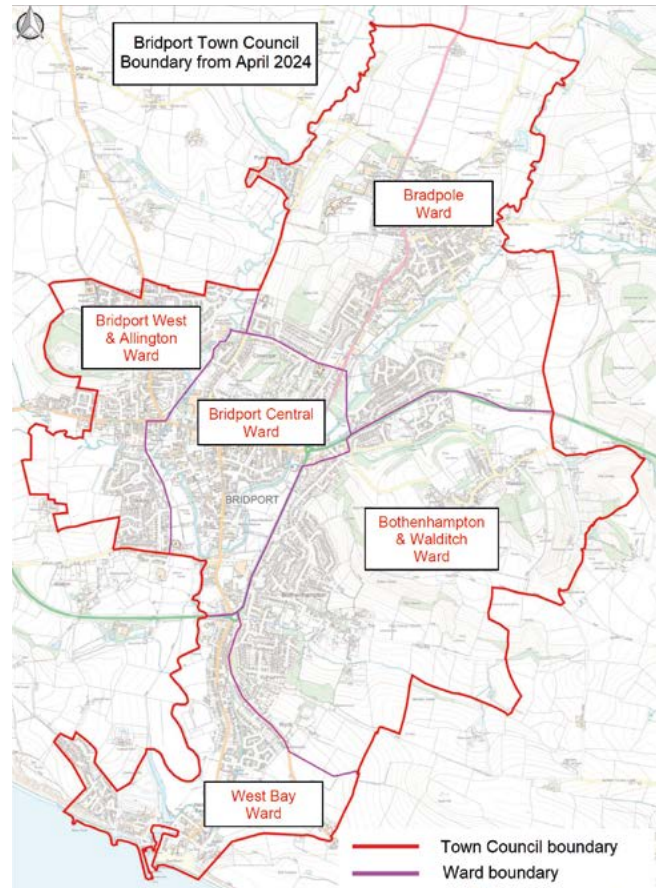
The current system of town and parish councils was last fully reviewed in 1986 when the town of Bridport was separated from the surrounding parishes by open space. In the years since, the town and the parishes have grown, so now it is just one built-up area. BTC's main arguments for change were that:

- The whole town can achieve more in terms of local services, and will have a stronger local voice with a single council. Having four different councils governing different parts of the town is inefficient and disjointed.
- Everyone in Bridport will get to vote for their most local representative. The current system means that many people in Bridport don't get that opportunity.
- All residents will get a say in the running of town affairs and the delivery of local services, and the cost of these services will be spread more fairly across the entire population. The existing structure also means that people living in the current Bridport town area are paying for services enjoyed by everyone across the town.

Elections for the new council take place in May 2024.

You can find more information about BTC's case for the revised arrangements at [www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/one-council-for-bridport-better-stronger-fairer](http://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/one-council-for-bridport-better-stronger-fairer).

Town Council Leader Cllr Dave Rickard says of the changes: "We think this is the right outcome for Bridport, and we look forward to working with the parish councils between now and 2024 to develop the new-look council. We



**Above: Bridport Town Council and Town Council ward boundaries from April 2024**

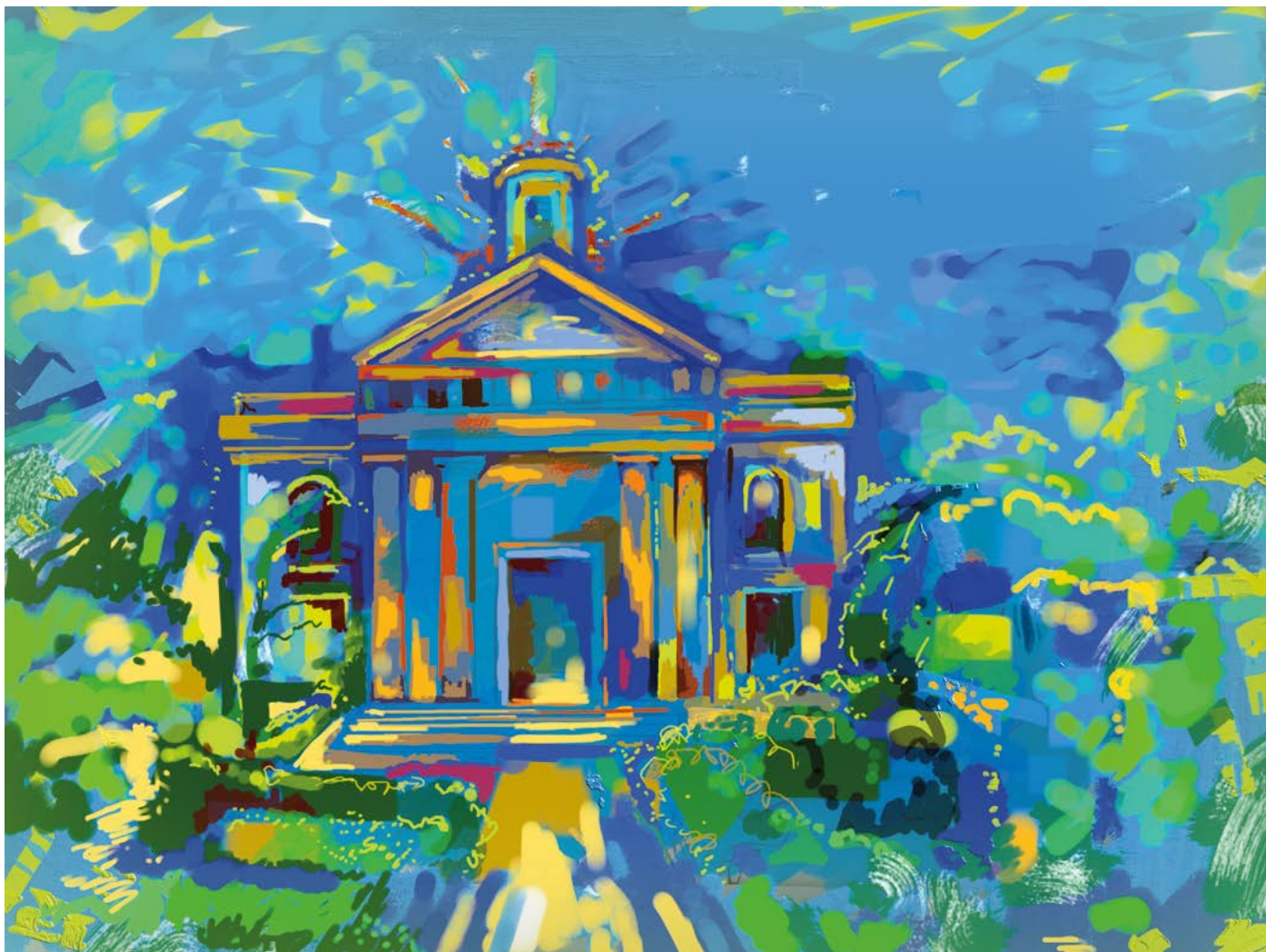
had a strong debate and there were differing views, and town and parish councillors now need to apply that same passion to delivering on the detail, in the interests of all Bridport residents. We look forward to working with our parish colleagues, and it is very much my hope that they will look to be a part of the new council by standing for election."

As well as incorporating committees to retain local identities, BTC's submission set out plans to encourage the creation of local voluntary community groups to help protect the historic local village centres such as Bradpole, Bothenhampton, Walditch and West Bay.

The mayor of Bridport, Cllr Ian Bark, says: "As a former parish councillor myself, I know that not everyone is comfortable with putting themselves up for election by the public. By committing to the development of these volunteer-run groups, Bridport Town Council is offering a different avenue for people to get involved in our work in support of their 'patch', strengthening the sense of local identity."

Dorset Council is expected to issue a legal order shortly, confirming the legal basis for the changes. Once the order is in place, BTC will work with the local community to bring about the revised arrangements.

Bridport Town Clerk Will Austin says: "We know it will be a major undertaking to deliver the new council from April 2024, and I'm pleased that town councillors are already planning for everything that needs to happen between now and then. As well as working with parish councils to develop the detail of the legal, governance, financial, and service provision aspects, councillors have already said that they want the widest possible community involvement. It's very much my view that this can only be a good thing in delivering the best for our town."



# St Swithun's Church, Allington

Part of the Parish of Bridport

## Repair & Renewal project

Come along to our open morning on  
Saturday 17 September, 10am to 12 noon

Chat to us and hear about plans for our exciting project to repair the building and upgrade the space. Think with us about how we can offer a more flexible environment for community events, social need and worship.

Most important of all – tell us what you think!

# Do you like singing?

**Bridport Choral Society always welcomes new members!**

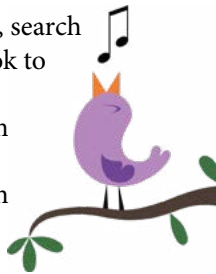
We sing an eclectic mix of musical styles from across the centuries, from old to modern: anthems, traditional choral music, folk music, songs from musicals and contemporary tunes.

We meet on Mondays from 7.30 to 9.30pm in the United Church Hall in East Street, Bridport. Each year we put on a Christmas concert in December and a spring concert in May.

The cost per term is £50. The first two sessions are free, however, so you can try us out and decide whether we're the choir for you. We have a policy of not holding auditions, but some musical knowledge and the ability to read music are useful.

To find out more, phone 01308 425987, search 'Bridport Choral Society' on Facebook to find our page, or visit our website: [www.bridportchoral.wordpress.com](http://www.bridportchoral.wordpress.com)

Or just turn up at our first rehearsal on Monday 5 September!



# Organ recitals at St Swithun's

**All recitals are on Sunday afternoons at 3pm. Admission is free with a retiring collection.**

Date	Organist	To include music by
2 October	<b>Peter Shepherd</b> Organist at Paisley Abbey	Pachelbel, JS Bach, Mendelssohn
23 October	<b>Tim Linsley</b> Musical Director, St Mary's Bridport	Bach, César Franck, Vierne, Philip Glass
13 November	<b>Richard Godfrey and pupils</b>	Handel, Bach, Mendelssohn, Parry, Stanford, Ibert, Peeters
4 December	<b>Alex Davies</b> Musical Director, Lyme Regis Parish Church	Bach, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn

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# The fine organ at St Swithun's is ready for this season's recitals

**Ahead of this autumn's series of organ recitals at St Swithun's Church, we take a look at the history of this special instrument and its maker...**

The current St Swithun's church in North Allington was built almost 200 years ago, and many Bridge readers will be familiar with its exterior. If you've ever been inside to have a look, however, you may have entirely missed the fact that it has a rather fine organ. This is because the instrument is behind and above you as you enter the church, so it's easy to miss.

When the building was constructed in the 1820s, it was common for churches to have musicians and singers standing in the 'gallery' – a kind of balcony on one wall (sometimes more) of the interior. This is how things started off at St Swithun's, and as musical fashions changed, the church decided to install a single-manual organ here in 1857 to accompany the parishioners in their hymn singing. The gallery is still in place today, but there is a different organ.

At the beginning of the last century, St Swithun's decided to order a new organ from a manufacturer called Conacher of Huddersfield, and the splendid new instrument arrived in 1901. It is believed to have incorporated some of the pipes from the previous organ. There was some heated discussion over where to put the new organ, as it was considerably heavier than the old one. Some people thought it should be in the main body of the church, and others wanted it to go in the gallery, in place of the previous one. The latter group won out, although this meant reinforcements were required to take the weight. Additional pillars were installed to support the gallery and its contents, and that is the arrangement you see today.

Conacher & Co was one of several notable organ builders of the time. Born in Scotland in 1823, Peter Conacher

Tim Russ



**Pictured: the organ at St Swithun's Church, Allington, and (inset) its maker, Peter Conacher**



trained as an organ apprentice and 'voicer' in Leipzig. He was later employed by William Hill & Sons, a very prestigious firm, and then by J W Walker & Sons, who sent him to Huddersfield. It was here that he started his own company in 1854, moving in 1873 to a purpose-built site, the Springwood Organ Works. This was said at the time to be the largest and best equipped in England; with its large steam engine, full complement of machinery and 80 craftsmen, it built around 30 large organs each year to be installed in churches, halls and other venues.

During the era of silent films, organs were required to accompany the screenings, and Conacher manufactured a number of these. Apparently only one has survived – it was originally in the Central Cinema in Harrogate but was moved to the Church of St John the Divine in Rastrick in 1955.

In 1986 the Conacher organ company

was acquired by John Sinclair Willis, great-grandson of the well-known English organ builder 'Father' Henry Willis, whose company, Henry Willis & Sons, built pipe organs for a number of cathedrals including St Paul's, Lincoln and Salisbury.

The organ at St Swithun's has 663 pipes spread over two manuals and pedals. The longest pipe is 8ft, and the shortest pipe is 3/8" long. The manual key action and couplers are mechanical while the pedal bourdon/bass flute unit operates on pneumatic action. Originally these

organs were pumped by hand to produce the air necessary for the 'stops' to sound. In 1948, however, the organist complained that he couldn't always be sure of having enough men available to pump the organ for choir practice, so an electric motor was fitted a couple of years later.

Since then the organ has been restored twice, the second time in 2016 by Ryde organ builder Andrew Cooper, who overhauled it fully and brought it to its current fine condition. Organists tell me that although it is a comparatively small instrument, with only 12 stops, it is a fine example of organ building and a pleasure to play.

We're making full use of the organ this autumn by inviting a number of organists – including some enthusiastic young players – to give recitals. We hope music lovers will come along and hear this lovely instrument being put through its paces!

*Mandi Sturrock*

*The 2022 series of organ recitals at St Swithun's begins on Sunday 2 October with a performance by Peter Shepherd, organist at Paisley Abbey. See opposite for details of all the events.*

# Bridport's churches join in with the Great Big Green Day on 24 September

Churches in the Parish of Bridport are busy planning for their contribution to the Great Big Green Week, organised by West Dorset Friends of the Earth.

As the effects of climate change become clear, we are all being encouraged to take meaningful action in our homes, churches and communities for nature and the climate. As part of this action, the Bridport churches – which are registered under the Eco Church scheme – are working on activities for the Great Big Green Day (Saturday 24 September) at two venues in the town centre.

### At St Mary's, South Street

There will be an exhibition in the church about its actions in caring for the environment, plus an activity in the grounds showcasing the work that the St Mary's Living Churchyard group is doing there to help us all reconnect with and create space for nature. Refreshments available for a small fee.

### At Millenium Green

Make a bird's nesting box with your child (10.30am to 3pm).

The Living Churchyard group from Holy Trinity Bradpole is getting together with the Bridport Community Shed to offer a special activity for our younger citizens – or the young at heart. Tim (pictured) and his fellow 'Shedders' have been preparing special bird box kits so children will be able to complete their box and take it home. This activity will help to encourage wildlife into our gardens and inspire the younger generation to do their bit for nature.



Above: Community 'Shedder' Tim with some bird boxes he has made in the past. The different-sized holes allow various birds to enter: 25mm for blue tits, 28mm for great tits, 32mm for house sparrows. A starling needs a 45mm hole

There will be a small charge for each kit to cover the cost of materials. To reserve a kit and a time slot for this activity, please email Janet Robinson ([jrb-jrb@outlook.com](mailto:jrb-jrb@outlook.com)) specifying the age of the child, what time you'd like to come and what type of bird you'd like to attract to your garden.



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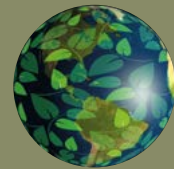
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# Trust in God but tie up your camel

## Simple precautions against climate extremes

Alan Heeks, founder of Seeding our Future, looks at some of the ways we can all help to build resilience into our homes and communities as we face the changing climate...

‘Trust in God but tie up your camel’ is an old Bedouin proverb, meaning that along with hoping that a higher power will help us, we have to take some responsibility for ourselves.

Both the UK government’s National Risk Register and the Dorset County Local Resilience Forum forecast a substantial risk of emergency events in our area, especially extreme weather events and power cuts. However, they probably underestimate the additional risks of big price rises and temporary shortages of food that are due to extreme weather and other disruptions in countries we import from.

We need to accept that the government and Dorset Council have many preoccupations and limited capacity: they can’t stop our community being affected by these emergencies. There are simple steps we can take to help



ourselves, though, and key organisations in Bridport and further afield support the need to make this a priority.

It’s easy to feel overwhelmed by the climate crisis, but there are manageable ways to approach it. One is taking simple steps to save both emissions and money (see [www.bridportclimateresponse.net](http://www.bridportclimateresponse.net)). It also helps to reframe this crisis as an opportunity to care for our community, especially its vulnerable members.

Bridport Mayor Ian Bark chairs the Town Council Climate Action Group. He says: “The actions we take today to mitigate the impact of global heating

should mean that future generations will be able to live on this planet in comparative comfort.

“The impact of human activity is such that threats to food security and extreme climatic events such as flooding and higher temperatures are increasingly the norm. Ultimately we need governments across the globe to take this impact seriously and work together for a sustainable future. While we wait for that to happen, it’s down to communities to look at building local resilience into their food supply and energy needs, and to create a sustainable environment by adopting sustainable lifestyles. It’s about our choices as individuals, families, communities and governments. The sooner we start making the right choices, the better.”

Dorset Climate Action Network ([www.dorsetcan.org](http://www.dorsetcan.org)) is a county network of community groups and individuals. The ‘What can I do?’ section of their website has useful briefings on seven key areas, including ways to strengthen community resilience. These can include simply getting to know your neighbours, knowing who’s vulnerable and needs extra help, and buying from local suppliers and enterprises. They suggest [www.edenprojectcommunities.com](http://www.edenprojectcommunities.com) as a good source of ideas on this front.

There are two reasons why community resilience is getting more important as global warming worsens. Rising food and energy prices are already hitting →

### A Christian point of view...

**Two Christians were talking.** One said, “I really want to ask God a question. I want to know why He allows all this poverty and suffering in the world today.”

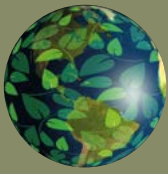
The other said, “Well, have you prayed, and asked Him why he allows it?”

“I’m too scared,” replied the first. “I worry that he’ll ask me the same question.”

I guess many of us ask that question over and over. Why is there such suffering in the world? Why does God allow it? But how often do we put ourselves in the frame when we think about these big questions of suffering, need, justice and peace? Whether we pray or not, these issues increasingly keep us awake at night. And it’s easier to look outside of ourselves than to see how our lives, actions, choices and attitudes might be part of the story of the world’s suffering.

Jesus reminds us: where our treasure is, there is our heart also. In other words, what we value says something about our hearts, who we are. Perhaps we can’t directly make a difference to the huge problems of our world, but we can act locally. This is an inter-connected life, where the way we live in our communities, in our families, with all those our lives touch, ripples out. What we do, how we treat others – and the earth – makes a world of difference.

*The Revd Canon Deb Smith*



# Trust in God but tie up your camel continued

some people harder than others, and the same will be true for storms, floods and droughts. This really is a time to look out for our neighbours, and support safety nets like local food access schemes.

The second reason why community resilience is a priority is that some of the steps we can take are collective, not individual. The local response to the pandemic is a good example: a large group of volunteers quickly gathered to help with vaccinations at Bridport Medical Centre. Some future challenges may happen more suddenly, such as floods or extended power cuts: it will be great if we can strengthen the capacity of

key voluntary organisations in Bridport soon, before we urgently need them. The Town Council is working to expand info on volunteering opportunities (see [www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk](http://www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk)).

In 2017 I founded Seeding our Future, a local non-profit group that is now running two online projects: [www.bridportclimateresponse.net](http://www.bridportclimateresponse.net) and [www.bridportfoodmatters.net](http://www.bridportfoodmatters.net). There are simple precautions every household should take, and we suggest people have supplies for a day or two to cover a power cut or food shortages. Supplies might include torches, drinking water, candles, some tinned food and pasta or rice, and a

way of keeping one room warm. The new Bridport Climate Response website has a whole section on emergency resilience including tips like this.

The Bridport Food Matters project offers many positive ways to respond to climate challenges, including growing more of your own food with climate-adaptive methods, simplifying your diet, and supporting plans to create a local food hub. The recent extreme heat and drought was a reminder that we need to take the situation seriously, but there are plenty of ways to do that cheerfully and cooperatively.

*Alan Heeks*

## Does autumn bring you a ‘new term’ feeling?

**The last time I shared my reflections with you was as we entered spring. I reminded us of needing to clear out the ‘old’ in order to welcome in the ‘new’. Maybe you did, maybe not.**

I know for me the seasons whiz by – especially as I get a little older! Autumn is so different from spring and may evoke a very different response in each of you. For some it may be the delight and hopefulness of a new season; others may react with dread as winter approaches, while many will wonder at the autumnal colours, enjoying the sensory change.

We are lucky to live in a country that never stays the same for very long. It’s interesting to take a photo of the same landscape at different times of the year, and we all have different responses to the same image – reflection, cosy and warm, hopeful, lost and fearful.

My work has taught me to never assume we know what the ‘other’ is



feeling or thinking about the same moment. When I work with couples, I sometimes show them the same picture and ask what they see. One that I use, for instance

(pictured below left), may cause one person to see an old woman while the other sees a beautiful young one. Both people believe that what they have seen is the truth.

What we see or predict is fuelled by many things – experiences, upbringing and expectations – and it’s useful to remember as we approach a new season that our emotional response is purely our interpretation. As autumn begins, we can take time to reflect on our mindset: do we have a bias that may be influencing our mood? Are we looking forward to the change the season will bring?

At this time of year I sometimes hear clients entering their historic mindset: “I’m dreading the autumn/winter; I always struggle at this time of year” or “Well, that’s the end of the sunny days, so I guess I have to hunker down and get through now until spring.”

I try and look at what opportunities the new season may bring. What inner resources may I have to adapt? How can I embrace my

existing connections to others so I can enrich my life?

I’m not underestimating that for many, seasons (and painful anniversaries) can evoke difficult memories or emotions, but raising our awareness to these human challenges can help us do things slightly differently. We then have more control over the outcome.

So, as I have invited you before, pop the kettle on, make a cuppa and take 10 minutes out to reflect on what autumn means for you – rather than simply leaving it to ‘fate’ or other forces that are outside your control.

*Sandra Jay Russell  
Psychotherapist (UKCP) and  
wellbeing consultant*

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Due to popular demand more workshop dates have now been added to the website

*Sandra Jay Russell lives in Bridport where she runs her practice. She works as a Well Being Consultant and Psychotherapist.*

## ST MARY'S Bridport

Parish editor – Peter Wright 456967  
 Director of music – Tim Linsley  
 07830 308701  
 Tower captain – Bob Hardwick 420632

### Coffee & Cake

In the June issue of *The Bridge*, I wrote about why St Mary's was starting up its monthly Coffee & Cake again. I wrote about how the Christian church through the ages has always been involved in providing hospitality; how the accounts of Jesus' life say as much about his experience of sharing meals with others as about attending the synagogue; and how we hoped that these Coffee & Cake mornings would provide interesting and perhaps important encounters as we welcomed people and chatted with them.

Since then we have had three Coffee & Cake Saturdays, so we've had time to reflect on what they have achieved, both for those who have dropped into church for the event and those who have helped to make it happen. Among those who have dropped in, we have welcomed:

- a recently bereaved lady who was so pleased to be able to light a candle, be still and remember her loved one;
- some local people who had never been inside the church before; and
- several holidaymakers, grateful to be able to rest their weary legs in the cool of the church and interested in the history and heritage of the building.

Among those who have helped to make it happen are, first from the St Mary's congregation:

- an 80-year-old who was so pleased to be able to contribute by bringing a cake;
- a person with significant caring responsibilities at home who could take a little break and offer to help serve cakes for just an hour, and who later said how rewarding she found that to be;
- someone who loves meeting people, standing on the pavement asking people to drop in for coffee and cake;
- someone who's no good at chatting, helping to put up tables and chairs and do some washing up;
- and from the Tots Time team, two people with no church affiliation who enjoyed serving drinks for the morning.

Each person involved was doing what they are good at. The sense of enjoyment was palpable since no one was asked to do the jobs they dislike!

In serving the passersby, we learned a lot about how to work together as a church community. We trust that those



Above: Coffee & Cake at St Mary's Bridport has proved popular since it restarted in June

who came enjoyed their time at St Mary's and caught a glimpse of a Christian community in action.

Do come to the next Coffee & Cake from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 24 September, when we will be providing refreshments for The Great Big Green Day (p10).  
*Peter Wright*

### September services at St Mary's Bridport. All are welcome:

<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 7</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Morning Praise</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>

*Covid-19 has made a huge impact in so many ways and many of our regular donors have not been able to support the church as they once did. If you can make a donation, whatever you can give, you will be helping us to maintain our beautiful church and its ministry in the heart of Bridport.*



## HOLY TRINITY Bothenhampton

Parish editor – Barbara Ffooks 423122  
 Children & youth worker –  
 Jean Mitchell 422127  
 Home communion –  
 The Revd Kay Watters 427290  
 Director of music – vacancy

### From the parish editor

The fete in July was held on a beautiful afternoon, and many people from nearby and further afield thoroughly enjoyed the stalls, teas and games on offer. Entertainment outside was provided by the Bothenhampton Ukulele Group (see photo overleaf) with tunes for everyone to sing along to, and the handbell ringers played in the church. The homemade cakes were very popular and sales contributed to the wonderful overall total of a little more than £1,000. Many thanks to all who came to support the event and to the organisers who put in so much hard work. →



Above: The Bothenhampton Ukulele Group (BUGS) were a hit at Holy Trinity's fete in July

**HOLY TRINITY Bothenhampton continued...**

This month we say a big thank you to Sue Smith, who is leaving her position of director of music at Holy Trinity. She will be very much missed for her fine playing and for training the choir, and we really appreciate all she has done to make music part of our worship. Her last service at Holy Trinity will be on Sunday 4 September.

There will be a thanksgiving service for the life of Betty Williams at 11am on Sunday 11 September. Betty worshipped at Holy Trinity for over 60 years and did a huge amount for the church. Anyone who knew Betty and was unable to attend her funeral will be very welcome. Refreshments will be served after the service.

September is a time to give thanks for the harvest and our farmers who work so hard. Our service for Harvest Festival is on Sunday 25 September, followed by a harvest lunch in the village hall at 12.30pm. Please contact Heather Purse to reserve your place (details in the advert, right).

The next coffee morning in Holy Trinity is on Saturday 3 September, 10am–12 noon, with books, cakes and a raffle. These occasions are very popular and a place to meet friends old and new.

Several members of Holy Trinity will be taking part in the Ride+Stride event organised by the Dorset Historic Churches Trust on 10 September ([www.dhct.org.uk](http://www.dhct.org.uk)). They will be walking or cycling to as many churches as they can on that day, and your sponsorship will be greatly appreciated. The money raised is divided between the DHCT and our own church. There will also be a cream tea in the afternoon in Holy Trinity, and all are welcome.

The next film night in the village hall is on Saturday 24 September and will show *The Outfit*, a Mark Rylance film about a tailor who ends up working for the mafia in Chicago.



**Holy Trinity Bothenhampton**

*invites you to a*

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**Harvest lunch**

**Bothenhampton Village Hall**

**Sunday 25 September at 12.30pm**

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423220 /  
[heatherpurse@  
yahoo.co.uk](mailto:heatherpurse@yahoo.co.uk)



Doors open at 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm. Admission £5.

We need two new distributors for The Bridge, one in North Hill Way and another in Lansdowne Road. If you are able to help please contact me on 423122.

*Barbara Ffooks*

**September services at Holy Trinity**

**Bothenhampton:**

<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Sung Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Thanksgiving service for the life of Betty Williams</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Morning Harvest Celebration</b>

**HOLY TRINITY Bradpole**

Parish editor – Douglas Baldwin 424232

[douglas.baldwin@seaside20.plus.com](mailto:douglas.baldwin@seaside20.plus.com)

Distribution – Janet Robinson

[jrb-jrb@outlook.com](mailto:jrb-jrb@outlook.com)

Tower captain – Janet Robinson

If you have any pastoral or personal issues, please contact the Revd Janis Moore 425644 (Wednesday is her day off)

**Tots @ Ten**

'Tots @ Ten' was developed in 2011 out of an idea from a group of Holy Trinity church members who wanted to provide a facility for parents and carers of babies and pre-school children to meet together during term time. We had to close for two years during Covid but re-opened in April this year.



## HOLY TRINITY Bradpole continued...

We provide refreshments for parents and carers while their children play with the many lovely toys that have been donated to the group. After 'Bubble Time' the children enjoy some fruit snacks and then the morning draws to a conclusion as they sing some of their favourite songs – 'Sleeping Bunnies' being a firm favourite with children and leaders alike!

We plan to start the new term in the church on Wednesday 14 September at 10am until 11.30am. There will be a warm welcome for anyone wishing to join us.

*Marian Scott*



Above: Holy Trinity Bradpole ready for 'Tots@ Ten'

### Living Churchyard

The heatwave in July was the most obvious reminder of the need to do all we can to slow down the increases in global temperature. One of the ways we can begin to have a direct influence on improving our environment, both locally and globally, is to show an interest in the nature all around us. Learning about nature and nature-based solutions to the effects of climate change has to start somewhere – and what better way to begin than being aware of the wonderful gifts of nature in our own churchyard.

You are warmly invited to join the small but enthusiastic Living Churchyard group for Holy Trinity. Please support our attempts to improve the churchyard for nature and for those who walk through our peaceful grounds. We have some plans to improve things for wildlife and humans alike, so keep your eyes peeled to find out what we hope to achieve, one small step at a time.

Alan Bowley and Paul Groom (pictured below) made good use of their tools in putting up the beautiful signage for the spring and summer wildflower meadows. Alan created the signs with a little help from Holly at the Community Shed with some of the beautiful artwork.

In the churchyard we have yellow-flowered ragwort, the main food plant of the caterpillar of the cinnabar moth (pictured below right). The caterpillar's black-and-gold stripes make it easy to identify. Ragwort also supports more than 40 other insect species and is an important source of

**Below: Alan Bowley and Paul Groom with some of the signage they put up in the wildflower meadows at Holy Trinity Bradpole. Below right: a cinnabar moth caterpillar chomping on ragwort in the churchyard**



nectar. It is known to be toxic to horses and livestock but fortunately that is not a problem in the churchyard. Its bitter taste is usually enough to deter anyone from eating it.

The caterpillars start at the base of the plant and can reduce it to a ragged leafless stem. It takes each caterpillar about a month to develop fully before descending to ground level ready to pupate. They will remain here all winter, complete their metamorphosis, and emerge in the spring as beautiful black-and-red moths. Perhaps this helps to emphasise to us the importance of allowing nature's processes to come to completion.

*Janet Robinson*

### The Friends of Holy Trinity

Join us for an afternoon stroll in the countryside on Saturday 1 October, starting at 2pm at the church. We will do a circular walk of about 90 minutes.

On returning to the church there will be a cream tea to enjoy and a chance to rest your weary legs. If you cannot join the stroll you are welcome to come to the cream tea, which will be served from 3pm – as long as you don't eat it all before the walkers return!



### Bradpole Parish Council

*Notes from the July meeting:* There were discussions about overgrown trees, hedging and the use of pesticides, maintenance of play areas, the reed beds at Pymore, the bus stop on the A35 and the bench in Lee Lane.

An investigation is underway with Dorset Council (DC) concerning vehicles speeding on the A3066, and DC will be



## HOLY TRINITY Bradpole continued...

working with Bridport Town Council on the matter raised in 2012 by the King Charles Residents Association to get the 40mph speed restriction on Sea Road North reduced.

The minutes are online here: [www.bradpole.org.uk/bradpole-content/uploads/2022/07/July-Minutes-2022.pdf](http://www.bradpole.org.uk/bradpole-content/uploads/2022/07/July-Minutes-2022.pdf)

### Dorset Council Community Governance Review

At its meeting on 14 July, Dorset Council accepted the proposals by Bridport Town Council outlining its new structure (see page 6). This means Bradpole Parish Council will cease to function from 1 April 2024. Elections for the five new councillors for the Bradpole ward of the new Bridport Council will be held on 2 May 2024.

The full report can be seen here (links to Dorset Council website): [www.tinyurl.com/2p8w7pej](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8w7pej).

### September services at Holy Trinity Bradpole:

<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Informal Morning Praise</b>
<b>Tuesday 6</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>'Tuesdays Together'</b> <b>Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Informal Morning Praise</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>



**Above: Following a discussion with Bradpole Parish Council, the Post Office installed a freshly painted George VIth post box in Caley Way last month. Collection times are 4.45pm on weekdays and 12 noon on Saturdays**

## ST MARY'S Walditch

Parish editor – James Craddock 458725  
walditchbridgejsc@outlook.com  
Verger – Pat Stapleton 456421

If you have any pastoral or personal issues, please contact the Revd Ann Ayling 424896 (Wednesday is her day off)

### The buildings of Walditch: The Hyde

Walditch lies in the picturesque West Dorset landscape, in the valley of a curved hill. The village has four architectural gems that contribute to its unique character: The Hyde, the village hall, The Hyde's tennis courts and St Mary's Church. I hope to feature an article on each one over the next four months, beginning this month with The Hyde, which is now a care home.

The Hyde held an open day on Saturday 2 July, to which I and other local residents were invited. The day was an opportunity to visit the gardens and to get an insight into this remarkable 19th-century building and its beautiful surroundings. I particularly enjoyed seeing the purpose-built hen house, 'Cluckingham Palace'!

The Hyde was probably named after John Hyde, who was granted land by the Crown in return for knightly services during the reign of Henry VIII. The original Tudor building was added to between 1853 and 1885 by the then owners, the Gundry family, to create the building we see today, although a devastating fire in the 1920s destroyed much of the oldest part. The rear of the house was rebuilt in the 1930s.

The Gundrys founded Bridport's net-making works in the 17th century and were the town's most prominent family for over 200 years. In 1987 Joseph Gundry, a local benefactor, sold The Hyde with its surrounding parkland and farmland.



**The Hyde, Walditch**

David Brown

The ground-floor dining room, which is accessible to visitors, has leather-covered walls embossed with gold leaf. This covering is believed to have come from a Russian monastery in the late 19th century. Much of the rest of the ground floor has wood panelling, including carved ceilings. There are some beautiful cast-iron and marble fireplaces including a particularly attractive one in the Adam Room.

The Hyde was famous during the Edwardian period for its beautiful walled garden and surrounding parkland. There were once six full-time gardeners to look after the croquet lawns, herb garden, formal pleasure gardens, kitchen garden and a 10-acre woodland garden.

Like the grand homes of so many wealthy families, The Hyde was devastated by the impact of the First World War, when increased taxes and a manpower shortage rendered impossible the maintenance of such an estate by one family.

The Hyde's present head gardener has put in much hard work over the last few years – helped by a handful of volunteers – in an attempt to restore the gardens and surrounding parkland to their former glory. The 'secret



## ST MARY'S Walditch continued...

garden', sensory garden and croquet lawn have received particular attention.

Now The Hyde is looking to recruit volunteer gardeners from the local area who would enjoy exercising their skills in a larger area than a domestic garden or allotment. Please contact me if you are interested in getting involved.

The Hyde also hopes to create a walkway down Walditch Hill, so pedestrians can avoid the oncoming traffic, and to open up part of the old parkland to local residents for walking. A tree planting scheme, with the aid of a local authority grant, is also a possibility.

*James Craddock*

### Walditch Wednesday Art Group

Although we have to limit our numbers, there are currently some spaces. We meet in Walditch Village Hall on Wednesday afternoons, 2–4pm, September to the end of May, starting again on 7 September. During the summer months we meet outside at venues in or close to Bridport.

You don't have to be a Walditch resident; indeed, most of our members live outside the village. There is no annual subscription, just £2 per session attended, which covers hire of the hall, heating, tea and biscuits. There is no charge for the outdoor meetings.

For more information contact Diane Regan (456845) or Robin Stapleton (456421).

### Walditch Garden Group

Join us for our monthly garden group meeting on Thursday 29 September at 10am in Walditch Village Hall. We meet on the last Thursday of the month for seasonal topics and garden discussion with tea/coffee and biscuits. We look forward to welcoming you.

#### *Garden tips for September:*

Gather your harvest of fruit and veg and start planning your garden for next year; clear autumn debris to prevent pests and diseases overwintering; clean the greenhouse in preparation for winter; plant out spring cabbages and sow winter lettuce; finish planting new strawberry plants (keep

## Thelma's hymn notes

### To Thee, O Lord, Our Hearts We Raise

This is one of the few hymns written specifically for the time of harvest. The words are by William Chatterton-Dix (1837–98), who – unusually for 19th-century hymn writers – was not a clergyman. He was trained commercially and became the manager of a marine insurance company in Glasgow.

The accompanying tune is Golden Sheaves, which is very appropriate for that time of year. It was written by Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900), best known today as one half of Gilbert and Sullivan, creators of light operas. He was the son of a military bandmaster and was a church organist and music teacher.

The hymn plays well on the organ and congregations find it straightforward to sing. There are four verses, each with a different theme: the human joy of golden corn; the Lord's bounteous earthly bread; labour ending at sunset (eternity); and the heavenly harvest song, which never ends.

*Thelma Pulman, organist at St Mary's Walditch*



them watered); pot up herbs for use in winter in a cool light place; collect seeds and beans for sowing next year; clear crops once they've finished and fork over; plant new trees, shrubs, climbers and perennials; move evergreen shrubs; begin dividing overgrown perennials, lifting tender perennials to bring under cover; take hardwood cuttings from roses; plant spring-flowering bulbs, plant out spring-flowering biennials and plant up containers with spring bedding; and sow hardy annuals to flower next year.

*Jane Mowatt*

### September services at St Mary's Walditch:

**Sunday 25 11am Holy Communion**  
**Also Morning Prayer every Thursday at 10am**

## ST JOHN'S West Bay

Parish editor – Sue Pollock 07903 558568  
 Chapel warden – Rosemary Russell 423013

### News from St John's

Brit Valley Rotary will be holding their monthly book sale on Saturday 10 September outside St John's from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

### West Bay WI

The outing to Haskins Garden Centre in July was a great success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. There will be the usual Knit & Natter on Wednesday 7 September and then again on 14 September, when Joannie Dyson will be demonstrating how to make pompoms. If you are interested in joining, please contact Alison Ridge on 01308 897293.

### Round and about the Bay

Originally planned for the weekend of 2–3 July but postponed amid high winds, Bridport's gig rowing regatta – part of the Jurassic League – finally took place at West Bay on 16–17 July in much calmer weather. The offshore circuit racing fared better, however, being held from 8 to 10 July when the sea was like a millpond and conditions were ideal for the array of powerboats taking part, most of which were lined up along the esplanade over the weekend.

West Bay has received a number of accolades this season. The Sunday Times named East Beach one of the top 50 beaches in the UK (and when you look at the amazing orange sandstone cliffs it is not hard to understand why) and the Guardian rated the Watch House Cafe on the beach one of the top 20 best seaside eateries in the UK.

Of course July would not be complete without the raft race, which causes much amusement among everyone (including the participants) as well as raising much-needed funds for the RNLI. The rafts are all handmade, and some

## ST JOHN'S West Bay continued...

are more seaworthy than others. The winning raft was Fun Seeker by Zack Watts and the runner-up was Paddletastic by Bay Paddleboarding.

West Bay Day, held this year on 7 August, goes back to 1844 when it was known as West Bay Regatta. There are lots of things on offer – music, food, amusements and fireworks – and the temporary car park in the camping field provides extra spaces. Early the next morning I walked around the Bay and all was peace and quiet with few people around. The sea was calm (see photo, right) and the only noise was that of the seagulls attacking the rubbish from the bins. Our excellent rubbish operatives, however, were out there as usual clearing up, so well done to them.

The funfair arrived for the second week in July, just after the camping field opened. Perhaps the fact that all bookings are done online makes a difference, but there didn't seem to be quite as many people around for this event. With the increased cost of living and the price of petrol, it's hardly surprising that people are having to cut back.

I am glad to report that the West Bay Community Forum is still around, despite not having a chairman. The group has been trying to resolve some local issues, and I was able to go around the Bay with Daryl Chambers from the Town Council and Terri Foxwell of the Tourist Information Centre to discuss them. With their help, and that of Dorset Council, we hope to see a number of improvements. You may have seen some new noticeboards by the play area, and these are a great improvement.

We are hoping to have an open evening for forum members in October and I would encourage residents who are not yet members to come and join. It is a way of helping to improve West Bay and also to raise awareness of problems people are encountering. If you are interested please contact the secretary – who just happens to be me – on 07903 558568 for membership details.

Did you know there used to be two churches in West Bay? Longtime residents obviously will, but newcomers (and I include myself as one, having only been here since 2003) may not know. Originally the Discovery Centre was the Methodist chapel (see photo below) and was known as The Chapel on the Beach. It was built using local stone, Dorset marble, oak joists and pinewood flooring (which are still there) and was opened in December 1849. Owing to dwindling congregations it closed in 2006, although it came to life again when it was featured in the very popular series Broadchurch. In August 2018, having been renovated with money from the Coastal Community Fund, it reopened as the Discovery Centre and is enjoyed by visitors of all ages.

**Below: The interior of West Bay's former Methodist chapel, which is now the Discovery Centre**



**Above: All was peace and quiet at the harbour after the bustle of West Bay Day in August**

Although it is always sad to see a church close, I am sure you will agree that the change has brought the building back to life. The recent acquisition of a digital microscope has been a great hit, especially with children, who are encouraged to bring in small objects to view. It is lovely to see even the youngest ones watch in amazement as they see things enlarged; the make-up of sand is particularly incredible.  
*Sue Pollock*

### Upcoming events

Ride+Stride, on Saturday 10 September, is a sponsored bike ride or walk between churches, during which participants up and down the land from Cornwall to Northumberland explore and enjoy their local countryside. It raises money for the Historic Churches Trusts, helping to repair churches, chapels and meeting houses throughout England.

On the same day, West Bay hosts the seventh stage of the Tour of Britain cycle race, which finishes in Ferndown. Work has already taken place to improve the road surface on the Marsh Barn road and other sectors on the coast road, something that has been needed for many a year. The event will start from the Promenade at 11am on Saturday 10 September and we hope to have an event village in the Bay. Updated details will be available from the Tourist Information Centre.

DocBike charity rideout ([www.docbike.org](http://www.docbike.org)) is returning this year on Sunday 25 September with participants having the option of two routes, the second being 40 miles from West Bay to Henstridge Airfield. This event raises funds to support highly trained trauma doctors and critical care paramedics on two wheels, to reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads in motorcycle collisions.

Greta Stoddart will be hosting her book launch, poetry readings and conversation on Thursday 29 September at 7pm in Sladers Yard. Tickets are £10.

### September services at St John's:

<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Morning Praise</b>
	<b>3pm</b>	<b>Battle of Britain service</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Saturday 24</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Service of wholeness and healing</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Morning Praise</b>

**Also Morning Prayer every Monday at 10am**

## ST SWITHUN'S Allington

Parish editor – Anna Sullock  
aejsullock@gmail.com

Distribution – Kevin Payne 07976 534517

### A cream tea in the sunshine

There were no fears of rain ruining our cream tea afternoon in July at St Swithun's Church! We had glorious weather and so many people came along to enjoy a delicious cream tea and a plentiful supply of homemade cakes. The impressive attendance probably had something to do with the main attraction: entertainment from St Swithun's Band, which is Bridport's town band. They hadn't performed since before Covid, so were pleased to be back together again and played under the shade of the trees for the whole two hours of the tea party to a very appreciative audience.

The event raised more than £500 from a very good raffle and stalls selling bric-à-brac and produce as well as the sale of the cream teas. Thanks to all those involved with organising and helping with such a happy afternoon.

*Rose Harvey*

### From the parish editor

As well as the resounding success of the cream tea, St Swithun's can also report another event that was a wonderful testament to what this church does so well. It was St Mary's Primary School's 'Achievers service', led by the Revd Pete Stone and involving 220 children and 100 adults. There was a real buzz! I did wonder what was going on when I saw men in shorts and shirts running apace up the yew-lined church path, and lots of singing and applause could be heard. Despite all this activity, some parents remarked on what a peaceful ambience St Swithun's held.

As I look back over the summer's events, Paul McCartney's two-hour performance at Glastonbury stands out. It showed that he's still got it; his energy connects to that energy an audience gives in return, and he gets a buzz from performing the songs he knows so well. In his 80th birthday interview he spoke openly about a spiritual engagement. He referenced the song title 'Let It Be' as a translation of 'Amen', and said he had been knowingly ambiguous in the line 'When mother Mary comes to me' in that song. He also said that when he sang 'I saw her standing there', he saw his natural mother in front of him. Paul's mother died when he was 14.

I also heard Bono, lead singer of U2, on Desert Island Discs this summer, and learnt that he too had lost his mother when he was 14. He said he experienced what it feels like when your home suddenly doesn't feel like a home; within a week he had found another 'family' by forming the band. Bono reported that he grew up in a household of men shouting at each other, and acknowledged that he still holds much anger; he sought anger management and ended up shouting at the facilitator! Among his music choices was a Bob Dylan song, 'Every grain of sand', which he also chose to save from the waves at the end of the programme. Bono relates the song to William Blake's lines in the poem 'To see a world...' from the Songs of Innocence:

'To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour.'



**Above: some of those behind the successful cream tea in July (from top) Georgia Harvey on Rose Harvey's lap with Jo George; Angie Williams in the kitchen; Liz Jones waiting to serve tea; Yvonne Welch on the bric-à-brac and produce stall**

Bono said musicians, composers and songwriters seem to find refuge in music, and added that what keeps artists going is a sense of 'unfinished business'. This, I reflect, could be true of many areas of concern and involvement – you don't have to be an artist to feel like this. It's the 'unresolve' that keeps us trying.

Continuing with male songwriters, in his recent interview 'My life as a Rolling Stone', Mick Jagger talked of the violence of the Vietnam war echoing through the West during the 60s. He described how the peaceful anti-war marches of the time inspired his song 'Sympathy for the Devil', which includes the line 'I was around when Jesus Christ had his moment of doubt and pain'. He said that the song obviously has religious overtones, and that involving religion always gives music an extra 'frisson'.

*Anna Sullock*



**ST SWITHUN'S Allington continued...**

**St Swithun's fundraising quiz**

St Swithun's is hosting another popular fun quiz on Sunday 18 September. See the advert on page 4 for details.

**September services at St Swithun's:**

Eucharist is held every Sunday at 9.30am and every Thursday at 10am. Contemplative Church is held on the first and third Saturdays each month at 6pm in St Swithun's Hall. There is a community coffee morning on the first Thursday every month from 10.45 to 11.45am (after 10am Mass). Everyone is welcome.

**Community coffee morning**

**Thursday 1 September**

**10.45-11.45am (after 10am Mass)**

**St Swithun's Church, Allington**

**Fresh coffee, biscuits and cake  
Raffle in aid of a local charity  
All welcome • Free parking**

**Bridport UNITED CHURCH**

Minister – The Revd John Yarrien  
01305 262421

Church secretary – Sue Herman  
422598 / bridportsec@gmail.com

incorporating

**UPLUDERS CHAPEL**

Correspondent – Carol Hall  
423163 / carol@gribb.plus.com

**Our 50th anniversary party**

On Saturday 30 July, Bridport United Church (BUC) held a big party to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment in the UK of the United Reformed Church, one of the churches that make up BUC. It was a wonderful afternoon of fun, games, funfair stalls, music, puppets – and, of course, food!

We were very pleased to welcome our friends from other local churches, local families, holidaymakers and members of the Ukrainian community to join us in this celebration. Everyone enjoyed having a go at games like bagatelle, guess the weight of the cake, tin can alley and many more.

Visitors were served hot dogs and burgers at lunchtime and tea and cakes later in the afternoon. There was music from the Ukulele Group and a performance by local musician and church member Artey Williams.

Thanks to a fascinating display put together by a church member, John Darwood, we were also able to learn more about the history of the church building on East Street, which was originally the Congregational Church. After the closure of the Methodist church (now Bridport Arts Centre) on South Street in 1971, and the formation of the United Reformed Church in 1972, the two denominations came together to worship in the same building, resulting in the Bridport United Church that we know and love today.

Looking forward to the next 50 years!

*Jane Clinton*



**Left: BUC folk celebrate the church's 50th anniversary  
Below, from left: John Darwood's display about the history of the building; there was a special sparkling cake and music from the Ukulele Group and (right) Artey Williams**



## BRIDPORT UNITED CHURCH continued...

### A season of celebration and welcome...

In our house Commonwealth Fever really took hold this summer, as we watched in awe at the hundreds of sportswomen and sportsmen, pitting themselves against one another, striving for gold, but always friendly on the finish line, no matter the result. I attended



**The Revd John Yarrien**

the opening ceremony with my dad – we were there because we are both celebrating special birthdays this year – and it struck us both how inclusive and how multi-generational the crowd, the organisers and the athletes were. Somehow all were able to celebrate that ‘one body’ of the Commonwealth coming together through sport.

It seems, since then, that Bridport United Church has been in a season of celebration, for which we give thanks to God. Our Messy Church relaunched in July, when 18 young people and their families came along, and there was another session on 18 August. On 23 July we had the joy of a baptism during Sunday worship, when we celebrated with Jack and his family as he entered God’s church through the water baptism. Then on 30 July we had a party to mark the 50th anniversary of the United Reformed Church (see the opposite page). It was an afternoon full of people, games, food and real joy, and I want to pay tribute to John Darwood and the fantastic team for a wonderful community event.

Another summer highlight was the Melplash Show on 25 August, when we led a team from across Churches Together in Bridport, providing a ‘rest’ tent. There were baby changing facilities and a place for crafts or just for a relaxing sit down in the hustle and bustle of the show.

Finally, we are celebrating that the Revd Jane Wilson and her husband, Graham, have arrived safely in Bridport. Jane is coming to be minister at BUC and Uploders Chapel, and we very much look forward to welcoming them both at a special service of welcome at Bridport United Church on Friday 2 September at 6.30pm. Do come along if you can.

And, in that vein, it is therefore my moment to bid you a farewell of sorts. It has been a joy and privilege to be the minister in pastoral charge at BUC over the last nine months. I have seen a great new energy released in the community at BUC, and very much look forward to seeing how BUC grows and develops under Jane’s leadership. I say “a farewell of sorts” because I am still minister in the Circuit, but based more over in Dorchester; you may still see me around at odd events, and I will offer collegiality and support to the Revd Jane.

May you run the race before you with gladness, hope and peace, now and forever. Blessings,  
*The Revd John Yarrien*

### September services at Bridport United Church:

<b>Friday 2</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Welcoming service for the Revd Jane Wilson</b>
<b>Sunday 4</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Revd Jane Wilson (HC)</b>
	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Soul Space with tea and cake</b>
<b>Sunday 11</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Tony Boyden</b>
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Revd Jane Wilson</b>
<b>Sunday 25</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Peter Jenner</b>

### Regular events

Our coffee mornings are held every Wednesday and Saturday (except Saturday 3 September) from 10am to 12 noon. All are welcome. We also have Stepping Stones pre-school every morning.

Mondays	10am–noon	Local Vocals in the church
	7.30pm	Bridport Choral Society
	2.30pm	Golden Cap Centre of the National Trust (last Monday of the month only)
Tuesdays	2pm	Bridport Blind Club (first and third Tuesdays only)
	2pm	Bridport u3a (fourth Tuesday)
	4.30pm	Rainbows
	5.30pm	Brownies
	7pm	New Elizabethan Singers
Wednesdays	7.30pm	Bridport Big Band in church
	6pm	Fitsteps
Thursdays	7.30pm	Kick boxing
	2.30pm	Bridport History Society (second Thursday only)
Fridays	5pm	Slimming World
	6–7.30pm	Kick boxing

### Other events in September

Saturday 3	12 noon	Gardening Club autumn show
		Coffee & light lunches from 12 noon
Saturday 10	9–11.30am	Big Breakfast
Thursday 15	2pm	Thursday Club – tea, chat, crafts, etc. All welcome
Saturday 17	10am–1pm	Coffee morning with stalls in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care. Bacon butties, cake, etc
Thursday 22	3.30pm	Messy Church
Wednesday 28	12.30pm	Lunch Club (please book with Sue: 422598)

### From Uploders Chapel

Well, the two events I mentioned in my previous report have now taken place with good results. The first was the cream tea in memory of Lady Diana Marshall, which raised a whopping £300 for the Dogs Trust. The weather was brilliant and our good friends Iris and Andy next door let us use their front lawn, which was much appreciated. Viv had managed to create a game of ‘Guess the real name of the dog’ using a photo of the dog and lots of names. Many of us tried it but the winner was appropriately Lady Diana’s great-grandson, Zac. There are photos of this event overleaf.

The next event was Loders Fete, where we had a stall. We raised £240 – another good result. It was a very hot day and by the end of it I must admit we were exhausted. However, we would have struggled to go ahead with either of the events if it hadn’t been for the very kind help we got from our good friend Gill Savage. We really can’t say thank you enough! Also a big thank you to everyone who supported us through their donations, either of money or items for the stall. We couldn’t manage without your support.

As I write, we are in a quandary with regard to Ride+Stride, which is on Saturday 10 September. Usually we are open during the day for people to come and have refreshments, whether they are riding or striding. However, this year that might not be possible. We will obviously have the chapel open for those needing to record their visit →

**UPLODERS CHAPEL continued...**

on the form inside. We hope that the situation will change before the event, and if any of the kind folk reading this before 10 September can help out, please contact me (details on the previous page).

On a very different note, I read the following in an old Somerset magazine about an Act of Parliament that was passed in 1593. It allowed for the imprisonment of a man over 16 years of age if he failed to attend public worship during the course of a month and banishment from the realm if his absence persisted over three months. If he refused these conditions, or returned from banishment, he would undergo capital punishment without the comfort of clergy. Life was certainly different in those days!

Well I hope you have managed to have an Awesome August and we will have a Splendiferous September.

*Carol Hall*

**September services at Uploders Chapel:**

- Sunday 4 10.30am Revd Peter Clark**
- Sunday 18 10.30am Harvest service with Richard Lownsborough**

**Right: Uploders Chapel’s cream tea in memory of Lady Diana Marshall was a great success, raising £300 for the Dogs Trust. Lady Diana’s great-grandson, Zac (pictured) won the ‘Guess the name of the dog’ competition**



**St MARY & St CATHERINE**  
**Roman Catholic Church**

Parish priest – Monsignor Keith Mitchell  
 Presbytery 424754  
 keith.mitchell@predtr.org.uk  
 Secretary – Faith Leborgne 422594  
 bridport@predtr.org.uk

**Entering the ‘Season of Creation’**

Back in July, record temperatures were recorded in the UK and through many parts of Europe. This led to some disastrous and life-changing fires sweeping through the continent and even here in this country. Lives were lost and property devastated in these fires. All this, coupled with the increasing cost of fuel this coming winter, has made us all reflect deeply on the cost of climate change and on what action we all need to take now, not just for ourselves but for the whole world.

Pope Francis has called the Catholic Church to observe a ‘Season of Creation’ from 1 September to 4 October (the

feast of St Francis of Assisi). St Francis prayed: “Praise be to you, my Lord, with all your creatures.” With this simple but profound prayer, he has encouraged believers of many generations to recognise creation as the fruit of God’s eternal love.



This ‘Season of Creation’ is a time of grace that the church offers to humanity to renew its relationship with the Creator and with creation, through celebration, conversion and commitment together.

The symbol of this season is the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1–12). It may make us recall some of those terrible fires and the devastating effect that climate change is having on our planet. Creation cries out as forests and homes crackle, animals flee and people have to migrate. However, the fire of the burning bush that Moses saw did not consume or destroy the bush. The flame of the Spirit revealed God’s presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered and promised to be with us as we worked and prayed for climate justice.

Our weekend Masses on 1 and 2 October will be centred on this ‘cry of creation’, and during this season the symbol of God’s spirit calls us all to listen to the voice of creation.  
*Monsignor Keith Mitchell*



**Listen to the Voice of Creation**  
**SEASON OF CREATION 2022**

**Sunday Mass is at 10am** and is streamed online at [www.bridportcatholics.org.uk](http://www.bridportcatholics.org.uk) and Bridport Catholic Parish Facebook page. For updates about Sunday and weekday Mass, see our weekly newsletter on the website.

## BEACON CHURCH Priory Lane, Bridport

Church office 456031  
office@beaconchurchbridport.co.uk  
www.beaconchurchbridport.co.uk

**Like all churches, we at Beacon Church have gone through significant transformation during the pandemic.**

Having sought God's direction, we focus on communicating with God through prayer; being family to all who come through the doors; and reaching out to the community of Bridport.

During the week we meet on Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes to be a place of peace and to be family for the hungry and lonely through the community kitchen.

On Thursday evenings we open the door at 5pm and provide a place for anyone who wishes to come and sit and rest from the busyness of life as we pray for the community of Bridport. Each week different people pop in; some stay



for 10 minutes and others rest for a full hour. Some pray, some listen – all are welcome and we never know who will turn up – and it is always exciting to see who is drawn in.

Our Sunday mornings are very relaxed and Spirit-led. We follow a pattern of prayer and worship, teaching and fellowship.

Our heart is that all will feel welcome, and that through this all will meet the Lord and be transformed for the life that He intends for them. We'd love you to come along and join us.

*James Houston*

## Get involved: local clubs, groups and societies

*Please get in touch if you'd like your group to appear here. Entries are free but are limited to a few lines and are for non-profit community groups and clubs and their events (not ticketed events such as concerts). Unless otherwise stated, all phone numbers are Bridport (01308).*



**West Dorset Flower Club** meets at the WI Hall, North Sreet, at 2.30pm on the second Monday of each month with demos and speakers. On Monday 12 September they will be holding a workshop session. Phone 456339.

**Bridport Stroke Club** meets weekly Sept–Christmas and Feb–July at the Community Room, Vernon's Court. Contact the secretary, David Lawrence [dandhlawrence@gmail.com](mailto:dandhlawrence@gmail.com)

**Bridport Blind Club** is a social club for the visually impaired. It meets twice a month for tea, entertainment and chat. Part of Dorset Blind Association, which provides personal and technical help. Contact Ian Ibbotson 898484.

**Bridport & District Gardening Club's** summer show is on Saturday 3 September at Bridport United Church hall. Viewing and light refreshments from 12 noon, prizegiving at 3pm. The club's monthly meeting is on Thurs 15 September at the WI Hall, North St, when Gwynne Davies will speak about the history of the daffodil. Non-members £2. More information at [www.bridportgardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.bridportgardeningclub.co.uk)

**Bridport & District Model Railway Club** meets each Tuesday at Askerswell village hall 7–9pm. Members can run their stock on the club 'test track' or operate a club layout. Chairman Geoff Trenholme: 281379.

**West Dorset Music Community Orchestra** meets on Wednesdays in term time 6.30–7.45pm at the Christian Fellowship Hall in East Street car park. Contact 456297 / [www.westdorsetmusic.org.uk](http://www.westdorsetmusic.org.uk)

**Bridport Choral Society** rehearses on Monday evenings at 7.30pm at the United Church Hall. Contact Margaret Foster [margefoster1956@gmail.com](mailto:margefoster1956@gmail.com)

**Bridport Scottish Dancers** meet every Wednesday evening at 7.15pm (7.30pm start) in Church House, South St, except first Wed each month which is at Salwayash village hall. First visit free, then £2 per session. Please bring the right money & your own refreshments. Contact Caroline 538141 / Malcolm 07790 323343 / [www.bridportscottishdancers.org.uk](http://www.bridportscottishdancers.org.uk)

**Bridport Youth Dance** offers classes in contemporary, tap, street, urban and musical theatre plus specific boys' classes. To enrol and for more details, contact Nikki Northover [bridportyouthdance01@gmail.com](mailto:bridportyouthdance01@gmail.com) / 07765 971357 / [www.bridportyouthdance.org.uk](http://www.bridportyouthdance.org.uk)

**Bridport Health Walks** are free and take place every Wednesday, meeting outside Bridport United Church at 9.45am, and the first Thursday each month meeting at The Cowshed, Bridport Medical Centre, at 10.30am. The guided walks take 30–40 minutes on level ground. Refreshments available after the walk. No need to book, just turn up.

**Golden Cap Association (West Dorset)**, in support of the National Trust, organises illustrated talks on the last Monday of the month (except summer) in the United Church Hall, East Street, at 2.30pm. Contact Mike Nicks 459855. →

### Citizens Advice is here to help

Need advice on benefits, debt, employment or other issues? Pick up the phone and talk to us on

Freephone 0800 144 8848. You can also email us via the contact form at [www.bridportca.org.uk](http://www.bridportca.org.uk) or drop in to 45 South St, Bridport (now open Mon, Tues & Thurs 10am–3pm, Wed & Fri 10am–1pm).



## Get involved: local clubs, groups and societies continued

**Bridport & District Allotment Society** (BADAS) is open to all. Membership is £5/year and gives discount at several gardening suppliers. Contact 250260 / email [bridportallotmentsociety@gmail.com](mailto:bridportallotmentsociety@gmail.com). More details online at [www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk)

**Bridport History Society** will meet on Thursday 8 Sept at the United Church Hall, 2 for 2.15pm, for 'Americans in Bridport: November 1943 – May 1944'. Visitors welcome at £3pp. Contact Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard [jferentzi@aol.com](mailto:jferentzi@aol.com) / 425710. Membership £10 / £15 couple. Membership secretary Celia Martin [celiamartin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:celiamartin@hotmail.co.uk)

**Bridport Shakespeare Company** theatre group meets every Thursday at 7pm at Bridport Community Shed. All ages welcome; no experience needed. Contact Valerie [tasterella@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tasterella@hotmail.co.uk)

**Burton Bradstock Duplicate Bridge Group** meets at the village hall Tues 1.45–4.45pm. Contact Kathy 485626.

**Colmer WI** meets on the second Thursday each month at 7.30pm in the WI Hall, North Street. Visitors welcome to come for a no-obligation evening. Contact Gill Smith 301201.

**The New Elizabethan Singers** meet for choral rehearsals in the United Church Hall on Tuesdays at 7.30pm from September to May. For more information please contact the secretary, Sarah Stamford [sastamford@outlook.com](mailto:sastamford@outlook.com) / 425312. [www.thenewelizabethansingers.org.uk](http://www.thenewelizabethansingers.org.uk)

**Bridport Bridge Club** meets Wednesday evenings (duplicate bridge, good standard) and Friday afternoons (relaxed bridge, not 3rd Friday in the month) at St Swithun's Hall, plus Thursday evenings online. Beginners' lessons started in January. See [www.bridgewebs.com/bridport](http://www.bridgewebs.com/bridport) for updates or phone Roy Tarsnane 425298.

**The Arts Society (West Dorset)** meets at Bridport Town Hall at 2.30pm on the third Thursday each month from September to June. On 15 September Justine Hopkins will present 'Frozen Breath of the Polar Night: an introduction to Art Nouveau glass'. Membership £50 a year; visitors welcome at £7.50 per event. [www.taswestdorset.org.uk](http://www.taswestdorset.org.uk)

**Bridport Community Shed**, between Mountfield and Bedford Place, opens Mon, Wed & Thurs 10am–12 noon. On the first Tues of the month there is also an evening stitching session (please book in advance). Contact 07593 880428.

**Bridport & District RNLI** holds five or six events (incl. Seatown BBQ) each year to raise money. Volunteers always needed. Contact Sadie 07811 470127 or Annie 07790 713156.

**Bridport & District u3a** is for people in their 'third age'. No minimum age, but you must be no longer in full-time employment. Monthly meetings in Bridport United Church Hall with a guest speaker plus socialising over refreshments. Also more than 50 u3a groups meet regularly, covering a huge range of interests. Contact Vincent Sheppard 485763 / [chair@bridportu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@bridportu3a.org.uk) / [www.bridportu3a.org.uk](http://www.bridportu3a.org.uk)  
The **u3a Singers Group** meets on alternate Thursdays for 10.30am start at the WI Hall in North Street. Contact Heather 425219 / [www.bridportu3a.org.uk](http://www.bridportu3a.org.uk)

**Bridport Inner Wheel** meets monthly at Haddon House, West Bay, to enjoy friendship and listen to speakers as well as helping the community. Contact Sue Pollock 07903 558568 / [rognsuewbay@btinternet.com](mailto:rognsuewbay@btinternet.com)

**Friday Dance Group**, just for women, meets every Friday 11.30am–12.30pm at St Mary's Church House Hall, South St. Come along and enjoy dancing as you like to a range of music. First session free. More details from Sue 425037.

**Disabled Carers & Friends** meet Thursdays 9am–noon at Vernon's Court Community Room, South Street. Contact [pete.bowditch@hotmail.com](mailto:pete.bowditch@hotmail.com) / 423620 / 421213 / 427819.

**Bridport Community Fridge** redistributes surplus food free or for a donation. Usually Tues and Sat 10am–noon at The Chapel in the Garden, East St. Also at St Swithun's Church with **Bridport Food Surplus Stall** on Thursdays 9.30–11.30am. See their Facebook page or email [events@bridportunitarians.co.uk](mailto:events@bridportunitarians.co.uk)

**Harmony Drop-in** provides a safe, social space and peer support to aid the recovery journey of adults in the Bridport area who are living with mental health difficulties. Our group (Mondays 10am–1pm and 2–4pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am–1pm) offers activities and support, fostering wellbeing and increased self-esteem. Contact 07597 379290.

**Bridport ASCape** for young people 7–11 & 11–18, parents and carers affected by autism spectrum conditions (ASC) or social anxiety. Contact Karen Wright [wrightmail2@aol.com](mailto:wrightmail2@aol.com) or visit [www.bridportasd.wordpress.com](http://www.bridportasd.wordpress.com)

**Bridport Community Front Room** offers face-to-face support for people reaching a mental health crisis point or needing wellbeing support. Assembly Rooms, Gundry Lane. Thurs–Sun, 3.45–10.45pm. Appointments 07385 290804.

**Bridport Folk Dance Club** meets every Monday evening 7.15–9.30pm in the WI Hall, North Street. All welcome, including beginners. Phone 458165 or 459001.

**Free play singing**, improvisation and earth/peace movement chants. Spontaneous compositions of sound; few words. Tuesdays 2pm at Bridport Youth & Community Centre, Gundry Lane, for about an hour. All welcome, £1 per person. Phone Pen 07713 008290.

**Dementia Friendly Bridport** has spaces in its gentle exercise group for people with dementia and their carers. It's run by a qualified instructor and volunteers. Tuesdays 1.45–3.15pm at Bridport Leisure Centre. Contact Debra: 07890 649561 / [dementiafriendlybridport@gmail.com](mailto:dementiafriendlybridport@gmail.com)

**Bridport Child Contact Centre** facilitates contact in a safe environment for non-resident parents following family breakdown. Volunteers always welcome. Phone 07792 075972 / [www.bridportchildcontactcentre.org](http://www.bridportchildcontactcentre.org)

**Bridport Tree Planting** plants and gives away 1,000 trees a year in public and private spaces around Bridport. Three free saplings available per household. Help needed to water and weed young trees. Contact [joe@thehacketts.uk](mailto:joe@thehacketts.uk) for details and to receive newsletter. [www.westdorsetfriendsoftheearth.org.uk/index.php/more-trees-please](http://www.westdorsetfriendsoftheearth.org.uk/index.php/more-trees-please)



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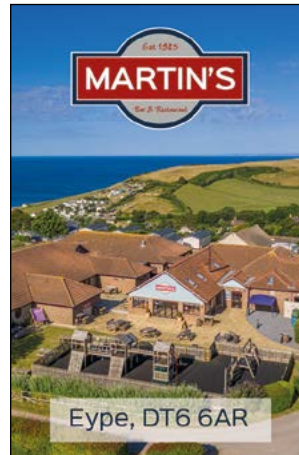
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